



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Please find below the **Week 8 Term 3 2020** edition of the Parental Lion Roars.

## From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

Over the past week there was much discussion around the Catholic School Funding issue that was raised on the ABC. Catholic Schools NSW has released a response. [Follow this link for information on this issue from Catholic Schools NSW.](#)

## Student Successes

Over the last two weeks I have witnessed some excellent cases where students are excelling in various areas of their curriculum:

- 1. Year 11 Hospitality - Work Placement** - As part of any VET (Vocational Educational Training) Courses all students experience a workplace setting for two one-week blocks in Years 11 and 12. Many of our students have either secured a part time position from their work placement either now or in the future (post Covid19). This is a great testament to the students' applications and abilities. I have linked one of the reports from the Head Chef at the Epping Club about one of our students who was recently on Work Placement. [Click here to review the reference.](#)
- 2. The Aquinas Resource Centre** has been opened for extended hours to cater and support our Yr 11 and 12 students as they prepare for their End of Preliminary Course Exams and the Trial HSC Exams; at times there have been up to 30 students in house. Some students work individually, some work in groups. Various staff have been available to assist; particularly in English, Languages, Mathematics, HSIE and Studies of Religion. Thank you to our staff and it's great to see students working - sometimes here till 8pm! (I think *UberEats* business has boomed!)
- 3. Adobe 1 Minute Video Challenge** - a range of students who volunteered from Year 8 to Year 12 were able to participate and learn not only from each other but especially from Dr Tim Kitchen (Snr Educational Specialist-Adobe) and our Mr Tiglao, about digital media. A summary of the day (video) will be posted to our social media shortly. The aim of this workshop is to

### What's New...

Stories relating to individual Year Groups now link to separate Year pages to keep the Lion Roars shorter!



help students enhance their video literacy, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving and creative skills. Each of the 5 videos produced was based around the following global challenges: Poverty, Inequality, Climate change, Environmental degradation, Peace and Justice.

Congratulations to all these students involved in these various initiatives which assist them to become the best people they can be!

## Covid Safe School

St Leo's Catholic College is now registered and authorised by NSW Government as a Covid-19 Safe School. What this means ... obviously there is NO guarantee we will **not** have a case of Covid-19 but rather that the College has undertaken all the practical measures we can to try and prevent and minimise the contamination and spread of Covid-19 working within NSW Government regulations relating to school environments.



## Year 12 Graduation

Thank you to all the Year 12 families who gave us your feedback on your preferred new date for the Graduation in November. The date selected by majority vote was **Friday, 13 November** – so that is set as our new graduation date.

As you will have seen, the NSW Government have announced that graduations and formals will now be allowed to proceed after the completion of the HSC – so our decision to move to November was a good one! As the new guidelines are set to be released on Friday, we will communicate further information to Year 12 next week.

## Thank you to all our Prayer Groups

To all those families who have volunteered to pray for a Year 12 student and their family 'adopting' them as they enter the final phase of the HSC journey – thank you, as this is another example of our community putting their faith into action.

If you would still like to be involved, please see the Prayer Circle information under the Acting Director of Evangelisation and Catholic Formation's report.

*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

## Year 12 PTP - Post Trial Program

Research indicates that students who apply themselves significantly post the trials have the potential to have a sizeable impact on their HSC. The Post Trial Program (PTP) is aimed at maximising the Comparative Learning Gain potential of each student by **providing them with a focused opportunity to apply the feedback they receive from the HSC Trial Exams**. The opportunity to apply such feedback will be through a re-sitting of a section or the entirety of a trial exam for each of their courses, preceded by targeted workshops that focus on specific data informed goals set by the College.

The PTP is designed to be focused on **refining and upskilling students**. Following a deep analysis of HSC trends of the 2019 and the present 2020 cohort, the College and Catholic Schools Office have set specific areas, sections and questions where students need to focus their energies on, in order to achieve higher results when compared with students in statistically similar schools and learning environments.

