



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

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

From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

Pathways Opportunities Galore!

Creating opportunities and opening our students' eyes and minds to the exciting world after school is an integral part of education at St Leo's. Last week I met with our *Leader of Community and Partnerships* at the College, **Ms Mel Timmerman**. The College is fortunate to have recruited Ms Timmerman who has a wealth of experience from TAFE

NSW, where she liaised with over 100 schools and many other external stakeholders across the Northern Suburbs region to build pathway programs for young people. Part of her role here at St Leo's is developing direct access to a variety of industry and tertiary education opportunities.



Here is a snapshot of the Pathway Programs underway here at the College:

- **Yamaha Drone Program - open to all Year groups** (2 hour session): Yes, drones will be in operation, giving students insight into the industries that utilise drones; from photography to construction and a broad range of research projects worldwide.
- **CodeCamp - Years 7-10**: Coding lessons and activities - Wednesday afternoons (3.15pm - 4.15pm) starting tomorrow, 5 August. *See information further in this bulletin on how to book and enrol for free.*
- **'Girls in Trade'** on 10,11 & 12 August: **All our Year 8 girls** will attend this workshop, which will be presented by five female tradies. The aim of the workshop is for our girls to learn more about the broad range of career opportunities in the construction and engineering industries. They will learn how to use 11 different hand tools when building their own timber project as part of the workshop.
- **Unbirthday Cake**: This opportunity was provided for our **Year 11 Hospitality students** last week. Besides creating delicious pavlovas (which I can personally vouch for), under the direction of commercial chef, Nikki from *Unbirthday Cakes*, they listened to her speak about the many pathways available in the Hospitality industry.
- **Tertiary Education Speed Dating Event**: this event will provide opportunities for our **Year 12 students** to speak directly with Career Advisers from a broad range of Tertiary Education Providers: universities, TAFE NSW and apprenticeship providers. It will be held on **9 September**, after the HSC Trials.
- **One-Minute Video Challenge - Open to all Year Groups**: this challenge invites students to work in teams with teachers to create a one minute video in a day, with the use of *Adobe* software (such as *Premiere Pro, Premiere Rush, After Effects, Character Animator, Aero & Photoshop*) to help promote

the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. *Adobe* is the virtual host of this challenge and the students can win some great prizes.

- **Westpac Youth Impact Challenge - Open to all Year Groups:** This program aims to help students solve problems in their local communities. To take part, students must identify an SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) and brainstorm an innovative business or social change idea to solve.
- **Employer Talks:** At St Leo's, we believe our teachers are Career Ambassadors for their subject by embedding industry-relevant information into the curriculum. One of the ways we do this is by inviting employers to come into our classrooms to talk about their industry and linking this to the relevant curriculum in class. A representative from AMEX, who specialises in marketing, is speaking to **Year 9 Commerce** shortly.
- **AR/ VR Pilot Program Kickoff:** St Leo's will be the **first school in Australia** to have access to the newly built 'Tradiebot' learning program, piloting the new skills of the now. Our students will have the opportunity to learn more about **Virtual and Augmented Reality**, how to build virtual environments, and current and future jobs in this field. Interested students will also have the opportunity to undertake work experience with Tradiebot and there are a broad range of job opportunities available for those who are keen to go into this industry straight after school.
- **Minecraft Mondays:** is also occurring under the leadership of Mrs Cali. Students in **Years 7 and 8** have the opportunity to use Minecraft at school! These weekly meetings will engage students in creative problem solving, communication, project based learning, collaboration; all assisting with socio-emotional skills and inspiring student-led learning. This program commenced yesterday in the Bakhita House Computer Room with Mr Vega and Mr Zeaiter.

These learning experiences are provided for our students so they can follow and develop their passion in order to fulfil our mission to do our very best for others as part of God's plan.

Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12) Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings

Thank you to our Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12) parents and caregivers who were able to join the staff for the first of our Parent/Teacher/Student Zoom meetings last Wednesday evening. The second session is tomorrow night, Wednesday, 5 August.

