



Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for **Week 10 Term 1 2021**.

From the Principal

Mr Anthony Gleeson

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the College,

Palm Sunday and Term 1 Reflection

Last Sunday, known in our Christian calendar as *Palm Sunday* or *Passion Sunday*, marked the beginning of Holy Week. Jesus was welcomed to Jerusalem with palms being laid on the road by the townsfolk. Within one week, he would be crucified. The most important, significant and greatest event in our calendar is Easter Sunday. For without the resurrection, we would not exist as we currently do – i.e. an inclusive, evangelising learning community, where the College provides an authentic and professional Catholic education.

By rising from the dead after three days, Jesus has given us new life and purpose. **We are a people of Hope and Easter Sunday gives us that basis for Hope.**

I believe the following paragraph from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference gives a great contemporary insight into the significance of Palm Sunday:

Pray for Justice and Peace

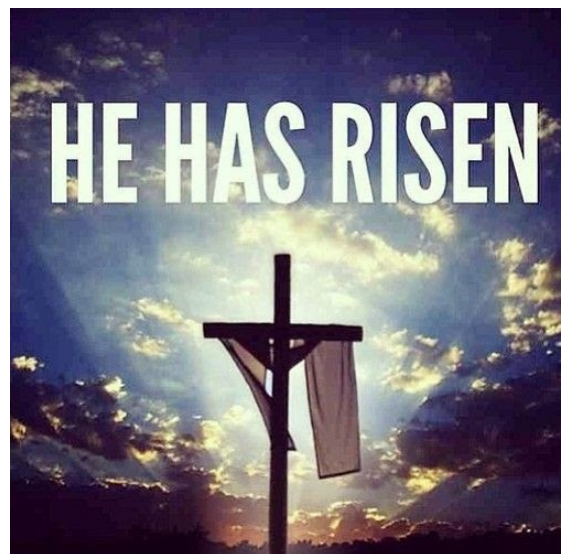
On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey. Jesus accepts death on a cross rather than engaging in violence. The contrast between the Prince of Peace and the powers and dominions of his day could not be starker. This is the basis of the Palm Sunday tradition of action in favour of peace and non-violent alternatives for addressing social, ecological, economic and political issues.

Parents and carers are invited to join in our Stations of the Cross this Holy Thursday in The Light of Christ Centre from 11am (see details on page 5).

As we draw towards the end of Term 1 2021, to mark the events and celebrations of Easter, I reflect upon the many learnings, events and opportunities our community has been lucky enough to have experienced. I will undoubtedly leave out many happenings, but the list is a great indication of the developmental opportunities for our community:

- Just over 1500 formal lessons taught
- Parent involvement in structuring a new model of Parent Engagement

Reminder: Zoom Meeting TONIGHT
 (Tuesday, 30 March) re. proposed new Parent Engagement Structure.
 Join us and have your say.
[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#) from 7pm



- Parent Information Meetings with each Year Group and a special ILIM mathematics information session for parents
- College Open Evening with over 350 students involved and 1500+ visitors passing through our gates
- The development and implementation of our Pastoral Care 'check in tracking model' for both individual and Year Group cohorts
- Involvement in the College Blessing and Rededication activities including a focus on the lives of our House Saints
- Ash Wednesday Mass, weekly lunchtime Mass in the Chapel, weekly Rosary and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament as some of our spiritual activities
- Social Justice opportunities including Street Retreat, Vinnies Youth conference, Youth Ministry group, Project Compassion fundraising and Social Justice League
- Pride Panel Assembly focussing on refugees
- Intake 2021 Camp
- Public Speaking, EP Spelling and STEM Video Competition competitions
- GPs in Schools program
- Code Camp, Minecraft Mondays, Media Production Crew and a selection of other STEM activities
- Past students speaking about opportunities at St Leo's at their primary school Open Days
- Our Pathways Program including SkillsRoad Career Advice sessions, and workshops in Sports Careers, Diversity in Surveying, Song and Dance Production, Academy of Interactive Entertainment and Interior Design
- Participants progressing through the Duke of Edinburgh Award program
- Our CAPA Cubs program for Intake 2021 students and the rest of the 18 ensembles available to our students
- Camp Rock, The Musical rehearsals progressing well for performances in early June
- The Sport for Life program included Intake 2021 participating in cricket with Sydney Sixers' coaches and Self Aware Self Defence classes, while other year groups participated in a range of other activities
- Our students assisting with running a number of feeder school and cluster swimming carnivals.
- Representative aerobics team training in full swing and a wide selection trials for other representative sports including swimming, sprinting, cross country, soccer, futsal, netball, rugby league and touch football.