**The PTP workshops are designed to target these areas, sections and questions with an overall goal of achieving an additional 3 marks in each course for each student.**

Students will have completed the following by the conclusion of the PTP:

- Have engaged in targeted workshops that address key areas/goals requiring growth(e.g. 3 additional marks)
- Have received targeted upskilling in the breaking down of HSC questions
- Have completed a re-sitting of a section or the entirety of a HSC Trial Exam
- Receiving the above marked with quality feedback

**Cohort Periods** have been developed so the cohort as a whole can be presented to by a specialist (internal or external) as well as providing the opportunity for them to be together to re-sit an exam.

**The PTP will take place solely within the Mary MacKillop Centre.** This will enable any staff member who wishes to work 1:1 with a Y12 student to know where they are and to work with them. It will assist the College to keep a close eye on Y12 in order to monitor and support their wellbeing and to provide pastoral care.

**The PTP is compulsory for all students. Please note that each student is required for 5 periods each day of the PTP. Early departure periods have concluded to maximise student preparation for the HSC.** Full College Winter Uniform as per the norm is required.

The final Tuesday and Wednesday following the Retreat Day is being tailored according to the needs that arise during the PTP.

[View the PTP Program here](#)

Students are required for both Tuesday and Wednesday as part of the PTP. The details for Tuesday 22/9 and Wednesday 23/9 will be distributed in due course.

We hope this program provides your daughter or son with additional support as they prepare for the HSC.

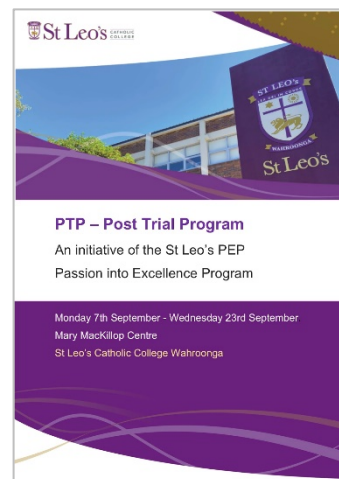
They as well as yourselves remain in our prayers.

## Summer Uniform

The transition from winter to summer uniform will take place on the first day of Term 4, Monday 12th October. Please check that each garment or item of the uniform is labelled. There are a number of uniform items that are presently in lost property.

## Social Media Warning

The College continues to work very hard in upskilling our students to be aware of and practice safe activity online. Many employers today check the digital 'footprint or profile' of potential employees during the interview process.



Any activity online or content that a student has contributed to a social media platform remains online in perpetuity, irrespective of whether they have deleted such content or not. This means that the actions of students during high school can have a lasting impact on their future careers and opportunities. Please check in regularly with your daughter or son and their level of activity online.



The website for the [eSafety Commissioner](#) provides excellent and up to date information for issues to be aware of and strategies on how to avoid or deal with such issues.

## From the Acting Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation

Mr Nathan Smith

### All families are invited to join the Prayer Circle for the Class of 2020

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 exams now completed and main HSC exams looming, it is common for Year 12 students to have elevated levels of stress and anxiety – and even more so this year 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** ([view Year 12 specific page](#))

**Intake 2020 (Year 7): Reflection Incursion** ([view Intake 2020 specific page](#))

## Upcoming Evangelisation and Faith Formation Events/Reminders

- **Friday, 18 September:**
  - Year 7 Reflection Incursion (periods 3 and 4)
- **Monday, 21 September:**
  - Year 12 Spirituality Day.

*Brightest blessings.*

## From the Director of Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

Mrs Lindy Sykes

### RU OK Day

This Thursday, 10 September the College will be celebrating RU OK Day. R U OK? is asking all Australians to learn what to say if someone in their life says they are not OK. This year's message stresses the importance of having meaningful conversations to help make a difference in someone's life.

[Watch the RU OK? video](#)



Our student leaders will be out and about on the playground in their yellow T-shirts checking in on students, starting conversations and helping develop connections. We will continue with this very important message in extended Mentor periods next week.

**Parents are encouraged to monitor their children's use of social media apps such as TIK TOK and Instagram which can be a source of concerning material and anxiety.**

### Help if You Need it

If you are worried about your son or daughter, **Headspace Chatswood** is a free, confidential service for 12-25 year olds. They offer youth-friendly facilities and can help with:

- Mental health & wellbeing
- Alcohol and other drug services
- Education, employment, and other services
- Sexual and general health.

