



Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for **Week 3 Term 1 2021**.

From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

College Rededication - Congratulations to our Past, Present and Future Parents/Caregivers

After many years and much effort from parents, staff and students, Bishop Anthony Randazzo Blessed and Rededicated the College and Reconsecrated the Chapel last Friday to mark the finish of our much needed building program.



Although Covid-19 restrictions required a 'scaled down' Mass and celebration, a cross section of contributors were present. Representatives of each current Year Group, staff and student representatives, Catholic Schools Broken Bay and clergy attended, praying and acknowledging the contributions (both financial and in physical hard work) all sections of our College community have made over many years.

Bishop Anthony referred to St Leo's as the 'flagship' school of the Diocese. More importantly, as he pointed out, it is not just the bricks and mortar that make our College exemplary - it is the individual people who make up this community and the way we live the Gospel values as best they can.



A quote from one of the parents in attendance:

"I feel incredibly blessed and privileged to have been invited to join with the St. Leo's Catholic College community on Friday in the celebration of Mass, the Blessing and Rededication of the College and the Chapel Reconsecration. A truly extraordinary and spiritual morning, and an experience I shall carry with me always..."

Here is an excerpt from my address:

...A very special mention to our parents today. We can only have representative parents here - due to Covid regulations. Today is your

celebration as well - as you represent the many thousands of parents (past, present and future) who have generously contributed to what you see and experience today.

I would like to recognise, acknowledge and sincerely thank the staff students and parents over that time. The past six cohorts of Year 12 students have only known the physical side of St Leo's as a building site for their education here at St Leo's. Despite this, these students have developed and displayed their patience, flexibility and understanding.



Our parents have continued to be generous in their contributions, supporting the College and have shown trust and loyalty over these years. Personally for that - I am most grateful. Thank you.

...The staff in particular have packed, moved, unpacked, packed, moved, unpacked many times - in fact I



think the record was above 20 moves for some staff. To be honest, the project took its toll on staff. However, we now have moved from that position to what you experience here today - a vibrant, dynamic and diverse Catholic learning community. The staff - as they always have done, and what they are known for - go that extra distance for their students and in their teaching and learning. A sincere thanks to each and every staff member.

Despite the constant moving, setting up of temporary learning spaces, from TLOCC to demountables, from building to building, the noise, the dust the many inconveniences -

what has prevailed is the resilience, the determination and the St Leo's community spirit that you would have all noticed as you enter our College that rises above all else.

This year's Yr 7 cohort - Intake 2021, will fully experience the wonderful site and facilities that we see today. Our Year 12 HSC class - are experiencing the many benefits of these facilities now in their final year of secondary education.

In closing, may we continue our partnership with parents to develop competent, confident, Catholic-valued young women and men of conscience for the present and for future generations.'

If you would like to read the full address, [click here](#).

After Mass (which was live-streamed to our students and parents), House Liturgies were conducted by members of each particular Order as well as students and staff. The Bishop then visited each House and blessed the relevant statue and students. The sprinkling of Holy Water was much appreciated by most students!

I would like to congratulate students on their attentiveness, prayerfulness and behaviour during a rather long Mass (the Reconsecration of the Chapel was included).

Thank you to Mr Daniel Petrie and Ms Fiona Morsink-Ryan for their extensive preparation and planning to make the day a once in a lifetime event and probably the second biggest day in the College's history (after the original opening in 1956).

I invite you to watch a recoding of the [full Reconsecration ceremony in the Chapel here](#).

Opportunities Galore at St Leo's!

In these short first two weeks of the school year, I have already approved nine students' entries into representative trials for a variety of sports for NSW Combined Catholic College (NSWCCC) sporting selections (all online now - makes it so much easier for all concerned). At St Leo's, the development of the whole person is key to our practises and strategies, and it is great to see the following students enter into representative selections so early in the year! Well done to:

- Shrey, Year 8 - Cricket (U/16)
- Lachlan, Year 12 - Cricket (U/19)
- Jackson, Year 9 - Baseball
- Brenton, Year 10 - Golf
- Milla, Year 9 - Softball
- Maddi, Year 9- Softball
- Tara, Year 11 - Softball
- Sophie, Year 11 - Softball
- Elecia, Year 11 – Softball.

