



Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for **Week 9 Term 1 2021**.

## From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

We keep in our prayers and thoughts those many thousands of people affected by the floods in NSW and Queensland. It is comforting to see and hear from the various media reports of those people who are helping in whatever way they can. Everything from assisting with sandbagging to those who are allowing displaced residents into their homes.

As we move closer to Good Friday - where God gave his only Son, may we make some sacrifice for the good of others, particularly those involved in the floods.

### Feedback - Parent Formal Structure

On Tuesday, 2 March, 131 parents/carers participated in our initial Zoom meeting on the establishment of a Parent Formal Structure.

Over this past week, I have put together the responses from general comments and breakout rooms from this meeting.

The overarching structure characteristics you supported were:

- A flexible model
- Zoom access as the preferred option
- A traditional structure is **not** supported, i.e. - a President, Vice President, Secretary etc.
- Matters should be made available to all parents - then they can opt in or opt out depending on the subject matter
- College-wide parent's/carer's opinions can be sought via surveys as opposed to a structured body.

As a result of these main characteristics, I have developed a **draft model** for a structure that meets our parents/caregivers needs - [here is the link](#).

**From this point, I would like to conduct a further consultation for all parents/caregivers next Tuesday, 30 March at 7pm.** The Zoom link will be provided next Monday, via a Compass notification.

If you cannot make this evening - please use [this Google Form](#) to add any comments/queries.

This consultation will close the last day of this Term - Holy Thursday - 1st April.



In Week 1 Term 2 (Week beginning 19 April) - I will publish any changes etc. based on your comments or feedback from next week's Zoom meeting with the intention of beginning the first round of the new model next Term.

## Senior Students Pathways

Yesterday, I participated in the *Catholic Secondary Schools Association (CSSA) Forum on Senior Students Pathways*. Each Term, many Catholic School Principals/Leadership Teams across NSW meet (in this case Zoomed) to discuss various issues around a particular theme. Yesterday's presentations were given by –

- **Prof Peter Shergold** (NESA Chair) - *Looking to the Future Report* findings and interpreting this report through the Curriculum Reform in NSW and
- **Prof John Buchanan** - (University of Sydney) - *New Challenges in Working Life and the Implications for School Education*

Both Professors presented on how we can do better in our secondary schools and how to prepare our students for the world in which they are about to enter.

***'The world is moving at a tremendous rate; going no one knows where. We must prepare our children, not for the world of the past, not for our world, but for their world – the world of the future.'***

*John Dewey, radio broadcast, early 1940s.*

(Taken from Sherwood's report to the State and Federal Education Ministers - [Report Looking to the Future](#) June 2020)

### So what would success look like?

In essence, eight key outcomes will be achieved:

#### 1) All students will leave with essential skills

Senior secondary schooling will prepare young people for their future roles in the workforce and as active and engaged members of civil society. They will have the capabilities and enthusiasm to keep on learning throughout their lives. Senior secondary schooling will include a focus on:

- learning areas (selected by students on the basis of their interests and passions)
- foundational skills development (literacy, numeracy, digital literacy)
- capability development, personal growth and ethical responsibilities
- career education and work exploration activities.

Literacy, numeracy and digital literacy will be recognised as essential skills for every student. At a time of technological transformation with the future of work uncertain, these attributes are more important than ever.

#### 2) All students will leave with a Learner Profile

Students will leave school with a Learner Profile, identifying their range of skills, knowledge and experiences. It will include learning and experiences gained inside and outside of school. Students will be guided to recognise the attributes they have acquired through study in the classroom as well as from work experience, volunteering and personal achievement. It is likely that the ATAR will continue to play a role in university selection processes, although many education providers now wish to also assess a student's performance in a range of subject disciplines. But this ranking score will increasingly be enhanced by a greater recognition of the value of the broader set of skills, capabilities and experience that a student has gained by the time they leave school.



### 3) All pathways will be equally respected

The workforce of the future will require a range of skills and people with different types of qualifications. All students will be encouraged to pursue excellence and follow their passions and interests when selecting their subjects for Years 11 and 12 and considering post-school pathways. All students will be given the opportunity to participate in meaningful career education and work exploration activities. This will allow them to acquire the skills to be work-ready. It will broaden their understanding of the employment opportunities available to them. They will be provided with assistance to navigate options and make well-informed decisions.



### 4) All students will benefit from informed decision-making

Quality career guidance will be provided through a well-functioning system that extends beyond the school. A career guidance ecosystem will provide reliable and targeted information and resources for students, parents, careers advisers, educators and employers. It will draw together schools, community career hubs and real-time industry advice. It will be informed by knowledge of the future labour market. It will be delivered both face to face and online.



## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF SENIOR SECONDARY PATHWAYS INTO WORK, FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

JUNE 2020

Review Panel: Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chair), Professor Tom Calma AO, Ms Sarina Russo, Ms Patrea Walton PSM, Ms Jennifer Westacott AO, Dr Don Zoellner, Mr Patrick O'Reilly.

### 5) All schools will have strong partnerships with industry

Meaningful, productive and mutually agreed engagement between industry and schools will be central to the education of senior secondary students. Appropriate governance arrangements will be in place to facilitate school–industry partnerships. There will be a strong focus on collaboration with local employers. Industry-led organisations will provide a focal point for engagement between industry

and education, providing up-to-date advice on skills needs. They will collaborate in developing and adapting qualifications in a fast and flexible manner.

### 6) All students will start to prepare their Education Passport

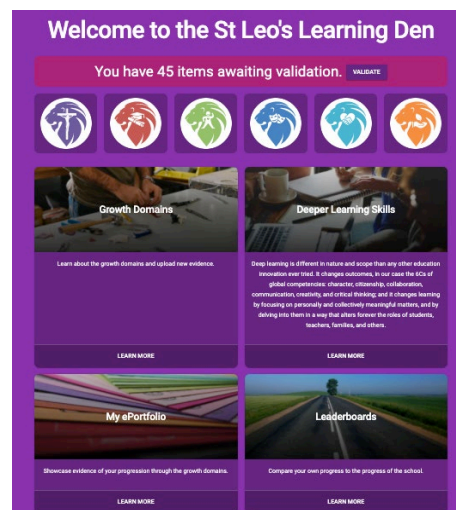
An Education Passport – aligned with the attributes set out in the Learner Profile – will assist individuals to communicate their qualifications, learnings and experience as they move between pathways and change career directions throughout their working lives. Its preparation will begin at school. Students will be empowered. They will be fully engaged in the curation and demonstration of their skills, both within school and outside of it. They will be prepared to record their working lives, education and learnings. All these learning experiences will be progressively added to their Education Passport.

### 7) All students will be provided with equal opportunities for success

Education will remain the foundation of a 'fair go' Australia. Senior secondary students from disadvantaged backgrounds will be supported to ensure that they can follow the same pathways available to others at school, opening greater access to employment and education when they leave.

### 8) Government policies will be informed by evidence

The rhetoric of evidence-based policy will become reality. Nationally consistent data collection arrangements will provide a coherent and seamless picture of how people move through and between education and employment pathways.



Here at St Leo's we are very much going in the right direction with such programs as

- the developing 6 Cs (Christian Citizenship, Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Creativity and Character),
- the St Leo's Learning Den,
- the Pathways program, and,
- our Career Education commencing for Intake 2021.

It was very affirming to hear **Prof Shergold** say "...*the ATAR* (as a university ranking system) **subverts and undermines secondary education...**" and the learning intent embodied in the HSC. He listed the ATAR as "Provocation No. 1".

The College will keep developing these programs to ensure we are preparing our young people for the world they will develop and inhabit, contributing to in so many positive ways.

**We need and want our young people to know Christ, love learning and to use their talents to be the very best they can be!**

*Thank you for your time.*

## From the Assistant Principal

Mr Daniel Petrie

### Intake 2021 Camp Report



March 3 saw almost all of our 185 Intake 2021 students travel to Morisset for what is surely to be one of the highlights of their first year at high school – the Intake 2021 Camp. We were blessed with beautiful, weather, committed Mentor Teachers and excellent students.

Students participated in a range of activities over the two days including; canoeing, giant swing, high ropes, team building activities and night games. Every student challenged themselves with the many activities, requiring courage and collaboration. As teachers, we were very proud of their behaviour and their attitude.

It was a great opportunity for the students to get to know their peers and their Mentor Teachers better, with students commenting that they had made many new friends.



On behalf of the students, we would like to thank the following teachers; Mrs Scott, Mrs Nebu, Ms Needs, Ms Hassan, Ms



Caiger, Ms Spencer, Mr Ritchie, Mr Wilson, Ms Schneider and Mr Scalone.



These teachers gave generously of their time and without their support, the camp would not have been the success that it was.

## Half Yearly Examination Blocks

As part of our holistic approach to preparing our students for their senior years, students from Intake 2021 - Year 10 will be engaging in Half Yearly and Yearly Examinations.

The first of these examination experiences will occur from 3 - 28 May. Students will receive substantial support and revision guides to assist their preparation for this assessment period. The '[Study Skills Handbook](#)' is a valuable tool to assist your daughter or son in preparing for their exams. The extended breadth of the above examination window ensures that space is provided between each exam to allow adequate revision.

## Year 12 HSC Holiday Workshops

During the Easter Holidays, we will again be offering selected HSC workshops to assist Year 12 in their studies. I would like to thank our staff for their generous offering of time and expertise.

