



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Please find below the **Week 6 Term 3 2020** edition of the Parental Lion Roars.

From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

Covid-19 Update

All parents should have received a Covid-19 update sent via Compass last Thursday afternoon. A copy of this letter is [provided here](#).

I am pleased that many of the opportunities the College provides for students have been adjusted rather than cancelled and will continue with regard to the new guidelines. I thank the staff in charge of each of these activities for the extra time and work that has gone into the modification of these activities.

Student Achievement

CSO TARGETS

Last Tuesday morning during Staff Development, Mr **Anthony Mahoney** (our previous Assistant Principal) from the Catholic Schools Office conducted a workshop with staff on **Student Achievement**. Student Achievement is one of the two main priorities of the CSO – the first one being **Evangelisation and Catechesis**. There are four 'workstreams' supporting these two priorities: *Governance; Capability and Enablement of our People; Financial Viability; and Infrastructure and Facilities*.

The workshop was centred around how the CSO can better support the College in teaching and learning, high expectations, the importance of individual student growth and using data to measure and inform improvement.

NATIONAL TARGETS

At the national level, the [Mparntwe \(Alice Springs\) Education Declaration](#) was signed by all Australian Education Ministers last December.

The two 'Educational Goals for Young Australians' set as part of this declaration are:

Goal 1: The Australian education system promotes excellence and equity, and



Goal 2: All young Australians become confident and creative individuals, successful lifelong learners, and active and informed members of the community

The vision is for a world class education system that encourages and supports every student to be the very best they can be, no matter where they live or what kind of learning challenges they may face.

WHAT WE ARE DOING AT ST LEO'S

Here at St Leo's, we are heading in the right direction with the introduction 18 months ago of our '6Cs' (Christian Citizenship, Creativity, Character, Communication, Collaboration and Critical Thinking) into our curriculum.

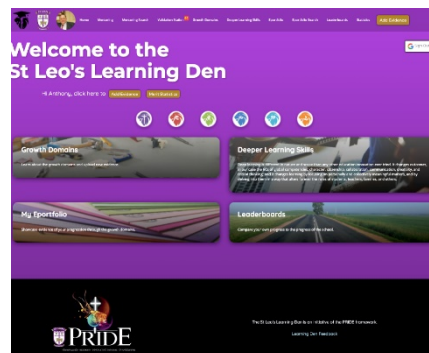
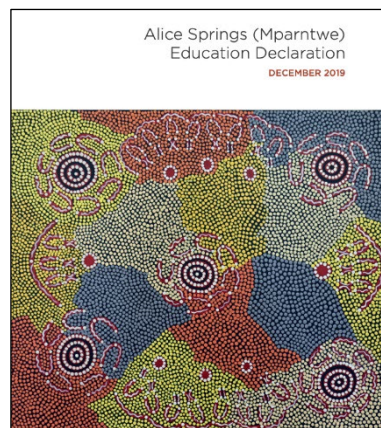


Students can demonstrate their

development in each of these areas using our unique St Leo's Learning Den, where they are able to define, track their whole person learnings and achievements across our six Growth Domains (Spiritual, Academic, Cultural, Environmental, Social/Emotional and Physical Growth Domains) throughout their six years at the College.

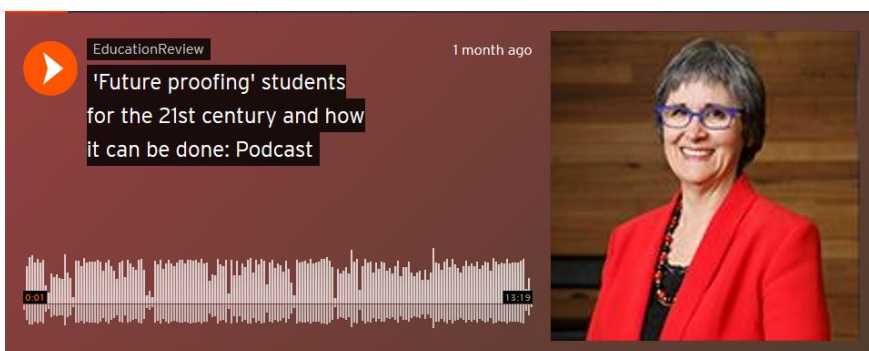
The development of the whole person is central to our Catholic ethos - where we strive to be the best people we can be in order to assist those who are less fortunate than ourselves in so many ways.

