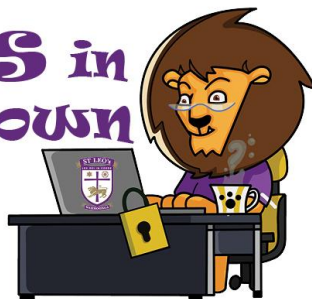




Leo's in Lockdown



Letter No 12 - Covid-19 Update

20 August 2021

Dear St Leo's Community,

Good afternoon. I hope you are all well and I am sure you are looking forward to the weekend and the current weather it has to offer.

We remember in our prayers, **Lily A** (Yr 10) and **Ruby A** (Intake 2021) as well as **Rose B** (Yr 11) who lost their Grandmothers earlier this week.

After 16 years of service to the St Leo's community, our **College Business Manager, Mr Paul Anicic** has resigned from the College. As Paul has said (in his own words) he is "now exploring other avenues, pathways and bush tracks..." in his life story.

On behalf of the community, we wish Paul all the best in his retirement and thank him for all the work he has done in the management of the College's finances over these 16 years. His work has meant that we had sufficient funds to pay for the expansive FFE (furniture, fixtures and equipment) that was needed over the past three years. The College has never had any issues with financial management as this has been done to Paul's skill and keen eye ensuring that all the decimal places were in the correct place!

I am sure many of you will still see Paul on the football field, as a keen follower and player of football in this local area. As I was talking to the College Captains (Rachel and Matteo) this afternoon - they described Paul as "backstage of St Leo's". Very true. **Thank you Paul - all the best.**



Parent Update Meetings

Thank you to those parents/carers who participated in Wednesday evening's Stage based zoom sessions. Some items out of our control are still not answered - but we can control and influence what we do here as a community. A link was sent out yesterday asking parents/carers to contribute to a document of things/activities that might be working for you in your situation - that others may be interested in. So far we have 24 responses. **Here are 2 examples - THANK YOU!**

***Devices are always packed away at night in our house. Actually, if work is completed - they pack them away from dinner time on. We have Friday afternoon rewards as a "you got through another week" celebration! Also as motivation to get them going in the mornings we will have favourite breakfasts - eg- egg and bacon rolls or French toast- I'm noticing the motivation is fading so a little pick me up in the mornings. We also have bought a table tennis net and set- it has been great to get them outside and a little healthy competition during their breaks!*

***Connection time where possible. Flexibility with monitoring - hovering increases distress. Acknowledging that wellbeing and mental health support is more important at this time than academic achievement. Using humour and fun. Openly and transparently discussing the difficulties in maintaining a positive outlook during lockdown.*

Here is the link. This will be closed - then published on Wednesday 25 August.

Here are the slides used for each stage meeting for those unable to attend:

- [Stage 4 \(Intake 2021 & Year 8\)](#)
- [Stage 5 \(Years 9-10\)](#)
- [Stage 6 \(Years 11 & 12\)](#)



Vaccinations for Your 16-18 Year Olds

From Wednesday 18 August, people aged 16-39 who are residents of the following local government areas (LGAs) and suburbs can access priority appointments for vaccinations. I encourage families to consider vaccination for their young persons if you reside in these LGAs and they are aged 16-18 years old.

NSW Health has confirmed that the vaccination priority roll out for residents 16-39 years old who live in one of the areas of concern are eligible to book for a Pfizer vaccination.

*Eligible LGAs include: Bayside, Blacktown, Burwood, Campbelltown, Canterbury-Bankstown, Cumberland, Fairfield, Georges River, Liverpool, Parramatta and Strathfield, as well some suburbs of Penrith.

