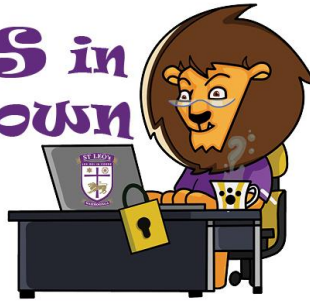




Leo's in Lockdown



Letter No 10 - Covid-19 Update

9 August 2021

Dear St Leo's Community,

Please keep in your prayers and thoughts, **Mr Daniel Lane and his family**. Mr Lane's wife (who is expecting their second child in October) was admitted to ICU last week with a severe illness. Mr Lane is now on Leave and I assured him of the College community's prayers and support.

On the weekend as the Men's and Women's Olympic Marathon competitors crossed the line, the expressions on their faces showed much relief and satisfaction. I saw similar expressions on our Year 12 students' faces at the Premier's announcement on Friday when we had our Year 12 Zoom Meeting - from both students and parents!

The announcement also provided greater direction for our staff in terms of upcoming work, duration and expectations for our students from Intake 2021 to Year 11.

There are still many unanswered questions but together, with a positive growth mindset and some prayers we will get through this as we have done in the past.

I have linked the [statement from Catholic Schools NSW](#), that was released last Friday welcoming the Premier's announcement.

In response to the Premier's announcement - our Director of Schools, Mr Danny Casey has stated that this **Wednesday 11 August** has been approved as a **Staff Development Day for all CSBB Secondary Schools**. This will allow teachers to plan for assessments and future Home-Based Learning. It will also provide students with a well-being day away from screens. This time will ensure that teachers are able to continue to provide high quality learning experiences for all of our students.

St Leo's staff will be collaborating online with secondary teachers across the Diocese:

- designing, writing and preparing the notifications for the Year 12 alternative assessments, commencing the following Wednesday
- organising the arrangements around the format and content of the Year 11 End of Preliminary Course Assessments
- drafting and preparing the content and lessons for Intake 2021 to Yr 10 for the remainder of this term

Wednesday will be a chance for our students:

- ★ for some down time from screens
- ★ to consolidate on what has been taught over the past 4 and a half weeks
- ★ to catch up if there is any glaringly obvious missed work
- ★ to relax and ensure some exercise

Interested in a paid position as a Supervisor for the HSC?

The HSC runs from 19 October to 12 November. See the link here for further information. If you wish to apply and meet the criteria, please either complete the form in the link or contact the College on 9487 3555.

Year 12 Update

Year 12 are now in a very good position for their upcoming Year 12 Alternative Assessment Tasks, which will commence next Wednesday 18th August. These assessments will be home based. In case you missed it - please find the Powerpoint Presentation from [Friday evening's Zoom Meeting here](#).

Reminder: Year 12 Study Sessions

In preparation for the Trials and the HSC, Year 12 have the opportunity to attend Zoom study sessions from 2.40-3.30pm each Monday and Wednesday. Staff from a variety of faculty areas have offered to be available to help students if they have any questions. This is a chance for students to have group study sessions.



Pastoral Care: Student Wellbeing Check-ins

Since the start of Term 3, the College has been surveying students regularly in order to gauge their wellbeing and identify any mental health concerns. This has provided us with great insight into how we can better support students, as well as provide them with a way to reach out for support.

From this week onwards (Week 5), we will move to surveying students **weekly** on Tuesday mornings during their regular Zoom mentor classes. This is so we can continue to monitor and support students who need assistance. The link that students need to access to complete the wellbeing check-in is on their respective year group pastoral pages.

Of course if a student is in need of pastoral help and support, they can reach out at any time to their **Mentor Teacher, Learning Support Case Manager, Year Leader, College Counsellor [Mrs Anne-Marie Newham](#), or Director of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing [Mr Nathan Smith](#)** at any time. Our [Wellbeing Resource Pack \(2nd Ed\)](#) has also been updated and has a large range of resources and tools that can be useful in helping maintain positive mental health.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the College should you require any help or support.



Pathways & Careers

Pathway Events for Parents/Carers: A Career in Early Childhood:

Date: this Thursday 12th August

Time: 7 pm

Join us for an evening of sharing insight into a [career in early childhood education](#). Kinadalín is a family-owned company that allows career path development opportunities. Tune in via the **Team App**. Click the link at 7 pm. [Here is the link.](#)

IT Traineeships for 2022

Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) has a number of full time IT Traineeships available commencing next year. For any IT savvy Year 12s considering a career in this field, find out more at the Information Session for Year 12 students and parents this **Thursday, 12 August at 7pm** (via Zoom). [Please register](#) by Thursday morning.

Years 10 & 11 Social Media/Digital Content Workshop - New Date TBA - tomorrow Tuesday

Due to the Pupil Free Day this Wednesday, this workshop has been moved. Students will be advised of the new date tomorrow via email from Ms Snodgrass.



Reminder: TAFE 2022 Launchpad Digital Courses

By now, you may have heard about our exciting new TAFE NSW Schools Launchpad courses. These 20 virtual TAFE-delivered Vocational Education and Training (TVET) courses are available for high school students as part of their HSC in 2022. You can read more how these can be combined with your HSC study with an ATAR. For enquiries, students join the weekly career Zoom meeting at 2.30pm on Monday with Career Adviser and Pathways and Partnership Leader. [More info.](#)



Liverpool Academy Home Training Program

Another edition of the Liverpool HTP is available. This week the focus is around ball retention but also ensuring speed through agility. The player focus who exemplifies these skills is the young Liverpool and England right back, **Trent Alexander Arnold**. He is a player who not only is rock hard in defence but loves to get forward to whip balls in for the attacks and is often finding the back of the net.

The challenge this week is also to attempt the nutrition cooking section either the lamb or the Rhubarb crumble. For parents there are also links to mental health and wellbeing presentations. We encourage parents to get involved and register to participate in these online presentations. [HTP Program](#)



Reminder: Timetable

[The current timetable for Weeks 4 & 5 is linked here for all students.](#)



Reminder: School Fee Assistance

Assistance is available to families who may need help with school fees. We are very mindful that the current Covid-19 lockdown may be impacting your ability to afford school fees.

Details and the application form can be found under the Parent Hub section of our website ([click here](#)) or by contacting the CSBB *Fee Liaison Team* (at schoolfees@dbb.org.au or 9847 0728).



Please contact the *Fee Liaison Team* to discuss your circumstances and other pathways available for fee support. We look forward to being able to assist you if you require fee support during this period.

All College communications concerning Covid-19 (i.e. Letters Nos 1-9) are also listed on the [Remote Learning page of the College website for your reference.](#)

We are very conscious of the impact this lockdown will have on our staff, students and families. We are in regular contact with Catholic Schools NSW and will keep you updated as further information is available.

Thank you for your support of our school. Our prayers are with you and please stay safe!

Tony Gleeson
Principal