The roster for the HSC workshops will be distributed next week in the Week 10 Parental Lion Roars.



## HSC Holiday Workshops

## Stations of the Cross Preparations

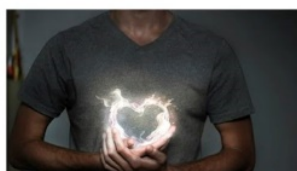
A beautiful and sacred part of our Catholic Tradition is the re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross. It provides us an opportunity to pause and reflect on what Jesus did for us and equally important the 'why' behind what He did.

Staff and student volunteers will pepper the stations with the sharing of personal testimony that connects with a particular station. This has been a truly powerful addition to the experience, as we share the rawness of the human condition - it is this bridge that we share with Christ on the Cross.

The stations will take place in The Light of Christ Centre at 11.10 on Holy Thursday, Week 10.



Stations of the Cross – Via Dolorosa



Evangelisation and Catholic Formation



# From the Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation

Mr Michael Neylan

## Mass for the Feast of St Joseph

On Friday night, one of our College Captains, Matteo and Vice Captains Jessica and Will represented St Leo's at a Mass celebrating the Feast of St Joseph.

The Mass was held at the Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara and celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. During Mass a newly installed timber statue of St Joseph was blessed. The statue was a gift to the community of the



Church in Broken Bay from the Bishop in memory of his parents Colin and Caterina.

## Project Compassion Fundraising Continues

Collections for Project Compassion are continuing throughout Lent up until the end of Term. Our Student Leaders, Vinnies and Social Justice groups have been busy

raising funds and awareness throughout the College Community. You can read Project Compassion's [feature story for this week here](#).



**Year 8 Food Technology** had to create a 'Unique Burger' as part of their first assessment task this week. Here are some photos of their efforts.



## From the Director Students

Mr Ashley Johansen

### Harmony Day Tomorrow - Wednesday 24 March

We will be celebrating Harmony Day tomorrow (Wednesday) with a **mufti day for a gold coin or note donation from ALL students** as we continue to support Project Compassion. Students are encouraged to dress in orange or their country's colours/national dress.

Pre-made and custom-made badges are available for purchase in front of the Youth Ministry Room at recess/lunchtime every day this week. Badges range from \$1 to \$5.

### College Blazers – Ordering and Delivery

Unfortunately, there has been a delay in the fabric required for the new College blazers and, as a result, this has impacted on the manufacturing of the garments.

**If you have already placed an order** for students in Years 7,10 and 11, our uniform suppliers, Cowan & Lewis (Turramurra) have advised us of the following arrangements

- Girls may collect their blazers from the **second week of the upcoming holidays**
- Boys may collect their blazers from **Week 3 Term 2**.

**If you have NOT already placed your order for a blazer**, please visit Cowan and Lewis to be fitted as soon as possible and they will contact you when the blazer has arrived.

In the interim (next Term), impacted students should wear their normal Winter uniform with College jumper.



## From the Leader of Sport

Mr Michael Kember

### Athletics Success

St Leo's has a proud history of success on the athletics track and this has continued at the recent NSW Junior State Athletics Championships at Homebush.

**Aidan J (Year 11)** and **Max M (Year 8)** both competed at these Championships in their chosen events. In the Under 17 Boys 100m, Aidan finished in 8th position but earlier in the year also ran the National qualifying times and has been selected in the NSW Athletics team to compete at the National Track and Field Championships in April. This will be the fourth year running that Aidan has been selected in this team.



Max M also competed in the championships, finishing 4th in the gruelling 3000m walk event. Max achieved the National qualifying time earlier in the season along with a National ranking in the event, and has also been selected to represent NSW at the upcoming National Championships in April.



Good luck to Aidan and Max at the Nationals, we look forward to hearing about your results.

### BBSSSA U/13 Boys and Girls Touch Football

Last Wednesday, the U/13 Boys and Girls Touch teams travelled to a wet Lionel Watts Reserve to compete at the Broken Bay Gala Day.

After torrential rain the day before and overnight, the playing conditions were tough but this didn't stop the students wearing Leo's colours with pride. The skill level on display was a credit to the coaches, and the play improved significantly with each game.



On the day, the boys were unfortunately narrowly beaten in all their games by the odd try, and the girls finished with 2 wins and 2 losses with an overall ranking of 6th place.

Congratulations to all students on the way they committed to training, and the sportsmanship they showed throughout the competition. I would also like to thank the three student referees (**Bailey C, Mikaela B, and Amber J**) who attended the day to assist with the successful running of matches.



### Athletics Carnival Entry Forms

A reminder that the College Athletics Carnival is being held in Term 2 and **entry forms for students are due by the end of Term 1 (Thursday, 1 April)**. If students require any further information about entering they should see Mr Kember.