Please get in touch if you think you may need support: 30 Devonshire St, Chatswood, phone: **8021 3668**.

## From the Director of Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

[Year 12 page:](#)

- 'New Beginnings' Preliminary Retreat Experience
- Weeks 8-10: PTP
- HSC Myths and Maximising Effort/Application

## How to Help our St Leo's Teenage Community Stay Safe Online - Part IV: Cybersafety & Digital Citizenship

The internet and online technologies are incredible tools. They provide an opportunity to communicate, learn, play and be entertained by content from around the world. For many young people, the internet and mobile phones are their social lifeline. It's where they engage with friends out-of-school hours and keep up-to-date. For some, time away from that network can threaten their sense of connectedness to their social community. Like communicating in the real world, there are risks in interacting online. Cyberbullying, identity theft, scams and inappropriate content are some of the issues that can pose challenges for young people – from pre-schoolers who may be starting to use a computer to more experienced teens.



### Important tips for parents/caregivers:

- Remember that even when children seem to have good technical knowledge, their **online behaviour still requires parental monitoring and guidance**
- **Spend time with your child** – using the internet can be a fun family activity
- Try to locate the computer in a **shared or visible place at home**
- Help your child use the internet as an effective research tool and teach them that **information on the internet is not always reliable**
- Teach your child positive online etiquette - encourage them to treat others online **in the same way they would like to be treated**
- Set rules – make sure your child knows what information they can share by phone or post online and which websites they can visit. Discuss the amount of time they can spend online and ensure the **maintain a balance**
- Teach your child that there are ways they can deal with **disturbing material** – encourage them not to respond to any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried and to **report it to a trusted adult**.

Source: [NSW School of Languages](#)

### 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 Aquinas Resource Centre

Ms Michaela Hashim

### Source Reference

St Leo's subscribes to [Source Reference](#), which is a database of non fiction books and articles suitable for all ages. Our username is 'slccw' and password 'digital'. One great feature of this database is their Research Skill Builder video tutorials. These can be accessed via the menu link in the top left corner.



These tutorials are great for students because they break down the various elements of the skills involved in researching. Topics include:

- Taking on a research project
- Academic integrity
- Study and writing skills
- Using and understanding resources

Learn more via the [Aquinas Resource Centre](#) web portal.

## New Secondhand Uniform Trading Platform – SustainableSchoolShop.com.au



With The Uniform Exchange no longer selling secondhand St Leo's uniforms, we have now set up details with the '**Sustainable School Shop**' online trading platform for parents to buy and sell **secondhand uniforms, both old and new**. The site is [sustainableschoolshop.com.au](http://sustainableschoolshop.com.au).

Please see the attached flyer for more information. The site also sells second hand textbooks, musical instruments, calculators, etc.

**SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL SHOP**

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### Buy and Sell

Second-hand **Textbooks**  
Second-hand **Uniforms**

The logo for St Leo's Wahroonga, featuring a shield with a cross, a lion, and a sun, with the text "ST LEO'S", "LEX DEI IN CORDE", and "WAHROONGA".

**Simply**

- Register on the Sustainable School Shop website - [www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au](http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au)

**Second-hand textbook & uniform trading systems**

- List Wanted & For Sale Ads (Browsers tell each other what they require and what they have to sell).
- The school's book and uniform lists are loaded into the system to make the Ad listing process easy, fast and accurate.
- Our Ad Matching service shows you
  - Exactly the right items to buy
  - Who has the most items you need
  - The cheapest items
- Assistance is provided to accurately price items.
- Buyers contact Sellers, and arrange where and when to transact.
- Excellent email and telephone helplines are provided: 0438 743 444

**Cost**

- Browse and search the for sale ads for free
- Single items can be advertised for \$1.50
- Annual subscriptions \$21.95 (includes Ad Matching)

Also Buy & Sell	Pricing Guide
• Calculators	• Like New 70%
• Sporting items	• Excellent 60%
• Musical items	• Very Good 50%
• Electronics & DVD's	• Good 40%
• Stationery	

[www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au](http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au)  
ABN 55 114 136 211