Representative Sport Structure

BBSSSA > NSWCCC > NSW All Schools > School Sport Australia

- St Leo's is a member of the Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sports Association, or **BBSSSA**. Through BBSSSA, we have access to the next level of representative pathways with **NSWCCC** (NSW Combined Catholic Colleges) for the following sports:

Australian Football; Athletics; Baseball; Basketball; Cricket; Cross Country; Diving; Football (Soccer); Golf; Hockey; Netball; Rugby League; Rugby Sevens; Rugby Union; Softball; Swimming; Tennis; Touch; Triathlon; Volleyball; Water Polo

These sports are offered through the following structures:

1. *Broken Bay Teams* (selected at a trial, Carnival or Gala Day):
Athletics, Basketball, Cross Country, Football (Soccer), Rugby League (U15 and Opens), Swimming, Tennis, Touch
2. *Individual entry* via a nomination on the Catholic Schools NSW Sport website:
AFL, Baseball, Cricket, Diving, Golf, Hockey, Netball, Rugby Union, Softball, Triathlon, Volleyball, Water Polo.

For more information on the nomination process for these individual sports, please go to the [Catholic Schools NSW Sport website](#) or contact [Mr Michael Kember](#), Leader of Sport.

- From NSWCCC, students can progress to the next level - **NSW All Schools**:

NSW All Schools is the competition between the 3 major sporting groups of schools in NSW.

1. NSWCCC (Combined Catholic Colleges); 2) NSWCHS (Combined High Schools) and 3) NSWICIS (Combined Independent Schools)

- For elite athletes, the level above NSW All Schools is **School Sport Australia**.

We are keen to recognise the many St Leo's students who have progressed along these pathways over the years - some on to national and international representation. With the completion of the building works, we



now have space to recognise our high achievers and plan on acknowledging our Sporting Representatives soon.

But, back on a local front, it was great to see training before school this morning kicking off for the **U/13 Boys Touch Football** Trials this morning. Other trials coming up include:

- Wednesday 10th Feb - **U/15 Girls Touch Football** Trials, 7:00am on the College Oval
- Thursday 11th Feb - **U/13 Girls Touch Football** Trials, 7:00am on College Oval
- Friday 12th Feb - **Sprint Training**, 7:00am on College Oval

Besides sport, the following activities/groups also meet this week:

Cubs Dancers

Any student in Intake 2021 who is interested in being part of the Cubs Dance Ensemble are to meet Miss Skea at the The Light of Christ Centre (LOCC) at 3:05pm Monday. Sports uniforms are fine, no specific shoes are required. See Ms Skea if you have any questions.

Cubs Art Club

Any Intake 2021 or Year 8 student who would like to join the Cubs Art Club see Mrs Stevenson for further details as soon as possible.



Girls Rock Band

Any female student who sings, plays Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard or Drum kit is encouraged to attend. See Mr Tavernese for further details as soon as possible.

Ceramic Classes

Ceramic Classes started today but are open to all students. See Mrs Stevenson for further details as soon as possible.

Please encourage your daughter or son to become involved in their (and your) new look school! **They will be a better person for it!**

Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the week.

From the Assistant Principal

Mr Daniel Petrie

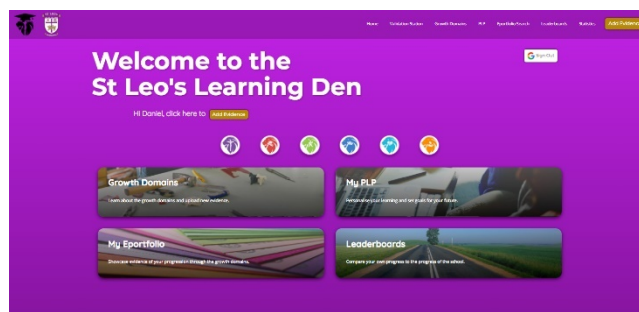
Connecting Passion with Greatness

As Mr Gleeson highlights, the College offers countless opportunities for students to connect a passion or curiosity with greatness. Just within the last two days, invitations to the following co-curricular programs have been made available:

Cub Dancers group, Sprint Training, Male Vocal Group, Girls Touch Football, Media Production Group, Boys Touch Football, Lions Singers Group, Duke of Edinburgh Program, Cubs Art Club, Girls Rock Band and Ceramic Classes!

Participation in any of the above activities can be listed as evidence in a student's ePortfolio within the Learning Den. Students should be uploading evidence to demonstrate their growth and development within each of the six Growth Domains as an ongoing learning journey.

For Intake 2021 to Year 10, please touch base with your daughter or son to discuss their progress and growth, and encourage them to partake in these wonderful programs to encourage their holistic development.



Uniform

St Leo's is committed to excellence across all endeavours, and I would like to thank parents for their support in assisting the College maintaining the highest uniform standard.

Senior students in particular have a significant role to play in ensuring a high standard of uniform. The way in which they wear their uniform sets the tone for their younger peers, who naturally look up to them.

