

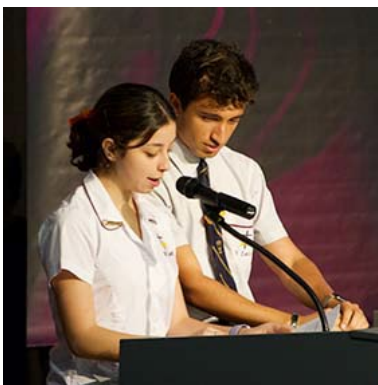


Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 9 Term 1, 2022

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Harmony Week Assembly



Year 12 leaders worked together in leading this special assembly.

You can view their wonderful [Harmony Week video](#) and I have also [linked my speech here](#) in case you would like to read it.



Yesterday we conducted our second College Assembly for this year. Once again, it was a good community building exercise, and the theme was based on **Harmony Day 2022**.

The assembly was planned, coordinated and executed by our student leaders and included a video they produced over the past week, asking members of our community their background and what some of their customs that were celebrated relating to their cultural heritage.

Congratulations to all the student leaders involved, particularly **Rivan R** and **Sofia A-L** for their wonderful work. It was a real team effort, and the College is extremely proud of the way our

Ms Cathy Knox (representing *Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter*) also came to acknowledge and thank our community for their efforts in the collection of handbags. Cathy spoke of the joy and importance of the provision of these handbags to those who arrive at the shelter with nothing but the clothes on their back, for many reasons.

Swimming Champions & Duke of Edinburgh Awards

We also had the opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the Age Group Swimming Champions from our Swimming carnival a few of



Let's come together to celebrate our cultural diversity.



weeks ago, and also those who have successfully worked to achieve their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards (see pages 3-4).

Debating

At the assembly, **Matteo D** and **Maya M** spoke about the commencement of the Debating



season. All interested students are invited to join this prestigious group as they prepare for another season of debating, commencing at the start of Term II. Matteo reminded us that St Leo's won the Opens CSDA (Catholic Schools Debating Competition) in 2020 and that we have similar high goals for this year!

I would encourage all students to participate and assist where possible. Debating develops skills and confidence that are very helpful for school and post-school life.

Mathematics Help Desk

Next Thursday morning before school, and every Thursday during Term from then on, we see the commencement of the *Mathematics Help Desk*. Here students of all year groups can seek assistance with their mathematics from staff in the Mathematics KLA. The Helpdesk will be conducted in room BGH05. Thank you to **Mr Sunny Huo** for his expertise in establishing this service. Read more about this on page 3.

Robotics Workshop

Among the many Pathways opportunities being planned for 2022 is a STEM incursion on Robotics and Coding for the last day of Term. Students in Years 8-11 are invited to attend, but there are only a few places left. If your child would like to participate in this free event, please complete this [Expression of Interest Form](#). This will operate on a first come first served basis.

Career Connections

An invitation to all Parents/Carers - Career Connections Wanted!

The College is always seeking parent volunteers willing to join our St Leo's parent database to offer a connection to your area of work. Please complete [this form](#) if you or your organisation are available to offer voluntary support to students and/or teachers within our Pathways & Partnerships program and would have the time to offer real world experiences, advice and support to help connect students' interests with potential future career pathways. Please contact [Mr Justin Slowey](#) for further details.



Baby News

A message from Mrs Murphy on the birth of her new son, George:

'Thank you to the whole St Leo's community for your ongoing prayers and support. I am sure that with that many people praying for him, God had no choice but to listen! We are very grateful for all the messages of support and love we received from staff, students and parents in our community.'

World's Greatest Shave!

One of our students, Ashton of Year 11 has many close relatives that have or are suffering from cancer. He wants to do his part and is taking part in The World's Greatest Shave. [If you would like to assist Ashton in contributing to this worthy cause, please do so by following this link.](#)



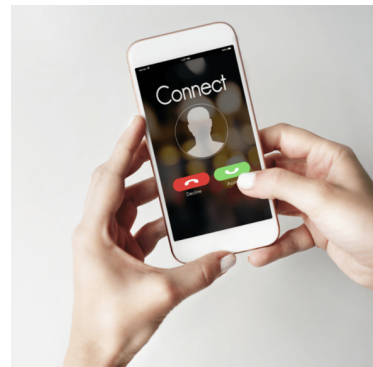
Tony Gleeson
Principal

Reminder: Parents in Partnership Evening – Wednesday, 30 March, 7pm

Following our [Parents in Partnership Model](#), Mr Peter Grace (Assistant Principal - Evangelisation and Catechesis) will co-host our Parents in Partnership Evening for Term I next week via Zoom.