From the meetings I 'popped' into, and after surveying the staff, it was a very positive experience. To assist staff in identifying you, if possible, could you log on to Zoom with your name - particularly if you are in a waiting room. This will greatly assist staff in ensuring you get your chosen time for the meeting.



Year 12 Graduation Meeting

Last Thursday, I hosted a Zoom Meeting for all parents/caregivers and students in Year 12 to present and discuss some viable options for Graduation Week in Week 10 of this Term. Thank you to the many that participated and contributed to the discussion. Our Year 12 students deserve this very significant event and the involvement of both parents and students is important and valued. I will be communicating with parents and students again this week to gain your opinions and insights as we move closer to a model that will be of significance to our community as well as ensuring we satisfy all Covid-19 related conditions.



As a faith-filled Catholic community I pray you and your family are managing to adapt to the 'new normal' and if the College can assist you in any way, please contact me via [Jayne Persico](#) in my office.

Tony Gleeson
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Mr Daniel Petrie

Parent Teacher Interviews for Years 11-12

Stage 6 Parent Teacher Interview bookings for the second and final night tomorrow night are **open until 3pm tomorrow afternoon**, 5 August. Interviews will follow the same format as last week and will take place via Zoom from 4.45pm – 8.30pm.

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:

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

Please click on the link for the relevant teacher 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.

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

Year 8 Subject Selection Process

Thank you to all parents and guardians who participated in the Subject Selection Information Evening via Zoom last night. If parents have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the College. Included is the link to [last night's presentation](#).

By **Wednesday, 5 August (tomorrow)**, students are required to have entered their subject selections on EDVAL CHOICE using the webcode that they received via their College email. If you are experiencing difficulties with the webcode or logging in please see Ms Ellison.

The **printed summary form/verification sheet, that requires a signature** by the student as well as parents, is due to College Reception by **Thursday, 6 August**.

We look forward to the journey ahead as they pave their way towards their Stage 5 studies.

Year 8 Anti-Bullying Workshop

Tomorrow morning, Year 8 students will engage in an anti-bullying workshop presented by the Hornsby Police Youth Liaison Officer in the Flora MacKillop Theatre. This will take place during their Extended Mentor period. This important presentation will explore the many different forms that bullying can take both in person as well as via social media platforms.

The College encourages parents and guardians to speak to your daughter or son regarding their workshop. Parents are also encouraged to regularly 'touch base' with their young person to see how they are travelling socially and emotionally. A proactive approach and preventative measures prove to be far more successful in battling all forms of bullying in a technology rich environment.

Wellbeing Surveys

The College is presently conducting a Wellbeing Survey of each student at the College. The scope of the survey covers both academic and wellbeing areas of concern. Each Pastoral Care Team will then analyse the results and connect the relevant channels of support for the students who require it. We will also correspond with parents or carers of any students identified.

Initiatives such as this ensure the social and emotional development of each student remains the highest priority at St Leo's.

Videos of Greatness

As our world grapples with uncertainty and global sized issues, our Year 12 students continue to be a shining light of inspiration. Resilient, talented and flexible. Please enjoy Emily and Mia rehearsing their HSC Music performances. Thank you to the extraordinary CAPA staff at St Leo's. Passionate engineers of greatness! Please click on the hyperlinked images to view the videos:



And in case you missed our Semester One Virtual Awards Ceremony...

Last week we celebrated the wonderful success of our students during Semester One with a digital awards presentation highlighting the development of our students across the Growth Domains.

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



Blessings and stay safe.

From the Acting Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation:

Mr Nathan Smith

St Mary of the Cross Feast Day

This Saturday, 8 August is the Feast Day of one of our House Patron Saints - **St Mary of the Cross**. Mary MacKillop is Australia's first Patron Saint and as such, we will be celebrating this special 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 **MacKillop 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 COVID-19 restrictions. The Catholic Schools Office, based on advice from the relevant government and health authorities, has stated that no overnight excursions can take place in Term 3.

