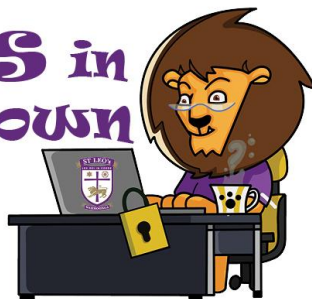




## Leo's in Lockdown



### Letter No 15 - Covid-19 Update

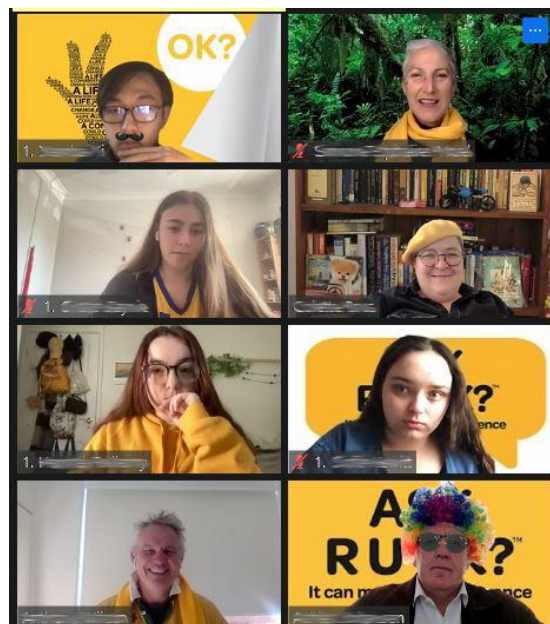
10 September 2021

Dear St Leo's Community,

#### RU OK? Day

This week (particularly on Wednesday) the College acknowledged and celebrated **RU OK?** Day. I literally *Zoomed* in and out of both Year group and Mentor group sessions from Intake 2021 to Year 12. It was terrific to witness our Student Leaders (both the incumbent and our leaders-elect) run the various sessions for not only their peers but also for the younger students. The activities ranged from identifying staff from their baby photos (many were black & white!) to Kahoots and our student leaders telling their own story.

It is of vital importance that students not only are a part of RUOK Day but more importantly see the significance and reason behind asking others...RU OK? Thank you to those staff who oversaw the activities and those that were very much part of the planning over the past few weeks.



#### Year 11 Update

Our Year 11 students are now in their last days as Year 11 students! They have just commenced their End of Preliminary Course Assessments, similar to our Year 12 students in their Alternative Assessment Tasks a couple of weeks ago. We wish them all the best and next Term they return as the HSC Class of 2022.

We have also engaged with *Box of Books*, for their online and hard copy texts for their upcoming Year 12 HSC Courses. Please see further details on the Year 11 Google Classroom page and here for information regarding online and/or physical (hard copy) textbooks from the beginning of next Term: [Textbook Information Y12 2022 - Box of Books](#)



#### 'Return to Campus' Update

Over the past few days, the various authorities have given some details about the planned return to school dates. The College Leadership Team (Senior and Middle Leaders) are currently working through what the *Return to School* will look, feel and sound like for our students. Most will be coming back into what is normally a highly regulated environment (uniforms, longer learning periods, less movement (as

in a “classroom seated” environment) and not just getting up to go to the fridge, play with the dog etc. Our overarching principles are:

- 1) *Students reconnecting with their peers*
- 2) *Students and their teachers reconnecting*
- 3) *Students reconnecting with the College (other students and the school environment)*
- 4) *Ensuring essential outcomes are taught with as much as activity as possible (as opposed to theory that has been covered in HBL)*

*Reconnecting activities* is a primary focus of this group, balanced with a good understanding that students still need to achieve their academics in school. We will be consulting with the Student Leaders and SRC as well.