Thank you to those who submitted agenda items for discussion last week. Agenda topics will include: staffing, 'post-Covid' reset (including conduct, uniform and personal electronic devices), format of Parents in Partnership meetings, Term 2 parent and student social events, assessment loads, student spaces and cohorting.

The link will be sent to parents early next week.



Student Wellbeing

Mr Nathan Smith, Director of Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

Parent/Carer Mentor Telephone Calls

By now, your son or daughter's Mentor Teacher would have been in touch with you, either via a telephone call or follow-up email, to introduce/re-introduce themselves and to check-in to see how the beginning of the year has been for your young person.

At St Leo's, we encourage a partnership of open collaboration and communication between the College and the parents/guardians of the students within our care. Integral to this is the role that Mentor Teachers play in the daily life of our students.

Attached is a [Directory of Mentors and their respective email addresses](#). Should you need to contact your son or daughter's Mentor for any reason, please do not hesitate to send an email. Alternatively, you can always contact College Reception on (02) 9487-3555 or stleos@dbb.catholic.edu.au and a message will be passed on to them.

New Initiative: Maths Help Desk



We will be launching a Maths Help Desk at 7:30am next Thursday, 31 March in room BHG01. The Maths Help Desk is available to all students from Year 7- 12. If any student wants additional help with their mathematics, they can drop into the Maths Help Desk and the mathematics teachers will be available to help. We will be running the Maths Help Desk every Thursday morning from 7:30am throughout the year.

COVID Smart Update

School Attendance Reminder

- Students should not attend school if they are a household contact or if they test positive to COVID-19
- If students are isolating, they should complete their schoolwork as set on their Google Classrooms. If they have any questions, they should contact their teacher via email or on Google Classroom.

This week's Covid numbers @ St Leo's		
Year Group	Covid Positive	Close Contacts
Year 7	2	8
Year 8	4	6
Year 9	6	3
Year 10	2	3
Year 11	3	3
Year 12	-	1
Staff	3	5

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a global framework for non-formal education, which challenges young people to discover their potential and find their purpose, passion, and place to become #WORLDREADY.

The following students have successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards and were presented with their certificates and medallions at our College Assembly this week:

- **Thomas P**
- **Jacob R**
- **Benjamin S**
- **Jeremy S**
- **Rosemary W**
- **Peter W**

These students completed at least six months engaged in a number of activities and skills as well as community service or volunteering and can now continue to on to the Silver and Gold Awards.



Sports Report

Mr Michael Kember, Leader of Sport

Swimming Age Champions

At our College Assembly yesterday, we announced our swimming champions for each age group following our recent Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to the following students on their outstanding results:



U/12 Female	Cerise B-N & Lily M	U/12 Male	Timothy M
U/13 Female	Josephine O	U/13 Male	Rainer K-J
U/14 Female	Faye H	U/14 Male	Tristen W
U/15 Female	Nina A	U/15 Male	Alex Mcl
U/16 Female	Siyeon C	U/16 Male	William W
U/17 Female	Lily P	U/17 Male	Thomas C
U/18 Female	Matilda W	U/18 Male	Joshua F

Congratulations to **Aquinas and McAuley** Houses for winning the House Cup for swimming.

BBSSA Representatives

Based on their performances at the Swimming Carnival, the following students were selected to represent St Leo's at the Broken Bay Secondary Sports Association Championships event this week at Homebush. Congratulations to these students:

Alex Mcl	Alison D	Ariell F	Arkin R
Ben E	Bridgette C	Bronte T	Cerise B-N
Chelsea F	Erika C	Faye H	Finley G
Freya T	Holly B	Isaac N	Jack L-S
Josephine O	Lachlan A	Lily M	Lily P
Marcelo S-N	Marlise S	Matthew R	Oliver M-A
Siyeon C	Skyla S	Tim M	Tom C
Tristen W	Whitney C	Wilf S	William B
Zach S	Zoe R		

Special congratulations to **Tristen W (Year 9)** who won the 50m Freestyle, 100m Freestyle and 50m Backstroke for his age and was awarded U14 Broken Bay Age Champion. Tristen will now go through to NSW CCC (Combined Catholic Colleges) Championships.

