



Parent Letter No 18- Covid-19 Update 15 October 2021

TIMETABLE: for [Week 3, Term IV](#)

Dear St Leo's Community,

The College Staff are very much looking forward to welcoming back our students over the next two weeks. Plans, as you know, are well underway for our ovals, playgrounds, and learning spaces to be filled (with the correct social distancing of course) with our effervescent young people. I must say, over the past 12 school weeks it has been very strange to walk the cavernous corridors, into empty rooms and silent playgrounds. To be honest, the College site has simply been *without soul*.

Maintenance, upkeep, cleaning and planning has been occurring in these past three months, but the *real magic* - will once again recommence next week, with the arrival of Year 12 (2021) on Monday and then the remaining Year Groups on Monday, 25 October.

As you know, I will be taking some Long Service Leave and **Mr Anthony Mahoney** will be the Acting Principal. Mr Mahoney is well known to our community as he was the Assistant Principal at the College from 2014 to 2018 prior to taking a position at Catholic Schools Broken Bay.

Both he and **Mr Nathan Smith** (Acting Assistant Principal), supported by the entire College staff will ensure that the return to school and the remaining weeks of Term IV will be a safe and supportive environment where your young person will feel reconnected, comfortable and at ease with their peers, the College and their learning.

I wish everyone all the very best - stay safe and well and I look forward to seeing you all again at the start of a very fruitful and exciting 2022 as we journey **Towards 2025**.

Year 12 (2022) Update

All Year 12 Parents and carers should have received their young person's Semester Two Report earlier this week as well as a letter from Ms Todd detailing the various return details for this coming Monday. It was great to see some of the students today experience a three hour exam paper under the same conditions as the upcoming HSC Exams in The Light of Christ Centre.

It is important that students get that experience, so similar to a training session, they can perform to their best ability on game day. A second opportunity is offered next Friday.

Return to Campus Plan

This week we sent out important overviews regarding our Return to Campus Plan to all students and parents. A letter was sent to [Intake 2021- Year 12 \(2022\)](#) who will return on Monday, 25 October, and a separate [communication to Year 12 \(2021\)](#) who return this Monday, 18 October.

A detailed Return to Campus Plan document will be sent this coming week to all students and parents, and a Parent Information Evening (via Zoom) will be held on **Thursday, 21 October at 7pm**.



Bishop's Art Prize Winners

Congratulations to **Maya M** (Year 8) and **Jasmine DC** (Intake 2021) who have won awards in this year's Bishop's Art Prize. Maya won first prize and Jasmine a Highly Commended award. They have both been invited to attend a presentation via Zoom with Bishop Anthony next week. Well done to you both.

Dance Finalists - Please Vote!

Recently some of our Dance students entered FORM Dance Projects, *Sharp Short Dance Youth Festival*. The festival provides a rare opportunity for aspiring choreographers, dancers and filmmakers to display their talents and creativity in a supportive environment. The festival features more than fifty dance films created by young dancers and choreographers 21 years and under.

All works are presented on FORM's website where audiences are invited to participate in voting for their favourite work.

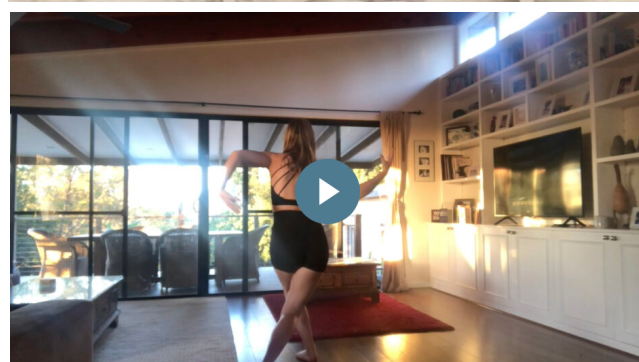
Best of luck to the following Dance students; **Jade** (Yr 12), **Bianca** (Yr 12), **Carmen** (Year 9), **Sophia-Lauren** (Year 9) and **Sofia** (Year 8).

Voting closes 9am Monday 18 October.

- [Sofia](#)
- [Sophia-Lauren](#)
- [Ella](#)
- [Bianca & Jade](#)
- [Carmen](#)

You can also view the heats: [Heat 1](#), [Heat 2](#), [Heat 3](#).

We wish all Dancers the very best of luck with their films!



Ruby Selected for the Bears

Congratulations to **Ruby G** (Year 12 2022) who has been selected to train with the *Tarsha Gale North Sydney Bears Rugby League Summer Squad*. Ruby will train with them for between 6-8 weeks and a team will be selected from that squad. It will be extremely competitive as the *Tarsha Gale* competition is the feeder platform for the WNRL.



School Opal Card Applications for 2022

Students who need a new School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply now](#). A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details **before the end of Term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Reminder: Summer Uniforms & the end of our Transition Period

As we prepare to return to campus, parents are no doubt checking uniforms. A reminder that students will be in **summer uniforms** but also that this is the final Term of our three year transition period into the 'new' uniform. This means that **from the start of Term 1 2022, all year groups should be in the new uniform** - Intake 2022 to Year 9 in junior uniforms and Years 10-12 in senior uniforms.

Second hand 'old uniform' items will shortly be removed from sustainableschoolshop.com.au, although second hand 'new uniform' items will continue to be available. The Uniform Exchange no longer sells second hand St Leo's uniforms.

With the end of the transition period in mind and given the current circumstances, we are conscious that some students (mainly Year 9) may no longer have particular items, so will allow these students to return to campus in their sports uniforms if necessary for the remainder of the term.

Student Wellbeing Check-in's

We continue to survey students on a weekly basis to monitor their mental health and wellbeing. Please encourage your young person to complete this survey during mentor time on Tuesday.

Wellbeing Resource Pack

The College has put together the fourth edition of its Wellbeing Resource Pack. [Please click here.](#)



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 or 9847 0728.

All College communications concerning Covid-19 (i.e. **Letters Nos 1-17**) 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