What we have been able to accomplish together is inspiring.

NSW Education Sector Statement of Consent

Last Friday CSNSW released a joint statement on Consent. [I have linked it here for your information.](#)



Parent Consultation No. 3 - Parent Engagement Structure

Tonight (Tuesday, 30 March) I am hosting our third consultation with parents/carers about the Parent Engagement Forum here at the College.

We have developed a model in response to comments/feedback from an earlier zoom workshop. I described this model in the last edition of The Lion Roars. [Here is a link to this proposed model paper.](#)

I hope to see many of you in 'Zoomland' tonight for a further consultation/follow-up on this proposed model. [If you can't make it this evening and want to have a say - you can leave any feedback on this document.](#)



MEETING LINK: [Parent Zoom meeting tonight at 7pm.](#)

Or copy and paste into your browser: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/98913934426>

Year 12 Easter Break Study Workshops

In the second week of these holidays, our staff are offering Year 12 students' workshops across various subjects. I would like to thank these staff members for not only giving of their valuable holiday time but also their expertise and ensuring many students are getting a further opportunity to consolidate their studies.

I pray each of you has a safe and restful break over the Easter period, however long you may have. We are looking forward to a productive and busy Term II.

All students and staff return on **Monday, 19 April (Week A, Day 1)**.

From the Director of Evangelisation & Catholic Formation

Mr Michael Neylan

Stations of the Cross this Thursday

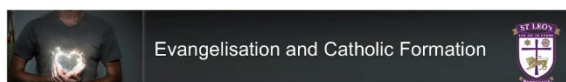
A beautiful and sacred part of our St Leo's Easter tradition is our re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross. It gives us the opportunity to pause and reflect on what Jesus did for us, and equally importantly, the 'why' behind what He did.

The stations will take place in The Light of Christ Centre at 11.10am this Holy Thursday (1 April).

Parents and carers are welcome to join us for this significant celebration. To adhere to Covid guidelines, all guests will be required to sign in via QR code upon arrival at The Light of Christ Centre. **Please arrive in time to be seated by 11am.**



Stations of the Cross – Via Dolorosa



Project Compassion Update

Our Student Leaders, Vinnies Group and Social Justice group have been energetically leading our fundraising efforts for Project Compassion this Term. So far, we have raised \$4056.85, which is a significant achievement that will go a long way to supporting communities in need.

Thank you to all members of our community for your generosity.

From the Acting Dean of Curriculum

Mr Daniel Lane

Year 12 Holiday Study Sessions

Many of our staff are generously offering their time for Year 12 students to come in over the second week of the break to revise material already covered in their courses. Please see the schedule [here](#) for the dates and times of the sessions. Students should liaise with their teachers for the exact location of each session. Students attending these sessions are asked to enter the school via the Woolcott Avenue gates and go to their designated class.

In addition to the timetabled sessions, the ARC will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the second week of the holidays from 9am until 3pm each day. Students are encouraged to form study groups or come individually to utilise this space and continue with their studies, catch up on work or complete assessment tasks.

Please note that in addition to this holiday program the Aquinas Resource Centre (ARC) is open Wednesday afternoons during the school term. The English faculty, Mathematics faculty and a range of other staff are at the school every Wednesday to work with students and offer them support.