Cockatoo Island Excursion

Year 9 and 11 Visual Art and Photography students travelled to Cockatoo Island recently for an excursion.

Students had the opportunity to photograph and practice plein air sketching of the landscape. They experienced and enjoyed the unique environment that Cockatoo Island and the city area around Circular Quay had to offer. This location

offers a variety of distinctive and exceptional settings with rare surface qualities and architectural elements unlikely to be found in another similarly accessible environment.



CAPA Update

Co-Curricular Dance

All information for Co-Curricular Dance regarding eisteddfods and costumes is available via our [Co-Curricular CAPA Website](#).

Additionally, we are excited to announce that St Leo's Catholic College is now part of the [Bloch Privilege Loyalty Card Program](#). Please visit any of the Bloch stores to pick up a Bloch Card that gives you access to a special discount every time you shop at Bloch.

Dance students are also reminded to wear appropriate attire to rehearsals.

Options for class include;

- St Leo's sports uniform
- Plain black 3/4 or 7/8 leggings
- Plain black mid-thigh shorts
- Plain black t-shirt or leotard (no midriffs or crop tops)
- Appropriate footwear as per the style

A big thank you to our Dance helpers this term for their efforts to support our Dance Ensemble leaders. Their assistance has been much appreciated, and we look forward to their continued support as the year continues:

- **Faye H** - Year 8
- **Amaya S A** - Year 8
- **Amelia E** - Year 10
- **Emily R** - Year 10

REMINDERS:

Late Arrivals – Using the Add Attendance Note feature on Compass

If possible, when a student arrives late to the College and/or needs to leave the College early, parents/carers are requested to use the *Add Attendance Note* feature in Compass. Both the Reason and Details/Comments fields should be completed in Compass, which includes providing relevant information for our confidential College records. Parents/carers should use the following, as required, for your son/daughter(s):

- Medical Illness: *includes sickness, medical and dental treatment or*
- Medical – Appointment *includes appointments with medical professionals, dental practitioners etc or*
- Other Explained Absence: *includes misadventure or unforeseen event, participation in non-school events, domestic necessity such as illness of immediate family member, attendance at funeral, participation in a religious festival etc*

Please do **NOT** use the Compass Parent Portal for student leave requests.

Please also note that ALL late arrivals and early departures will be checked by Year Leaders daily to ensure that students are correctly signing in/signing out of the College as well as being cross-referenced against student timetables, hard copy parent/carer notes and/or Attendance Notes entered in Compass by parents. Also see [Compass - a guide for parents & families](#) for further assistance and guidance on the Parent Portal.

Online safety for parents and carers from the eSafety Commissioner

As parents and caregivers, you know your child better than anyone and have the best opportunity to support and guide them to have safer online experiences. The resource [Online safety - a guide for parents & carers](#) covers some of the key online safety issues for young people and includes a range of practical tips and advice on what to do if things go wrong. You can also find a list of important services that can offer extra support via www.eSafety.gov.au/parents

SchoolTV - online wellbeing resource now available to the St Leo's community

SchoolTV has a selection of [special reports](#) that may be of interest to parents/carers in raising teenagers.

CAPA Covid Smart Plan Update

Our CAPA Covid-19 Smart Plan has been updated with the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. If your child attends any of our CAPA Ensembles or Programs and/or our Pride Lands Private Music Tuition Program, please read through the updated Smart Plan which is now in effect. If you have any questions, please contact [Ms Skea](#).

- [Private Music Tuition Smart Plan](#)
- [CAPA Ensemble / Program Smart Plan](#)

Private Music Tuition

St Leo's offers our Pride Lands Private Music Tuition Program. Recently, due to popular demand, the College has expanded the number of tutors on site, especially in **Guitar and Vocals**. If you are interested in receiving private lessons to learn an instrument and/or vocals, please complete the following [Expression of Interest form](#). Students from beginners to advanced are welcome to join the program at any time throughout the year, including mid-term. Thank you for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to [email Ms Skea](#) for further information.