Commencing tomorrow, additional spot checks on uniforms will take place. As per the College Uniform and Grooming Policies found in the Personal Planner, Senior skirts need to be to knee length. Senior students from (Years 10 - 12) will be given a week's grace to alter the hem. Wednesday, 17 February will be the deadline for the senior skirts to be the correct length.

A reminder also that all male students require a tie year round.

Thank you once again for supporting the College Uniform and Grooming Policies.

Parent Information Meetings

A reminder that you are invited to join your respective Year Group Parent Information Meeting next week, as listed below with the corresponding Zoom link.

I will outline plans and initiatives for 2021, and Year Leaders will address matters concerning each of their Year Groups. Please join us!

The days and times for each Year group are:

- **Year 9 – Monday, 15 February** at 6.45pm
- **Year 10 – Monday, 15 February** at 7.30pm
- Intake 2021 (Year 7) – Tuesday, 16 February at 6.45pm
- Year 8 – Tuesday, 16 February at 7.30pm
- Year 11 – Thursday, 18 February at 6.45pm
- Year 12 – Thursday, 18 February at 7.30pm.



*Please note the **change to Year 9 and Year 10 sessions dates**, allowing families a greater opportunity to attend Ash Wednesday Mass.*

Important Dates for Term 1 2021

Term 1 Date	Event
Wednesday, 10 February 7:00pm	Duke of Edinburgh Information Evening 7:00pm Zoom: https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/99736559885
Thursday, 11 February, 6.30pm	Intake 2021 – MATHS parent Information Session (see the Dean of Curriculum's report for more information) Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/93324052481
Monday, 15 February 6:45pm Monday, 15 February 7:30pm	Year 9 - Parent Information Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/97360110715 Year 10 - Parent Information Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/99296510414
Tuesday, 16 February 6:45pm Tuesday, 16 February 7:30pm	Intake 2021 - Parent Information Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/99757353821 Year 8 - Parent Information Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/94951674035
Wednesday, 17 February	Ash Wednesday Liturgy (Lent Begins)
Thursday, 18 February 6:45pm	Year 11 - Parent Information Evening:

Thursday, 18 February 7:30pm	Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/92310837466 Year 12 - Parent Information Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/95385832584
Wednesday, 24 February 7:00pm	College Principal Update Evening: Zoom - https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/96291385401
Wednesday 3 – Friday, 5 March	Intake 2021 Camp
Tuesday, 16 March 4pm	College Open Day/Evening (Student early departure at 2.00pm)
Thursday, 1 April 10am	Holy Thursday - Stations of the Cross

Parent Teacher Interview Evenings via Zoom

Please note that the Parent Teacher Interview Evenings via Zoom have been booked for the following dates. Appointment bookings will open **two weeks prior** to these dates and Zoom links become active. Instructions and further details will be made available to parents via email closer to the dates.

Parent Teacher Interview Evenings via Zoom:	Year Groups
29 April - 3pm - 8pm	Year 9 and Year 10
6 May - 3pm - 8pm	Year 7 and Year 8
13 May - 3pm - 8pm	Year 11 and Year 12

From the Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation

Mr Michael Neylan

Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday, students will participate in an Ash Wednesday Liturgy at the College. Unfortunately this year we are unable to invite parents to attend due to Covid-19 restrictions. Please check with your parish for local Ash Wednesday Mass times.

Prayer in the Home

Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) have shared a resource for parents and caregivers to support family prayer life at home. Family prayer can be a rich and meaningful experience and provide a source of deep connection between family members. This has perhaps become even more significant over the last year as many are seeking more connection with others and opportunities for spiritual nourishment.

You can access the [Prayer in the Home resource here](#).

Blessings for the week ahead.

From the Dean of Curriculum

Mr George Morad

Intake 2021 – Maths Information Session for Parents

A reminder to parents/carers of Intake 2021 students about the Maths Information Session (via Zoom) this **Thursday, 11 February at 6.30pm** for a more detailed explanation of Mathematics for Intake 2021.

A letter from Mr Gleeson and Mr Donaghy (Head Of Mathematics) outlining Mathematics for Intake 2021 was sent to Intake 2021 parents via Compass last week .

The meeting will be recorded and shared with parents who cannot make it. Any questions asked in the group chat or in the meeting will be compiled and answered and published to parents soon after the meeting.

The Zoom link for the meeting is <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/93324052481>. Please have your child's device with you that evening in order to login to Compass.

Looking forward to seeing you all online on Thursday.