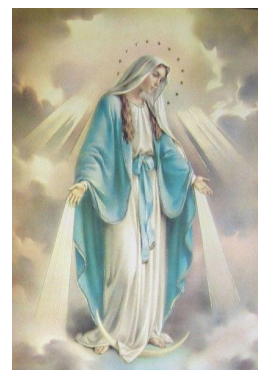
Nevertheless, we are committed to delivering a wonderful retreat-style experience for our Year 12 students before they graduate. We are currently working through a revised plan but the proposal will be that **Monday, 21 September** will be a Retreat Day on-campus for Year 12 students.

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



Live Life to the Full

The Covid-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health issues will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the *Social Justice Statement 2020-21, To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia Today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health and to call for policies and service provisions that meet the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. You can access the statement and other resources [HERE](#).

A Blessing over Australia

Most relevant during this time of distress and uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please **click on the image** to access a beautiful blessing over Australia.



Keep in your Prayers

We have a number of families and staff members within our College community who are experiencing grief and hardship at present. I ask that you keep these people in your prayers as you pray to our risen Lord.

In addition, please keep Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI in your prayers, too, as his Holiness is of poor health. We pray that the Holy Spirit provides him with comfort and strength during this difficult time.

“The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for Greatness!” Pope Benedict XVI

Pope St Leo the Great, pray for them...



From the Director of Teaching and Learning

Mrs Josephine Cali

Year 12 (HSC) 2020 Trial Examination Preparations

Year 12 will be undertaking their HSC Trial Examinations commencing Monday, 17 August. All students have been provided with assessment task notifications for each Trial Examination. To assist with preparation and study for the Trial Examinations and HSC Examinations, NESAs have also provided [HSC Examination Packs](#).

Examination Packs generally include:

- An online copy of the HSC examination
- Marking guidelines with sample answers, and
- HSC Marking Feedback.

Students in Year 12 are encouraged to use the [NESAs Resources](#) pages to complement their learning in the classroom. This is an important part of developing [student self assessment skills](#). Students are encouraged to start completing relevant parts of past HSC Exam papers as part of their ongoing preparation for the HSC. Staff are available to assist students with locating and completing past paper questions.

The College will continue to keep the Aquinas Resource Centre open until 5pm each day to support our Year 12 students as they prepare for the Trial Examinations. Include is the link to the [Trial Examination Schedule](#) as previously emailed.

We wish Year 12 all the best for their preparation for the Trial Examinations!

Year 12 Study Skills Handbook (many sections also relevant to Year 11)

The College has a paid subscription to an excellent educational resource that assists Year 12 students with their personal and academic goals.

The resources are updated frequently and Series 4 has just been released. Use the link and log in information below to access the videos and resources available.

LINK: <https://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au/sessionvideos/year12/year12part4.php>

Username: drsaltersgroup

Password: videoseries4

Please note that this link is confidential for St Leo's students.

After School Coding Club for Intake 2020-Year 10 Students

Starting tomorrow, 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 before it begins** 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 Director of Administration

Ms Therri Ellison

Photo Days

For your information, the following dates are set aside for photos:

- **Friday, 7 August** - School Sports and ExtraCurricular Photos. Students must bring the appropriate equipment or uniform to change into.
- **Thursday, 20 August** – Staff photos, Mentor groups & individual portraits Yr 7-12 & Families, Individual Staff. Students must wear full College uniform including blazers. Intake 2020 students will need to bring their Sports uniform to change into after their photos have been taken.
- **Tuesday, 1 September** - Year 12 photos (individual and groups) and catch up photos for students who were absent on 20 August.

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

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

Year 10 Immunisation

Year 10 Meningococcal Vaccinations will take place tomorrow, Wednesday 5th August, starting from Period 2. These will take place in the Rome Gallery. **Please ensure students have brought their cards.**

From the VET Coordinator

Ms Megan Tynan

TVET 2021 Expressions of Interest NOW OPEN

Any student in Year 10 who is interested in a TVET Course in 2021, please see Ms. Tynan for an Expression of Interest form.