Priority COVID-19 vaccination booking for 16-39 year-olds can be accessed via the NSW Department of Health link: [>>> Click here to view the NSW Department of Health Priority COVID-19 vaccination booking for 16-39 year-olds.](#)



Year 12 Update

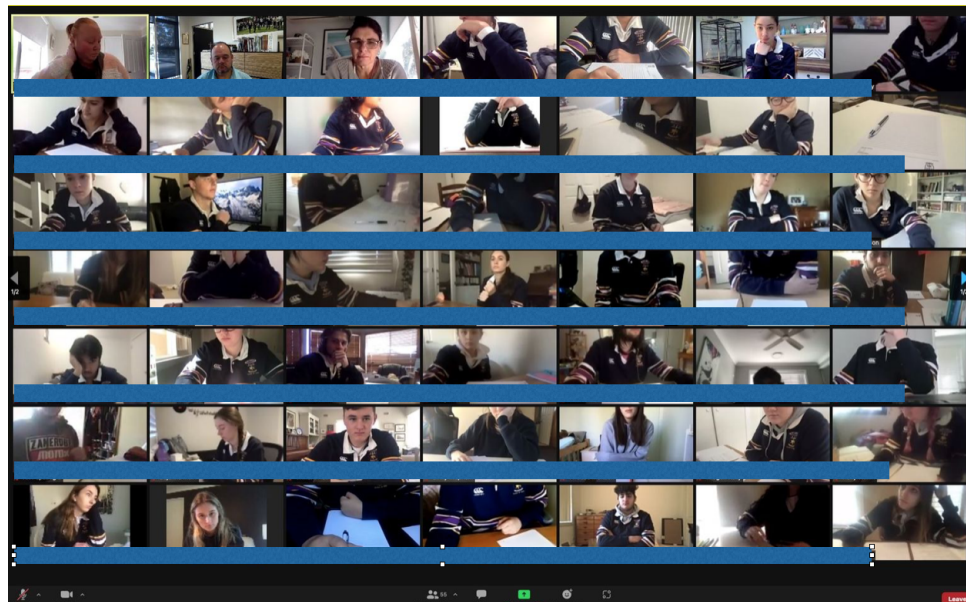
This afternoon, we received a letter from *Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC*, Governor of New South Wales, for our Year 12 students. [READ HERE.](#)

As notified to you last Wednesday - **The NESA COVID-19 Response Committee** has extended the COVID Special Consideration Program to most HSC major projects being completed by HSC students across the state. This means teachers will provide a mark or estimate for their students' major projects in:

- *Drama*
- *Textiles and Design*
- *Design and Technology*
- *Industrial Technology*
- *Visual Arts*

Students will need to submit their projects by the published due dates and teachers will have until 22 October to submit marks to NESA. When providing a mark or estimate, teachers will take into consideration any impact of COVID-19 restrictions on students' work.

Teacher provided marks will be moderated by NESA to ensure equity across the state.



The decision was made to limit the movement of NESA markers within and beyond Greater Sydney and is in line with Health advice for protecting the health and safety of everyone involved in the HSC exams.

The following major projects (that are submitted online) will continue to be marked online by NESA markers (unless an application for special consideration is made):

- *English Extension 2*
- *Music 1 (compositions)*
- *Music 2 and Extension (compositions and musicology)*
- *Society and Culture Personal Interest Project*

The Special Consideration Program is already in place for students completing language oral and performance exams across the state.

Written exams will go ahead from 19 October and NESA is working closely with NSW Health to ensure strict COVID-safe protocols are in place.



Hornsby Cathedral Parish - Father's Day Zoom

Hornsby Cathedral Parish Boundless Young Adults Group is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. All are welcome.

Topic: **Father's Day Zoom – Hornsby Cathedral Parish**

Time: **Sep 2, 2021 7-8pm**

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: [LINK](#) Password: 552890



Duke of Edinburgh News

Despite being in lockdown, two of our students have managed to successfully complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Congratulations to **Deven F**

from Year 12 and **Belle H from Year 9** for their hard work and achievements. Belle has now also signed up to complete her Silver Award!



CAPA Talent Show Results

For those who haven't seen them on our Facebook page, here are the three winners of our Leo's in Lockdown CAPA Talent Show chosen from over 80 entries and 11 Finalists. Congratulations to:

- 1st - **Alena H (Intake 2021)** and her beautiful homemade jewellery (right).
- 2nd - **Rivan R (Year 11)** for his [videography entry](#).
- 3rd - **Sofie H (Year 11)** for her [collection of Lockdown Photos](#).