Currently the students will be returning to the College *FROM* the following dates:

*Intake 2021 (Year 7) - Monday 8 November*

*Year 8 - Monday 8 November*

*Year 9 - Monday 8 November*

*Year 10 - Monday 8 November*

*Year 11 - Monday 1 November*

*Year 12 - Monday 25 October*

When we return to school currently we will be operating under Level 3 plus conditions. This will mean a staggered return from Intake 2021 to Year 10. However this may change depending on NSW Health Advice as we move closer to these dates.

## Diocesan Meeting - Year 12 Student Leaders

Yesterday I had the pleasure of attending a Zoom meeting with representatives from the secondary student leaders across the eight CSBB secondary schools along with **Bishop Anthony Randazzo** and the Director of Schools, **Mr Danny Casey**. The students gave honest and heartfelt comments about how they are feeling and the support they have received from each other and the schools. The eight schools have been a great source of comfort and support for the Year 12 students across the Diocese. The Bishop said he keeps the students in his daily prayers as well as the high level meetings both he and Danny Casey participate in regularly with statutory educational bodies.



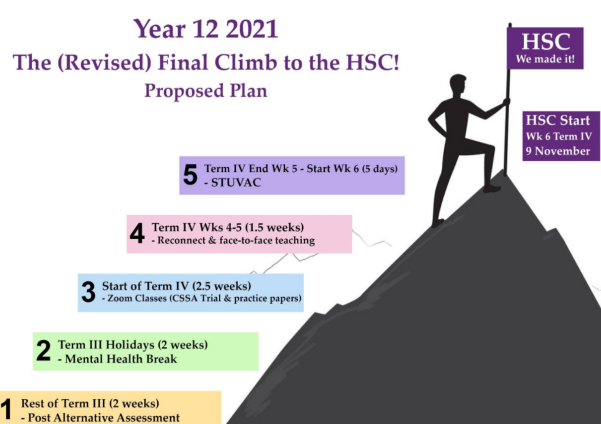
## HSC Update

As you would all be aware - NESA released the HSC Exam Calendar this morning. All Year 12 HSC students will sit for the full suite

of written exams.

I have attached the letter I sent out last evening concerning the results of the surveys from last Thursday's Zoom meeting. We believe that the model presented will be the most effective way for our Year 12 students to prepare them for the newly dated HSC Exams.

Please find the St Leo's Year 12 (2021) calendar as it currently stands highlighting the 5 phase model for the lead up to the HSC. I have also included the presentation that I gave last Thursday evening for your reference of the model that we will be following over the next 8 weeks.





## Timetable for Week 10



## Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

### Gratitude Week

Following on from the success of the St Leo's R U OK? Virtual Day this week, we will continue our wellbeing focus by nominating next week as '**Gratitude Week**' at Leo's. Providing students, staff and parents/carers with an opportunity to show their gratitude towards people within our College community, as well as those in the wider community (e.g. nurses, doctors, essential workers, etc).

Utilising Padlet as our 'gratitude wall', students will have the opportunity in Mentor period on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to write messages of thanks and gratitude to those who have done something special for them or for another person(s). Staff and parents/carers will also have the opportunity to contribute to the gratitude wall during the week.

Information on **Gratitude Week** has been posted to year group pastoral pages for students to access and the Padlet link will be published on Monday morning for those who wish to contribute.

*"Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well..." ~ Voltaire*

### HEADSPACE Video - Youth Mental Illness

Our CSBB Pathways team commissioned a [10 minute video presentation](#) delivered by Headspace - a leading youth mental health support service.

The presentation focuses on youth mental health and highlights the things to keep an eye out for in your young person. The presenter also suggests ways to encourage and develop a healthy 'headspace'. Well worth the watch considering our current climate.



Pathways  
Talks

### College Counsellors

Our College Counsellor, *Mrs Anne-Marie Newham* will be on leave for the next few weeks, so we have the support of two other School Counsellors from our Diocese. Their contact details are available through College Reception. Students are reminded they can also reach out to their Year Leader for help and support at any time.