We are not there yet, but together, we are ahead of our achievement targets and continue to work towards what is best for our students as they take up the mission and various positions in our ever changing and demanding society.



PODCAST – 'FUTURE PROOFING OUR STUDENTS

Last week, I listened to this podcast where **Professor Sandra Milligan** from the University of Melbourne speaks about the skills all students require now and into the future. They include teamwork and collaboration, communication in a range of forms, critical and creative thinking, and problem solving, to name a few. Milligan refers to them as 'learning skills' as they are essential to the learning process. Here is a [link to the podcast](#) (or click on the image right) which I recommend to you as worthwhile listening to.



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 [College Reception](#).

Tony Gleeson
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Mr Daniel Petrie

College Photos - Year 12, Family and Catch-up Photos on Tuesday, 1 September

Students in Year 12, any students from Intake 2020 - Year 11 who were absent last week Thursday, 20 August and family groups will have their photographs taken next **Tuesday, 1 September**. Year 12 will commence individual and Mentor Group photographs from 8.30am.

Any student with long hair is reminded to have it tied back for their portraits, and all male students are to be cleanly shaven.

A reminder that all photos are ordered via the Compass link.



Year 12 Graduation Update

As discussed and agreed with Year 12 parents and students last night via Zoom, Graduation will be postponed until after the completion of the HSC exams in Term 4. Of course we do not know at this stage whether Covid-19 restrictions will have eased by then, but at the very least, students should be more relaxed post exams and will be more able to enjoy the day.

We will advise Year 12 students and parents as soon as we have a new date – most likely in Week 7 of Term 4.

Year 12 - HSC Major Works Assistance

All teaching staff of courses that involve a HSC Major Works are available to assist Year 12 students before, in between and after their exams each day. Students are highly encouraged to be present in their specialist spaces to continue working on and refining their major works/portfolios. **Significant gains** can be achieved during and post trial examinations.



Year 12 PTP - Post Trial Program

As part of the 'PEP - Passion into Excellence Program', the College has been finalising the details of the Post Trial Program (PTP). The PTP will commence on **Monday of Week 8 and will conclude on Wednesday of Week 10**. The traditional teaching timetable will conclude for Year 12 at 3pm on Friday of Week 7.

The PTP is designed to enable students of each course to gather as a whole with their teachers to strategically address growth areas identified in their trial performance. The structured workshops will upskill students and be followed by **resitting a section of or the entire paper** from the trial exam to implement and improve based on the feedback provided. Statistics show significant improvements can be made when students take the time and effort to revise and apply feedback after their trial exams.

The PTP is compulsory for all Year 12 students and there will be no 'Period 5 early departure' during this program.

The workshops will all be held in the Mary MacKillop Centre, allowing teachers more efficient access to all students together in one building to offer assistance. It also enables the Pastoral Care Team to keep a close eye on student wellbeing.

All students are expected to be in **full College Winter Uniform** during this program.

The completed PTP schedule will be available to students and parents in next week's edition of the Parental Lion Roars.

Growth Domain Projects for Intake 2020 - Year 10

Students from Intake 2020 - Year 10 need to submit their projects on Friday, 4 September.

Students should be working on their projects during Mentor and in their personal time, and should seek assistance from the Mentors if required.

Congratulations to all our students for their efforts.

