

Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for **Week 8 Term 4, 2021**.

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the College,

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*  
Romans 15:13

This Sunday 28 November marks the commencement of Advent. The word “Advent” derives from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming.” In this case, it refers to the coming birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Advent is a time of anticipation - a time of hope, joy and celebration.

*Dear Lord,  
You give us hope in this messy world.  
This Advent, help us to slow down, listen to your voice and focus on what is important.  
May hope and love dwell in our hearts.  
Amen*

## Year 12 Forum with Bishop Anthony

On Thursday Year 12 students from across Broken Bay were invited to a forum with Bishop Anthony. Students heard from Bishop Anthony and students from across the diocese. Students reflected on their hopes for our school community, their role as leaders of the College and their role in making a positive difference. Sylvia and Mattia were invited to respond to the question: *If you could have a superpower to help you as a leader, what would it be and why?* You can read their very insightful response [here](#).

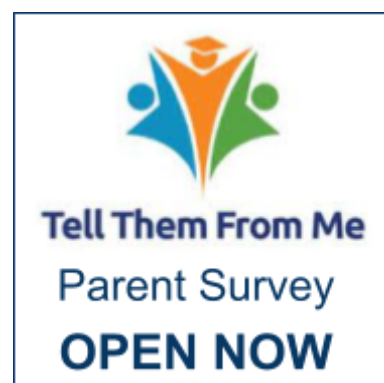
## **REMINDER: We want to hear from you!**

The annual **Tell Them From Me (TTFM)** Parent Survey is still open! If you have not already completed the survey, we would appreciate your feedback after such a challenging year to identify what St Leo's is doing well and areas where we can improve.

The survey should only take 15-20 mins. Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

**[PLEASE COMPLETE THE PARENT SURVEY HERE!](#)**

**Anthony Mahoney**  
Acting Principal



## Updated COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

The College will distribute an updated School Safety Plan to our community next week. However, a reminder that both students and staff are still required to wear face coverings when indoors. It is also recommended that people wear face coverings outdoors, however, it is not mandatory. Students are reminded that they are to bring their own face coverings with them to school.

In addition, it is still a Public Health Order requirement that people wear face coverings when on public transport. Therefore, can we please remind students that they need to wear a face covering when on any form of public transport. We encourage students to continue to maintain safe practices for both themselves and members of the general public.

## Movember BBQ - Tuesday 30 November

This November, our senior male students are promoting 'Movember' in order to raise awareness around the importance of men's physical and mental health. Senior Student Leaders will visit year groups over the next week to promote the cause and to provide relevant information.



Then, this coming **Tuesday, 30 November**, they will hold a **fundraiser BBQ** to raise money for a Catholic charity that supports men's physical and mental health. We encourage you to get behind this initiative and support this important cause. Further information will be shared on Year Group pastoral pages about the fundraiser BBQ.

## School Photos

Our College photos arrived this week (following a delay due to photographers, MSP, being closed during lockdown) and were handed out to students in Mentor classes. If there is an issue with your order, please **contact MSP directly** to discuss.

## Important Reminders:

### End of Term 4 Arrangements

Recently the College had published letters to our parent/carer community about the various arrangements for the end of Term 4.

There were two separate letters that were distributed; one for Year 10 students and families (due to different arrangements than the remainder of the College), and another letter for Years 7, 8, 9 and 12 (2022) parents/carers. Copies of these letters can be accessed below:

- [Year 10 Arrangements](#)
- [Year 7, 8, 9 & 12 \(2022\) Arrangements](#)

From Monday, 13 December onwards, there will be **supervision on-campus** should parents/carers wish to send their child to school and the **College will formally close for the holidays at 1pm on Thursday 16 December**. However, during this week, parents/carers will have the opportunity to contact Teachers, should they wish to, with questions about their son or daughter's Semester 2 report.

## Key Dates

HSC Exams	Tuesday 9 November – Friday 3 December
Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Surveys	<b>Now Open - <a href="#">PLEASE COMPLETE THE PARENT SURVEY</a></b>
Movember Fundraiser BBQ	Tuesday 30 November
Year 10 Advent Liturgy/Year in Review presentation <b>(LAST DAY OF FORMAL CLASSES FOR YEAR 10)</b>	<b>THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER</b>
Year 10 Semi Formal	Thursday 2 December
<b>Year 12 Graduation</b>	<b>Monday 6 December, 10am-12.30pm</b> (will also be live streamed)
Year 12 Formal	Thursday 9 December
Year Group Advent Liturgies/Year in Review presentations <b>(LAST DAY OF FORMAL CLASSES FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-9 &amp; 11)</b>	<b>FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER</b>
Year 12 Short Graduation Experience (for those who could not attend on Monday 6 December)	Tuesday 14 December - 10am (College Chapel)
Last official day of academic year/College Office closes	Thursday 16 December
Year 7 2022 & new Year 8-12 students start	Monday 31 January 2022
<b>Year 8-12 students return</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 February 2022</b>
College Open Day 2022	Tuesday 15 March 2022
Last Day of Term 1, 2022	Friday 8 April 2022

## Duke of Edinburgh

### Current Participants

All current participants need to complete the Google Form about their intentions for next year. This form can be found on the Duke of Edinburgh Google Classroom page and needs to be completed by the end of this week. This helps with the planning of hikes for next year as they need to be booked now with the relevant companies.

### Year 8 Students Interested in the Bronze Award

Any Year 8 students interested in starting their Bronze Award for Duke of Edinburgh next year should complete this [Expression of Interest form](#) to assist with planning of activities.

## Christmas Appeal 2021

‘A Christmas without a home is no Christmas at all. But it doesn’t need to be that way. Your generosity can help bring joy and comfort to people this Christmas. Because your donations will mean the chance of a better future.’

A reminder that we have begun collecting goods for our 2021 Christmas appeal. Together with Vinnies and JRS (The Jesuit Refugee Service), St Leo's is organising shopping bag hampers for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Please see the range of goods that [Vinnies](#) and [JRS](#) are asking us to donate. Mentor teachers have suggested items for students to bring.

Please send in all donations by 3 December (end of Week 9) so that they can be packed and sent to families in time for Christmas.

## Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

### The [Vaping](#) Epidemic

Across the country, statistics show that vaping is on the [rise](#), especially amongst school-aged adolescents. Despite the advertising and promotion of nicotine-based vaping products being illegal, young people have easy access to this product. This is due to a number of reasons, mainly because of the ease of disguising the device. Looking like pens or USB drives, vapes are easy to conceal. This poses a huge problem for parents/carers and schools to control.

The research suggests that the best place to start, if you suspect that your young person is vaping, is to try to have a [conversation](#) with them about the dangers of this practice.

The Internet has a wide range of resources on this matter and it can often be confusing where to start. However, here are a few links that we suggest:

- [What you need to know about 'vaping'](#)
- [About e-cigarettes](#)
- [SchoolsTV - Vaping](#)

Despite what seems to be a difficult challenge to overcome, the College is committed to working with students and families to better educate young people on making healthy choices. The more support that we give our students, the greater likelihood of them making better decisions, which will ultimately contribute to an improvement in overall physical and mental health.