### Reminder: Wellbeing Resources

Our [Wellbeing Resource Pack \(V3\)](#) is available with resources and tools to help us all maintain positive mental health. 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 or the Director of Pastoral Care and Wellbeing [Mr Nathan Smith](#) at any time.



## Pathways & Careers

### Year 12 - Reassessing Options

Congratulations to our Year 12s for successfully completing their online Alternative Trial Assessments. They have shown amazing resilience in adapting to these challenging times and maintaining their composure with so many outside pressures on their shoulders.

As we approach the holiday break, they may like to:

- 1) search for an apprenticeship
- 2) take another look at university early entry opportunities or
- 3) consider available further training could prove beneficial.

For example, **Macquarie University** have reopened their early entry offer program and are offering five COVID-19 Impact Points to boost selection ranks, or **ACU Guarantee program** offers students a maximum of five adjustment points for students who attend schools that are in their Schools Relationship program, of which St Leo's is. Or they might consider working up in the Pilbara a good option at the moment.

Please encourage them to take some time to relook at where their next step could be via the [APPRENTICESHIP AND UNIVERSITIES INFORMATION DOCUMENT](#), or call Ms Tynan to discuss for further advice. One of these steps could take away a fair amount of stress.

### Free First Aid Training

To celebrate World First Aid Day, the Australian Red Cross will host a live FREE virtual first aid training session via Zoom for students, their families and any interested members of the community tomorrow (Saturday, 11 September) at 11am. [Click here for more information](#) and [REGISTER HERE](#).

### Inspiring Women in Tech Webinar - Thurs 16 Sept

Another virtual opportunity to inspire our female students to consider technology career pathways will be held next Thursday 16 September. [Find out more...](#) Interested students should [REGISTER HERE](#).

### Careers at Google Webinar - Wed 15 Sept

A few places are still available for students interested in finding out more about computer science and other careers at Google. [More information and bookings...](#)



### Student Notices

#### Reminders: Mentor Period and Zoom Protocols

Although we are heading into the last week of Term, a reminder that Mentor period commences at 8.35am each day and students are expected to attend these important 'connection' sessions with your Mentors.

During online Zoom classes:

- Please ensure that you are appropriately dressed in College tracksuit/Year 12 jersey and that your background is suitable;
- Please remember to 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;
- Please remember to actively engage with the teacher during the whole lesson.

We will be finishing the Term with an early finish at **1pm next Friday, 17 September** and resume classes online on **Tuesday, 5 October**.



**INSPIRING WOMEN IN TECH**

*FREE ZOOM EVENT for school students*

Thursday 16th September 2021  
11:00am - 12:00pm (AEST)

Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/27ramt85>

*Meet and Interact*

 Krishia Catabay Regional Sourcing Manager	 Rajita Baniya Khattri Data Center Technician	 Leanne Cartwright-Bradford Head of Operations at Audible
 Marina Calligeros Health & Safety Manager	 Kelly Pan Mechanical Engineer	

inspiring future Australia | aws | InCommunities | inspiring women Australia

In partnership with Regional Industry Education Partnerships - Training Services NSW



## Sports Notices



### Liverpool Football Academy Home Training Program

Here it is - the last Home Training Program for the Term from the Liverpool Academy, this week looking at distribution and ball control for goalkeepers. Focussing on superstar goalkeeper Alisson Becker, the training sessions look at juggling, turning, agility and long range clearances. The nutrition newsletter explores the importance of hydration for athletes and the recipe is a berry and seeds drink that looks delicious.

[Week 8 Liverpool HTP.](#)



### St Leo's Activities Challenge

The last few weeks have seen students set a list of challenge activities to get away from the screen. If any student would like to show us their efforts, please use this [google form link](#).



### Reminder: School Fee Assistance

Again a reminder that fee assistance is available to families who may need help with school fees. Contact the **CSBB Fee Liaison Team** via [schoolfees@dbb.org.au](mailto:schoolfees@dbb.org.au) or 9847 0728.

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All College communications concerning Covid-19 (i.e. **Letters Nos 1-14**) 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