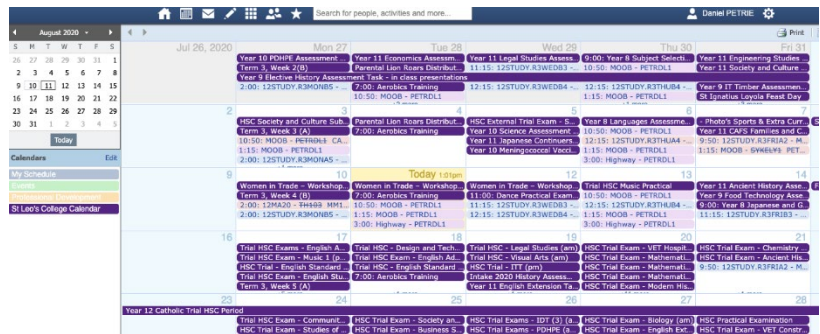


College Calendar

A reminder that the College Calendar has been updated and is now available to parents and students via Compass. This Calendar is for the remainder of Term 3. The Term 4 Calendar is being revised presently based on the latest Covid guidelines.



To access the calendar, simply **click on the 'Calendar Icon' (next to the House)** in the tool bar at the top of the screen. By selecting the 'month' view on the far right hand side of the tool bar, parents will be provided with a monthly overview.



Blessings and stay safe.

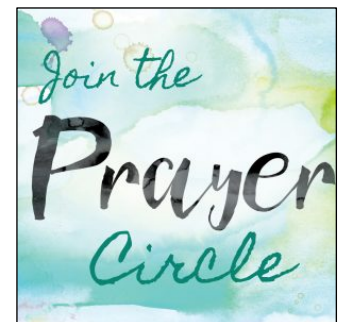
From the Acting Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation

Mr Nathan Smith

Prayer Circle for the Class of 2020

As mentioned in Mr Gleeson's update last week, we would like to invite the whole College community to pray for our Year 12 students as they embark on the final stages of their formal secondary education.

With the Trial HSC examinations in progress and main HSC examinations looming, it is not uncommon for Year 12 students to have elevated levels of stress and anxiety as they navigate through these challenging times. As a faith community, we often turn to prayer in times of struggle and adversity. So, as our Year 12 students face the demands of these exams, we keep them in our thoughts and prayers, asking Jesus to guide and protect them during this time.



We invite all St Leo's families to nominate up to three Year 12 Students to pray for during this period. These students can be people you know, or they can be someone you have never met. It doesn't matter who you nominate - rather, the important thing is that you keep them in your prayers.

You can find a list of all Year 12 students and [nominate who you would like to pray for HERE](#).

The prayer that we will say for the students as a collective community is:

*Father, by the light of Your Holy Spirit, You taught the hearts of the Disciples. In the same spirit, help our young people, especially (**student's name/s**), to relish what is true and right. Help them to persevere in their preparation and continue to apply themselves for the duration of their examinations.*

May nervousness or carelessness not deprive them of results and rewards that they deserve. In all of life may they, especially, and all of us, know our worth in Your sight and peacefully follow Christ, who is the Truth and the Life, forever and ever.

Amen.

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

Year 12 Spirituality Day – Monday, 21 September

A letter updating parents/carers and students, along with a permission note, was sent out via email last week. They have also been posted to the Year 12 Pastoral Page, or you can [access the permission note here](#). Students are asked to **return completed permission notes to their Mentor Teacher by Friday, 4 September**.

At this stage, the Spirituality Day will proceed as planned, but should there be any further changes to Covid-19 advice and protocols, we will communicate this to you as soon as possible.

Year 7 Reflection Incursion

Following the cancellation of the Year 7 Spirituality Day due to Covid-19 restrictions, we have now scheduled a Reflection Incursion for Year 7 on **Friday, 18 September during periods 3 and 4**. This is a regular school day for students and they will participate in this incursion during their normal period 3 and 4 class time.

This incursion will give the College an opportunity to provide the students with additional wellbeing support and spiritual formation time, which will no doubt be of benefit during these challenging times.

Students will be required to **wear full sports uniform** on this day.

Brightest blessings.

*'Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
And the peace of God which transcends all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your mind in Christ Jesus.'*

Phil 4:6-7

From the Director of Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Update

Year 12 2020 have demonstrated outstanding behaviour and conduct over the last 10 days whilst they have been undertaking these important exams. Mrs White (Presiding Officer) and Mr Morad (Dean of Curriculum & Professional Development) have been very impressed with all students. The cohort have demonstrated maturity, cooperation, and wonderful support for their peers. The Trial HSC examinations conclude **Tuesday 1st September** (Week 7).

