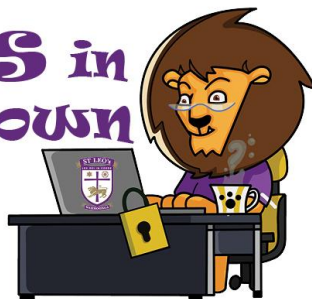




Leo's in Lockdown



Letter No 13 - Covid-19 Update

27 August 2021

Dear St Leo's Community,

The end of Week 7 of our 10 week Term. My communications with you this week have been waiting on the Premier's announcement that was delivered today at 11am. There wouldn't have been much point publishing a letter over the past couple of days knowing that the route for the next few months would soon be revealed.

Mr Danny Casey will write to you this afternoon about the announcement today by the Premier and Minister for Education, the **Hon Sarah Mitchell**. Undoubtedly there will still be some questions and details around those announcements and I hope to be able to provide you with further detail, particularly in the St Leo's context.



Today also brought the news about our Assistant Principal, **Mr Daniel Petrie** concluding his membership of the College staff. I would thank Daniel for his passion and leadership he has given our community over the past 6 years. His departure is due to personal reasons and I completely understand and support Daniel in his decision. I would hope the College is able to say farewell to Daniel in the near future, in some way. On behalf of the College, we wish Daniel all the best in his bright future endeavours.

Our College Counsellor, **Ms Anne-Marie Newham** has been successful in her appointment as part of the CSBB Wellbeing Team as the *Student WellBeing Support Psychologist*. We will still be seeing Anne-Marie around the College, but in a very different role, supporting those students and their families in the diocese that require specialised support. As I said to the staff this morning, Anne-Marie is the best College Counsellor I have worked with over the past 37 years. Ms Newham will still be with us until I appoint a new College Counsellor over the next month or so.



Year 12 Update

Our Year 12 students are currently undertaking their *Alternative HSC Trial Assessments*. These conclude on this Wednesday then the students rejoin their regular zoom class lessons on Thursday (Day 9). I have been in and out of these Home Based Alternative tasks since last Monday and been very impressed with the way students are managing their assessment tasks.

A separate letter will be written early next week detailing further changes that were made to the Year 12 program today.

New Timetable for Week 8



Please find the [NEW TIMETABLE FOR WEEK 8](#).

Year 11 - Preliminary HSC Assessment Update

Assessment and Care Packs were mailed out today to all Year 11 students. Their final Preliminary HSC assessments will commence Friday 10 September (Week 9) and conclude Friday 17 September in Week 10 (inclusive). Regular Year 11 Zoom classes will not be conducted during this assessment period, as per usual practice. Further details including the assessment timetable, dates/timings, and online expectations will shortly be communicated to all students and parents/carers.



For all students - Zoom Protocols & Attendance Reminders

- Please ensure that students are appropriately dressed in College tracksuit/Year 12 jersey and have a suitable background
- They should remain within the Zoom session for the entirety of the lesson
- Students need to **activate their camera and show their face** when requested by the teacher
- They should actively engage with the teacher during the whole lesson.

It is expected that all students consistently attend their scheduled Zoom lessons. If there are technical difficulties, they should email their respective teacher via their DBB email account to keep them updated. Parents/carers should continue to use the **Compass Attendance Note** platform to lodge any absences for medical, family, and/or internet-WiFi reasons.



Students Continuing to Make a Difference in our Community

Students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh program are continuing to write and send letters by mail to the residents of Wairoa Place Care Community as part of the service section of the Award.

The residents love receiving the letters which are a highlight at the moment with the visitors being limited and have passed on some lovely feedback:

From Ruth - 'Belle is a very sweet girl. I love her letters and the stickers she attaches to them. Reading her letters makes me happy.'

From Ian - 'It is very interesting to have connected to a person that wants to know my sailing stories.'

From Savi - 'Hannah's letters make me smile. I want to meet her one day.'

From Deborah - 'I love receiving Hannah and Caitlin's letters. The joy and fun of writing back to them makes me so happy.'

From Cecily - 'I never thought that I would feel like a grandmother again when I received Caitlin's letter.'

Well done to the students involved for making such a difference to the resident's lives.



Parent Suggested Activities - What is working for some families?

Thank you to those parents/carers who participated in the recent Stage-based zoom sessions. A link was sent out after that meeting 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. [Here is the link.](#)



Hornsby Cathedral Parish - Father's Day Zoom

Hornsby Cathedral Parish Boundless Young Adults Group is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting for Father's Day. All are welcome:

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

Date/Time: **2 September , 2021, 7-8pm**

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



HBL+ Initiatives

HBL+ is an initiative created and resourced during our HBL period to support our students by Catholic Schools Broken bay (CSBB).

So far the HBL+ has provided:

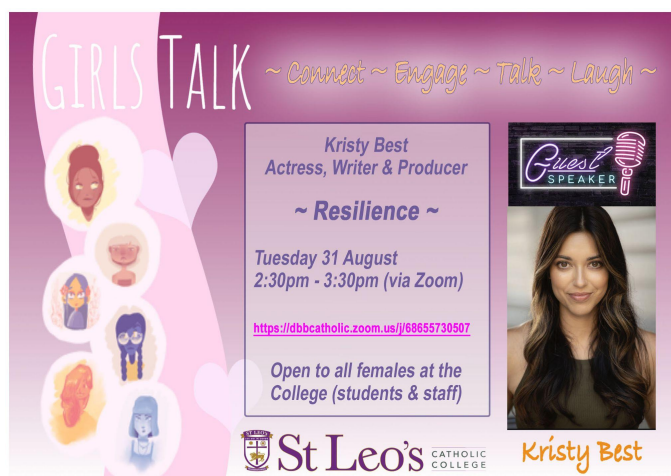
- An expert Physics teacher (Dr Simon Crook) to teach and support our Year 11 and Year 12 students during the time Mr Lane was on emergency leave.
- Licences purchased for various software for use by staff and students during Home Based Learning



Girls Talk Workshop - Tuesday 31 August

We are pleased to announce that the College will be hosting a Girls Talk Workshop on **Tuesday 31 August at 2.30pm**. This workshop is open to all females at the College (students and staff).