From the Director of Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

Compass Parent Portal - Add Attendance Note Feature

If at all possible, when a student arrives late to the College and/or needs to leave the College early, parents/caregivers are requested to use the *Add Attendance Note* feature in Compass. **Both the respective Reason and Details/Comments fields should be completed** in Compass which includes providing relevant information for our confidential College records. You should use the following fields as required:

- Medical Illness: *includes sickness, medical and dental treatment*
- Medical – Appointment *includes appointments with medical professionals, dental practitioners etc.*
- Other Explained Absence: *includes misadventure or unforeseen event, participation in non-school events, domestic necessity such as illness of immediate family member, attendance at a funeral, participation in a religious festival etc.*
- Please do **NOT** use the Compass for student leave requests – these must be in writing to the Principal.



Please also note that ALL late arrivals and early departures will be checked by Year Leaders daily to ensure that students are correctly signing in/signing out of the College as well as being cross-referenced against student timetables, hard copy parent/caregiver notes and/or Attendance Notes entered in Compass by parents. Also see link [Compass - a guide for parents & families](#) for further assistance and guidance on the Parent Portal.

Positive Parenting

Despite the best efforts of parents around the world, the reality is, there is no such thing as the 'perfect parent'. However, resourcing yourself with the right information is a good start!

Research shows that one of the most important protective factors in the lives of young people, is a close relationship with a supportive adult. With the **mental health** of today's young people being at an all-time low, it is simply not enough to parent effectively. Parents now need to familiarise themselves with practical skills, knowledge, and strategies when it comes to raising children.

Sometimes parents today are overprotective, resulting in children being less independent, unable to problem-solve or self-regulate. Parents may not set clear boundaries, which unfortunately may make children feel less secure. There is a great deal of pressure on children in the 21st century.

On SchoolTV, which is available via the Parent and Student Links page of the College website, you can learn **the best approach** for primary and secondary school aged children. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this important support site and, as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the College for further information or seek medical/professional help.

See [SchoolTV - Positive Parenting](#) for more information and online resources.

Other Useful Resources (PDFs)

- [Young teens \(12-14 years\)](#)
- [Teenagers \(15-17 years\)](#)

SchoolTV - Online Wellbeing Resources

[SchoolTV](#) has a number of special reports that may be of interest to our College parents/caregivers in raising young teenagers.



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

From the Director of Administration

Ms Therri Ellison

Immunisations – Intake 2021 and Year 10

Students in Year 10 and Intake 2021 will soon receive information and permission cards that needs to be completed by parents/carers in order for your child to be vaccinated. Additional information can be found [HERE](#). The clinic dates are:

Immunisations	Vaccine/s	Date
Intake 2021	HPV dose 1 & dTpa	20 April
Intake 2021	HPV dose 2	1 November
Year 10	Meningococcal	28 July

College Photo Days

Photo Days	
24 May (Term 2)	Mentor Groups & Individual Portraits Yr 7-12, Families & Whole Year 12 Group photos
25 May (Term 2)	Catch up day
6 August (Term 3)	Sports & Extracurricular photos

From the Leader of Community Partnerships and Pathways

Ms Mel Timmerman

Career and Study Resources

Keen to explore different career and study options? Please head over to our [Study & Career Pathways Google Drive](#), where you can find course guides, information about Apprenticeships and Traineeships, how to write a good resume and much more.



Pathways Events this Term

Careers in Sport - Workshop

David Gower will be visiting St Leo's on Wednesday, 24 of February for a hands-on workshop around Careers in Sport (yes, you will need to wear your sports uniform!).

David is a former professional rugby league footballer who played for the Parramatta Eels in the NRL competition. He will be joined by Luke Williamson, also a former professional rugby league footballer now coaching of the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles' NSW Cup team.

Make sure you join this active and fun workshop and learn more about Careers in Sport whilst getting your heart rate up and your blood pumping! You can [register here](#).

When: Wednesday, 24 February (11.30am to 1pm)

Where: St Leo's Catholic College, room TBA + Oval



High Tech Careers @ Woolworths - Workshop

Steven Kernahan, Stores Infrastructure Engineer (SIE), will be visiting St Leo's on Friday, 26 February to talk about the exciting things happening in the Woolworths Tech Lab. From the use of Artificial Intelligence to stop shoplifting to Olive their Chatbot, and he will show you the robots they are currently working with.

Steven will share insight about what Woolies looks at when hiring new staff. What qualities do you need? What skills are preferred? And how home automation might give you a job in this well respected Tech Team at Woolies.

Still interested in a high tech job after this presentation? Chances are big that you will be invited by Steven to take a look around their Head Office Tech Lab in Norwest. Not to mention the possible traineeships options available to Tech Savvy students like yourself! You can register your interest for this workshop [here](#).