2020-2021 Leadership Induction Program & Leadership Handover Ceremony

The 2020-2021 Leadership Induction Program has now been postponed until Term 4 and will be held in Week 2 (Tuesday & Wednesday 20-21 October). The date was adjusted for a number of reasons including the Year 11 Preliminary HSC exam timing and work placements, along with considerations around revised Year 12 dates.

The leadership handover ceremony has now been tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 September** (Week 7 of this term) during the Extended Mentor period. This ceremony will involve both the incumbent leaders and the new 2020-2021 Leadership Team. At this stage, the venue will be the Tenison Woods Gallery in our Mary MacKillop building. **It will be streamed 'live' to respective parents/caregivers as we are restricted with onsite visitors due to Covid-19 regulations.**

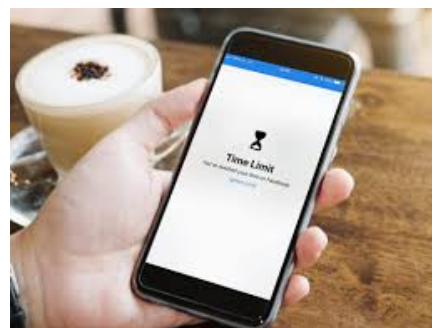


How to Help Teenagers Stay Safe Online - Part II

In Part II of our series, we look at screen time. An important extract from the **eSafety Commissioner**:

TIME ONLINE

'There is no magic figure. The right amount of screen time can depend on a range of factors like your child's age and maturity, the kind of content they are consuming, their learning needs and your family routine. It can be easy to focus only on the clock, but the quality and nature of what they are doing online, and your involvement, are just as important. Consider your child's screen use in the context of their overall health and wellbeing. For example, is online time getting in the way of their sleep and exercise? Is it impacting on their face-to-face connections with family and friends? The answers to these questions will guide you and help strike the right balance of online and offline activities for your child.'



SIGNS that your child's online activity may be having a negative impact on them or on your family include:

- less interest in social activities like meeting friends or playing sport
- not doing so well at school
- tiredness, sleep disturbance, headaches, eye strain
- changes in eating patterns
- reduced personal hygiene
- obsession with particular websites or games
- extreme anger when being asked to take a break from online activity
- appearing anxious or irritable when away from the computer
- becoming withdrawn from friends and family.

STRATEGIES to support your child if online activity is problematic can be accessed [HERE](#).

Absences

Parents/careers 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.

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

From the Director of Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

Mrs Lindy Sykes

Child Mental Health

Below are two great websites that may be helpful for you:

- [Beyond Blue Healthy Families](#) – Resources and information to support families
- [Emerging Minds](#) - Resources, podcasts and information for teachers and parents to support child mental health. Subscribe to their newsletter for the latest updates.

Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase

SkillsOne have launched the Skills and Thrills Parents Showcase in a digital format. Content is only available until 4 September, 2020. Access a free video to learn about:

- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- TAFE/ Private Training Providers
- Industry trends
- Covid-19 impacts on industry
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options
- School-delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
- Where to find information
- Resources and support services.

Pre-register your interest to receive information and updates [HERE](#).

Live SkillsOne Q&A Panel Discussion - Facebook

Wednesday, 26 August, 6-7pm. Parents can pre-submit any questions to do with careers/industry [here](#).

Reminders:

Study & Careers Information

A reminder that university and other tertiary education provider course information, Course Guides, apprenticeship & traineeship information, tips on how to find that job and much more is available on our [St Leo's website](#) 'Study & Career Information' page (password: **leoscommunity**)

You can also view the [Study & Career Pathways YouTube channel](#) to access a range of virtual talks from universities, employers and industry bodies.

TVET 2021 Expressions of Interest NOW OPEN

Any student in Year 10 interested in TVET Courses for 2021 should see Ms Tynan for an Expression of Interest form as soon as possible.

Premier's Reading Challenge

A reminder that the 2020 PRC is coming to a close on Friday, 28 August. Any participating students need to have updated their reading records by then. If your child is new to St Leo's in 2020, please notify Ms Hashim so that past reading records can be merged.