Liverpool Football Academy Home Training Program

Just released is the next edition of the Liverpool HTP. The focus this week is on passing accuracy, and who better to gain this knowledge and skills from than the Spanish superstar **Thiago**. He has had an extensive playing career with Barcelona, Bayern Munich and now controls the centre of the park for Liverpool. The other key aspect other than agility, turning and juggling is the focus on player development, and we strongly encourage parents to



register interest in the player pathways presentations and their son or daughter for the player workshop. Here is the [Week 5 Program](#).



COMING SOON:

Over the coming weeks, watch out for:

- The **Leo's in Lockdown Virtual Sporting Challenge** - a fun challenge for all students to participate in during the Paralympics.
- **R U OK? Day** - special, fun activities related to mental health and wellbeing are being planned for the Extended Mentor period on Wednesday 8 September. This event is currently being planned by the incoming **2021-2022 College Student Leadership Team**, under the watchful eye of the Director of Students - Mr Ashley Johansen.



Pathways & Careers

- **Supporting Young People: Tues, 24 Aug, 7pm** - Headspace Parent Webinar Let's Talk Pathways - [JOIN HERE](#)

Join us for an evening of sharing insight into a career at Headspace and the growing need for Psychologists, Counsellors and assisting young people with mental health.

This is a great career pathway for those interested in making a difference to other people's lives. In addition, Silas will be offering tips and techniques for managing through these difficult times of lockdown and home based learning. There will be an opportunity at the end for a Q&A session.

- **Seeds in Space: On Giant Leap**
Our seeds have been in the International Space Station for six months and are now back on earth ready for the St Leo's students to study the difference in growth. Stay tuned for photos and news.
- **Aussie Student Inventions Competition – Are you innovative and want to invent something?**
ClickView has launched their [Inventions competition](#) with all years welcome to apply. Let us know if you do! Apply via julie.snodgrass@dbb.catholic.edu.au
- **Careers in Aviation: Fri 10 Sept, 2-2.30pm**
An online presentation to launch Sydney Flying School for 2022 scholarships including an overview of careers in aviation. [URL to join](#). Passcode: 913457



Reminder: Timetable for Weeks 6-7

Here is the timetable for this fortnight: [WEEK 6-7 Term 3 TIMETABLE](#).



Reminder: College Photos

As advised in the last update, the offices of our photographers, MSP are currently closed due to lockdown orders so they are unable to collate and send out photos at this time.

Once their office reopens, they will be in contact to advise when photos will be delivered to families and if we are able to arrange co-curricular photos.



Reminder: Student Wellbeing

Students are being surveyed regularly in order to gauge their wellbeing and identify any mental health concerns. We are surveying students **weekly** on Tuesday mornings during their regular Zoom Mentor classes.

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.

The [third edition of our Wellbeing Resource Pack](#) is now available with new resources and tools to help us all maintain positive mental health.

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



Reminder: School Fee Assistance

Again a reminder that assistance is available to families who may need help with school fees. Please contact the CSBB *Fee Liaison Team* to discuss your circumstances and other pathways available for fee support. 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).

Interested in a paid HSC Supervisor position?

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.

All College communications concerning Covid-19 (i.e. **Letters Nos 1-11**) 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.



As a final thought before we head into another locked down weekend (shared at our Wednesday meetings):

**NOT EVERYTHING
IS CANCELLED**

SUN IS NOT CANCELLED
SPRING IS NOT CANCELLED
FRIENDSHIPS ARE NOT CANCELLED
RELATIONSHIPS ARE NOT CANCELLED
MUSIC IS NOT CANCELLED
KINDNESS IS NOT CANCELLED
IMAGINATION IS NOT CANCELLED
CONVERSATIONS ARE NOT CANCELLED
HOPE IS NOT CANCELLED

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

Tony Gleeson
Principal