Interim Reports

Parents and carers of students in Years 7-11 will receive Interim Reports this Thursday, 1 April. These reports are used to provide an overview of the application and work ethic the students have been demonstrating over Term 1. For information about how to access the reports please click [here](#).

From the Director of Administration

Ms Therri Ellison

Intake 2021 and Year 8 catch-up Vaccinations – CARDS OVERDUE

Intake 2021 HPV & dTpa vaccinations will be held on Tuesday, 20 April, along with Year 8 HPV dose 2 catch up for those who missed out last year.

NOTE: All signed vaccination cards are now overdue. Please ensure they are returned to Student Services before the end of this Term.

Additional information can be found [HERE](#).

Immunisations	Vaccine/s	Date
Intake 2021 (and Year 8 catch-up)	HPV dose 1 & dTpa	20 April

Reminder: College Blazers

As advised last week, there has been a delay in the fabric required for the new College blazers and, as a result, this has impacted on the manufacturing.

If you have already placed an order for students in Years 7,10 and 11, our uniform suppliers, Cowan & Lewis (Turrumurra) 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 arrives.

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

From the Leader of Community Partnerships and Pathways

Ms Mel Timmerman

Pathways Update

I can't believe we have reached the end of Term 1 already, and what a Term it has been! I will be moving full time into my new role at Catholic Schools Broken Bay after the break, and would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your great support of the Pathways Program. We are currently [hiring](#) three more Pathways Leaders for the Diocese, and we hope to bring someone new into St Leo's early Term 2 to continue to build the program within the College and offer our students as many study and career workshops and industry talks as possible.



If you would like to participate in the Pathways Program, for example by attending one of our schools to talk about your career, the industry you work in and the available study and career pathways in this industry, we would love to hear from you! You can register your interest [here](#).

Year 9 Olympics Unleashed Program with Special Guest – 29 April

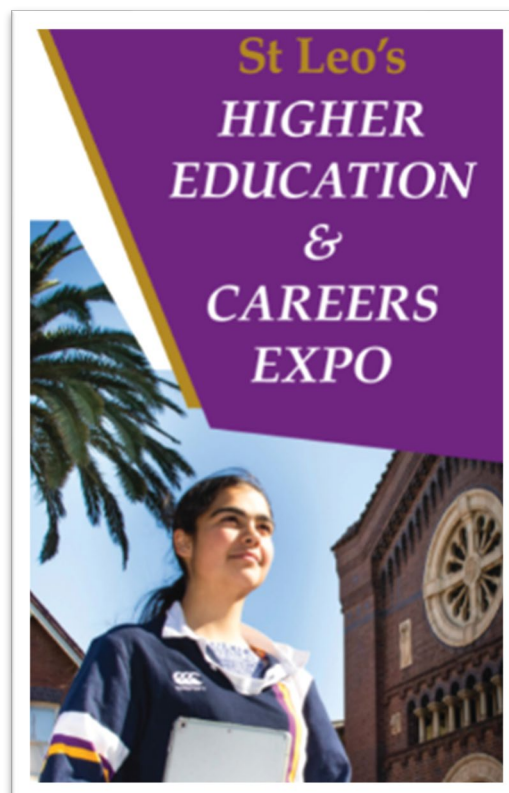
St Leo's is looking forward to welcoming a 'special guest' on 29 April. This special guest is an elite athlete who will be participating in the Tokyo Games! They will talk to all our Year 9 students about their sporting journey and aim to motivate them to be the best they can be.

St Leo's Careers Expo – 25 May

The St Leo's Careers Expo will be held on Tuesday, 25 May, from 5pm to 7.30pm.

There will be a broad selection of education providers, apprenticeship and traineeship providers and industry professionals available to students and parents/carers to learn more about the diverse study and career pathways available during and after school.

More information will be sent out early next Term.



From the Duke of Edinburgh Award Leader

Ms Kelly Li

Bronze Award

Congratulations to the continued efforts of our Bronze Award participants. Several students have submitted their Awards for verification recently and I am looking forward to announcing their success next Term. These students are all keen to participate in Silver or Gold Awards.