From the Director of Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

Parent Resource - Addressing Challenges Faced by Today's Youth

SchoolTV is an online wellbeing resource that is available to our community. Topics such as youth anxiety, depression, self-harm, drug and alcohol use, cyberbullying and many other relevant areas of concern that need clear explanation and guidance are easily accessible. This educational platform delivers multi-media-based resources and is fully endorsed by the reputable adolescent and child psychologist, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg. Each edition in SchoolTV will address a major topic with expert interviews, fact sheets, parent quiz, recommended apps, books and much more. SchoolTV collates information from many reliable resources such as *BeyondBlue* and *ReachOut*, amongst others. SchoolTV provides a single stream of independent factual information that saves parents/caregivers time and confusion in searching online across multiple sites for information. Please click the launch link [SchoolTV](#) for more information and resource material – we trust you find the site useful and informative.

Positive and Respectful Relationships

Good relationships are good for you and good for your children. It's never too late to start working on improving your relationships. People in supportive, loving relationships are more likely to feel healthy, happy and satisfied with their lives. They are less likely to have mental or physical health problems or do things that affect their health. People in good relationships help each other practically as well as emotionally. They share the good times and help each other through the tough ones. All relationships have challenging times. Your relationship greatly affects your children as they grow up and become adults. Children will benefit from your efforts to enrich your relationship.

Support Services

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic also continues to significantly increase stress in our day-to-day lives.

Relationships Australia is working to meet the ongoing needs of Australians at this challenging time.

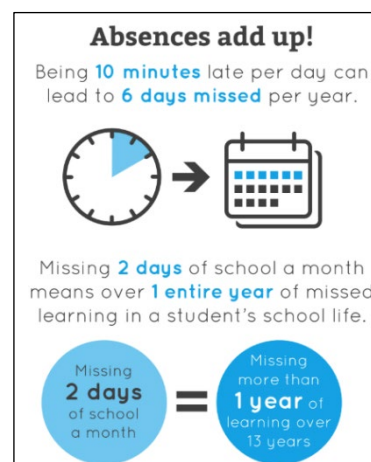
They are committed and equipped to support the Australian community, and to meet the inevitable increased demand for services, to minimise the negative effects on individuals, families and communities. Visit [Relationships Australia](#) for more information and support resources.

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.

Please also watch the short video [Learning Every Day Counts](#) - this Diocesan initiative is extremely important for all parents/caregivers to note as it relates to classroom attendance. Any noticeable patterns of non-attendance will be raised by the College so that we can support your son/daughter's journey at St Leo's.

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



From the Leader of Debating

Mrs Laraine Boguradzki

2020 Debating Competition – Week 2

Last Friday afternoon, our debaters and a couple of student supporters headed off to Oakhill College, Castle Hill on a bus, full of anticipation. Upon arrival, we were greeted and had our temperature taken before given the all clear to participate.

The topic 'That Covid-19 restrictions have gone too far' was something our students felt familiar and confident with.

I am pleased to report that we **won 3 out of 5** of the debates!

The winning teams were :

- Yr 9 consisting of: **Isabella A, Sara C and Taleisha F**
- Yr 10 consisting of: **Matthew B, Xander Y and Tate W-A**
- Seniors consisting of: **James B, Cameron H and Annabelle F**
- Our Yr 8s did us proud, they were really good, but unfortunately for us, the Oakhill Yr 8 team were phenomenal!
- Our Yr 7s were also great and debated well, and I believe the results were very close.

While I am very very proud of all of our debaters for simply getting up and having a go, which is marvellous, but to win as well, is definitely a big boost for their confidence. Having said that I would especially like to acknowledge our Yr 10 team, who won their first debate since they started debating last year. Really well done to the boys and congratulations for your resilience and not giving up. I would also like to acknowledge **Sara C** who came on board at the last moment, preventing a forfeit. Now out of two rounds, every team has had a taste of success!

Thank you to Mr Tony Gleeson, Mr Daniel Petrie and Ms Jayne Perisco who assisted with organisation, and not to forget the ever effervescent Luke Antoun who is as passionate as me about debating.

Next week we debating Redfield College at St Leo's.

May our St Leo's Lions continue to roar!