When: Friday, 26 February (9am to 10.30am)

Where: St Leo's Catholic College, room TBA



Please don't hesitate to [email](#) me if you have any queries around the workshops above and/ or would like to touch base to discuss the information on the Study & Career Pathways Google Drive.

From the CAPA Team

Ensemble Timetable

Below is the finalised Term 1 program for all CAPA Ensembles and Programs.

All Ensembles and Programs start this week (Week 3). Students are encouraged to attend this week to meet the program leader and register their name. They will be provided with more information and a Google Classroom Code by the program leader.

For invitation-based ensembles, students should check their emails before the first rehearsal to ensure the correct attendance.

For more information please email Mr Vince Tavernese - vincenzo.tavernese@dbb.catholic.edu.au, or Mrs Joanna Gower - joanna.gower@dbb.catholic.edu.au.



ST LEO'S CAPA ENSEMBLES/PROGRAMS

Term 1 2021



TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Before School 7:15am for a 7:30am start		Pride Singers MML04	Pride Dancers LOCC Pride Stage Band MML04 Lions Singers MML01	Lions Dancers LOCC Cubs Concert Band MML04	Lions Concert Band MML04
Recess 11am-11:30am					Guitar Ensemble MML04
Lunch 1:15pm-1:45pm	Cubs Art Club MMG02 Girls Rock Band MML04	Media Production MMG04 (WEEK A)	Accordion Group MML04	Rock Band MML04	Cubs Singers MML04
After School 3pm -4pm	Ceramic Classes MMG02 Cubs Dancers LOCC	Male Vocal Group MML04		String Ensemble MML04	

All exact times for programs will be shared to students by the program Leader.

From the Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Ms Kelly Li

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Interested New Participants

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is being offered to any student who is 14 years of age or older. The Award provides an opportunity for students to further develop skills, initiative and self-esteem which will help them become more confident members of the community.

Proud to deliver

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD



A letter has been sent to all Year 9 Parents/Caregivers in regards to the program. A reminder that a Zoom meeting will be held to go through the program and answer any questions on **Wednesday, 10 February at 7pm**. (Meeting link: [Duke of Edinburgh Zoom Link](#))

If a student would like to join and is not in Year 9, please see me.

Current Participants

Current participants should have finished their Adventurous Journey Reports and are encouraged to work on setting goals for their activities and speaking to their assessors.

For help please see Mrs Li in BHG04 at lunchtimes on Week A; Monday and Week B; Tuesday.

From the Leader of Sport

Mr Michael Kember

Representative Trials & Opportunities

Over the next few weeks, representative sport trials will be taking place at the College for a number of sports. They began this week with Touch Football for our senior years, leading to teams being selected to represent St Leo's at Broken Bay events and other competitions throughout the year.

These **trials are advertised through the daily notices on Compass**, as well as on the St Leo's Sport 2021 Google Classroom page that is accessible to all students. Code: [zic743p](#). I encourage all students to add themselves to this page as it is constantly updated with information.

Upcoming Trials

Wednesday, 10 February - **U/15 Girls Touch Football** Trials - 7:00am on the College Oval

Thursday, 11 February - **U/13 Girls Touch Football** Trials - 7:00am on College Oval

Thursday 11th February - **Cross Country** Training (all students welcome) - 7:00am on the College Oval

Friday, 12 February - **Sprint** Training (all students welcome) - 7:00am on College Oval

Broken Bay Trial Information

Any **Rugby League** players (U/15 and Opens) who would like to trial for the Broken Bay side please see Mr Kember by Friday, 11 February.

Internal Sport Program

The internal sport program (Sport for Life) is up and running for all students in from Intake 2021 to Year 10 and is held as normal timetabled lessons for a double period every week.

Intake 2021 - Cricket and Self Defence

This week, Intake 2021 began sessions with Cricket NSW and self defence classes. The boys were run through a variety of games and drills by Cricket NSW, with Sydney Sixers' coaches at the College. These games saw the students practice catching, throwing and batting skills that will be developed over the next few weeks regardless of their current skill levels, with all students building to an internal gala day towards the end of the term.

Meanwhile, the girls began their sport program with Self-Defence classes. Again an expert external provider ran the session, in this case from *Self Aware, Self Defence*. The girls went through a range of manoeuvres and techniques that could be used in a variety of situations and learnt some important life skills around personal safety.

Other Year Groups will also have a variety of external providers involved in sport throughout the year.

Lunch-time House Sport

This Term, the House Sport competition will be cricket on the oval. All students, regardless of age and skill level, are able to gain valuable House points with runs counted towards the House Cup competition. It is a friendly but competitive environment. For more information, students should see Mr Kember.