Special guest speaker **Kristy Best** will present at the workshop. Kristy is an actress, author and producer, and an inspirational role model for young people. She will be talking about *resilience* and how she overcame adversity at different stages throughout her working career and life.



We would love you to [JOIN US ON ZOOM](#) next **Tuesday, 31 August at 2.30pm!**

Note that we are also planning upcoming opportunities for our male students to connect and engage with their peers in a similar way. Stay tuned for further details!



R U OK? 'Virtual Mufti Day' - Wednesday 8 September

One Wednesday of Week 9, we will be holding a Virtual Mufti Day for **R U OK? Day** during Extended Mentor and Period 1, with all students (and staff) encouraged to 'relax' on this day via Zoom. Per 5 is to be used as screen free time and to get out into the fresh air and do some physical activity.



This day is being planned by our new 2021/2022 student leaders, the Year 12 Social Emotional Ambassadors, the Social Justice League and the SRC. Students may like to join in with crazy hair, wearing a fun hat/favourite sporting jersey, or even bringing a pet along.

The day is a very significant date in our community calendar especially given the current Covid environment and, importantly, asking each other **'RU OK'?**

We now encourage ALL students to explore www.ruok.org.au and utilise the many resources that are available to support a young person's wellbeing. Informal, **fun-related Year Group connection activities will be informally scheduled for Extended Mentor/Period 1 on this day - please continue to liaise with your Year Group SRC to share ideas/thoughts regarding this day.**



Duke of Edinburgh Meeting - Monday 30 August, 2.30pm

An important Zoom meeting will be held with Mrs Li (Coordinator) for students **currently** enrolled in this program who would like help and/or ask questions on **Monday 30 August** at 2:30pm via Zoom ([LINK HERE](#)). Please [email Mrs Li](#) if you would like additional assistance.

The Leo's in Lockdown Activity Challenge

This week we launched the **Leo's in Lockdown Activity Challenge** - a set of fun challenges for all students to participate in during the Paralympics. From bottle flipping to cooking, juggling to paper aeroplane making, students can do them as one-off challenges, a few times or daily while the Paralympics are on.

The more activities they try, the more points their House will receive, and better chance they have of winning one of our participation prizes!


To begin the challenge, students can simply download the [Tally Sheet](#). Instructions/details have been posted on their Google Classroom pages. Students should contact [Mr Kember](#) if they have any questions.

Liverpool Football Academy Home Training Program

'You'll never walk alone.' How appropriate are these words that sit above the famous gate and that can be heard in the stands at Anfield, to our current Home Based Learning?

This week's home based training from the *Liverpool Academy* is focused around the **Scottish left-back**

Andrew Robertson, who can be found playing exceptional through-balls to the likes of Salah and Mane. This week's program also provides an insight to the signing process of players, and what the Merseyside Derby means to both sides. As well as ball sessions around control, agility



To celebrate the start of the Paralympics, and to just keep busy and fit in lockdown, we invite you to join our...

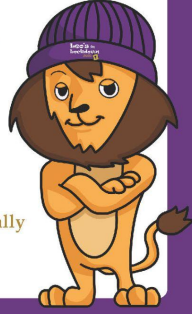
Leo's in Lockdown 2021 Activity Challenge

Participate in a series of fun challenges, from bottle flipping to cooking, juggling to paper aeroplane making - and earn House points!

Do them as one-off challenges, a few times or daily while the Paralympics are on to show your improvement.

The more activities, the more points your House will receive, and you better chance of winning one of our participation prizes!

To begin the challenge, simply download the Tally Sheet with instructions!
Any questions? Email Mr Kember.



and turning, there are weekly cardio and core sessions along with a new recipe (Salmon Power Salad) to try out. Here is the [Week 6 Program](#).

Thank you from Vinnies



The College received an email this week from **St Vincent de Paul CEO, Mr Jack de Groot** personally thanking us for our outstanding efforts raising over \$22,000 with the Vinnies Winter Sleepout this year:

'On behalf of all here at the St Vincent de Paul Society of NSW, I would like to extend my deep thanks for the support you have shown through your recent School Sleepout.

As an organisation, we rely on the contributions of community members just like you to continue serving those most in need within our community. We also appreciate the importance of events like yours in raising awareness around the issues of homelessness and disadvantage amongst students.

As a school you raised over \$22,000, which is a tremendous achievement! Your school community has gone above and beyond, showing great generosity at what is an extremely difficult time for so many. I can assure you that the funds you have raised play an essential role in allowing Vinnies to continue to serve those most vulnerable members of our community.

Congratulations again and I hope that we can continue to work with you in the future.

Thank you once again, Jack de Groot'

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*. 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).

All College communications concerning Covid-19 are also listed on the [Remote Learning page of website](#).

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