Proud to deliver



Holiday Activities

Please encourage your daughter or son to continue their activities and log their hours during the holidays. Activities such as bush regeneration at school will have a two-week break. Several students have not yet set their goals and started logging their activities. As parents, please have a chat and check in with your daughter or son about their progress.

From the Leader of Sport

Mr Michael Kember

NSWCCC Swimming

On Monday, 29 March **Mia R** (Intake 2021) and **Siyeon C** (Year 10) represented Broken Bay at the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Swimming Championships.

Both girls achieved fantastic results, with Mia winning gold in the U/12 50m Breaststroke and finishing 4th in the U/12-U/14 100m Breaststroke, missing a medal by less than a quarter of a second! These results mean that Mia has gained selection in the NSWCCC Team to compete at the NSW All Schools Swimming Championships in May.



Siyeon made the final of the U/15 girls 50m Freestyle, finishing in 10th position against very strong swimmers. Congratulations to both girls on your fantastic results!

Biathlon

Last Friday, the Year 10 Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS) class travelled to South Curl Curl beach to complete their Biathlon assessment.

Throughout the Term, students have been training for the event both at school and at home, completing multiple beep tests, the 1.6km run and also 400m swims at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. On the day, students were required to swim 600m (12 laps) of South Curl Curl rock pool then run 2km on the sand. Many students were concerned about completing the tasks but these worries turned to smiles of achievement when they all completed the course. Not only did they put in a fantastic effort, but the sense of camaraderie and support they showed each other was great to see, demonstrating the Leo's spirit.

The Top 3 boys and girls were:

Girls: 1st - **Siyeon C** (20 mins, 3 secs), 2nd - **Keely M** (24 mins, 12 secs), 3rd - **Lily P** (24 mins, 55 secs)

Boys: 1st - **Lachlan L** (19 mins), 2nd - **Peter W** (21 mins, 23 secs), 3rd - **Tom C** (21 mins, 37 secs).



Bill Turner Cup

On Monday afternoon, the U/15 Boys Soccer team travelled to Pennant Hills Park to play in the first round of the Bill Turner Cup Soccer Competition. This competition is an east coast knockout tournament where schools start in their local area and then as they move through the rounds can travel up and down the coast playing matches.

St Leo's was drawn against Arden Anglican College in the first round. With a number of Intake 2021 students in the team and Covid postponing the event last year, for many of the boys it was the first time they had put on the St Leo's colours in competition. After a great start, the boys unfortunately went down 1-0 to a great strike, but in true Leo's fashion fought their way back into the game and found an equaliser through the boots of **Anthony M**. With the score level at half time, the second half was end to end football with the Leo's boys going up 2-1 after **William W** broke the deadlock, but with two quickfire goals and 12 minutes left on the clock, it again looked like Arden were going through to the second round.



However, the youngest members of the Leo's team stepped up and showed leadership with the grit and determination of true champions, and found the equaliser through **Lennox L**, before another similar strike with one minute of play left saw the bench run onto the field in celebration of a fantastic 4-3 victory.

This will see the boys play in the second round early in Term 2 against either Chatswood High School or Cromer High School. Well done team!

Futsal

On Tuesday, 30 March the St Leo's Girls and Boys under 14 futsal team travelled to Dural Leisure Centre for the Dural Regional Futsal Championship.

The girls started strong winning their first game 6-0. Unfortunately, they narrowly lost the last two games, which saw them fall short of the semi-finals. The boys narrowly lost their first game but finished strong, winning their second game 6-3, and drawing their third and final game 3 all.

It was a great effort by all players and we would like to thank Mr Issa and Mr Tavernese for coaching us on the day.



Elysia P, Year 9

FINAL CALL: Athletics Carnival Entry Forms

A final reminder that all Athletics Carnival **entry forms are due to Mr Kember by this Thursday** (1 April). If students require any further information about entering they should see or email Mr Kember as soon as possible.

