

Welcome to The Lion Roars parent bulletin for Week 1 Term 2, 2022

# Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers.

A warm (and hopefully drier) welcome back for a very busy Term 2. A special welcome to our nine new students and their families. I am sure the College community will make these students feel very welcome.

As I said to staff and students on Tuesday morning, we are all looking forward to a 'smoother' Term 2. I trust you received the Welcome Back letter from our Director of Schools, **Mr Danny Casey** which was sent out to all families last Tuesday. Please take a moment to read this if you have not already done so.

#### **ANZAC Commemorations**

We commenced our ANZAC Day ceremony with the whole student body (now in winter uniform) led by some of our Year 10 students under the watchful eye of Ms Doyle (Leader of HSIE- *Human Society and its Environment*).

I was impressed with how all our students gave due recognition and respect to the ceremony which was conducted in damp surroundings. It was important that we conduct the ceremony in front of our dedicated ANZAC

Garden, as it gave a visual and concrete focus point for this very important occasion.



\*\*\* Note *The Lion Roars* bulletin will now be published fortnightly!





We specifically remembered **Private Bryan Cullen**, a past student here at St Leo's and was killed in the Vietnam conflict. The Garden commemorates all those who have fallen and those affected by war, but particularly Private Cullen.

I explained that many of the young soldiers at Gallipoli saw WW1 as an opportunity to do something substantial for not only our nation, but also for themselves, and I encouraged our students to make the most of the many opportunities afforded to them in our present context.

#### **Year 12 Retreat**

Last night, I had the pleasure of visiting our Year 12s at their three-day Retreat at Stanwell Tops.

Newly ordained, **Fr Roger Delmonte** (Hornsby Cathedral Parish) gave of his valuable time to administer the sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as spending time with students in their various activities.

This group of students missed both their Year 10 Camp and last year's Year 11 Retreat due to Covid. It was



obvious they not only were engaged in the Year 12 Retreat journey, but also enjoying each other's (mobile device free) company while reflecting upon their current lives and wondering where the future may take them. The retreat



theme is based on the Dr Suess book "Oh, the Places You'll Go!"

I would like to thank the team of staff who have given of their time from school (lesson preparation) and away from their families for these three days – Ms Tracie Axton,
Ms Angela Bourke, Mrs Megan De
Kantzow, Deacon Adrian Gomez, Mr Peter
Grace, Mr Ashley Johansen, Mr Ralph
Kershler, Mrs Colleen Kofron, Ms Robin
Lappin, Ms Simone Noel, Mr Ted
Spurtacz, Ms Megan Tynan, Ms Maria
Valore and Mr Tim Woodbine.

#### College 'Re-set' and Mobile Phone Changes

With our 'Re-set' program underway and specifically the revised Mobile Devices Policy, I spoke to a selection of students at recess and lunchtime. It was great to see them *interacting*, *chatting* and *acknowledging each other* - minus the screens! For some, the change of policy was quite easy. For others, a little more difficult. I encourage all students to persist and use their 'breaks' to reconnect with as many students and staff as you can.

#### **Student Digital Safety Workshops**

Yesterday I spent some time observing the workshops being conducted by Cyber Safety expert, **Ms Susan McLean.** I watched part of both the Year 7-8 and Year 9-10 presentations. Both were very enlightening and valuable for students - and the College, through our Mentor program, will continue to reinforce the messages Susan gave students to ensure they are as safe as possible while online.

#### View Susan's video message to parents.

Our aim is for students to gain the maximum benefit for the sessions, and change their *actions, thoughts and behaviours*, so our learning community can continue to excel with the *right relationships*.



**CLICK ON THE IMAGE** to watch a video message from Digital Safety expert Susan McLean.

#### St Leo's presents

A DIGITAL SAFETY SEMINAR FOR ST LEO'S & OUR PFS PARENTS AND CARERS



'RAISING SCREEENAGERS - Realistic strategies to navigate the online world with your adolescent'

Presenter: Dr Kristy Goodwin

Tuesday, 3 May 2022, 6pm-7.30pm

The Light of Christ Centre, Yardley Ave, Waitara

# A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: **Parent Digital Safety** Workshop -Tuesday, 3 May, 6pm

Registrations are already strong, but we hope many more parents take advantage of this rare opportunity next week to hear from Dr Kirsty Goodwin.

The presentation will be held next Tuesday evening, 3 May from 6-7.30pm. Click on the image to register your attendance.

**BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!** 

### **Visual Arts Camp**

We also are currently holding our annual three-day Year 11 Visual Arts Workshop at the Arthur Boyd Studios at Bundanon in the Southern Highlands. Thank you to Ms Claire Stevenson and Mr Chris Sammut for their time with this important academic program.

#### And then in Weeks 2 and 3...

All the best to our Year 10 students who attend their four-day Camp on the Colo River next week, as well as Year 11 students for their Retreat at the Naamaroo Conference Centre, and Year 8 students attending their camp at Tea Gardens.

As well as the Year 8 Camp and Year 11 Retreat in Week 3, NAPLAN testing will be conducted across all states for Years 7 and 9. A very busy start to the Term for all!



#### **Gold Merit Award Winners**

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Gold Merit Awards for

achieving three Purple Merit Awards across any of the six St Leo's Growth Domains):

Year 8 - William G, Yu Fei H, Sophie R, Matthew S, Tabitha V, Ryan W, Blake L

Year 9 - Ryan F, Morgan S, Ethan L

Year 10 - Bridgette C, Charlotte G, Tayla S

This is a fantastic achievement, so well done to you all!

#### **Industrial Action in State Schools**

We have taken a few enquiries from parents around the proposed industrial action in NSW State Schools next Wednesday. This proposed action DOES NOT affect St Leo's, as we are under a different award.

The College will be operating as normal.

#### **NEW CANTEEN MENU** for Term 2 **Click Here**

### YBK Weekly Meals

#### MONDAY

Pizza Margherita \$4.50

(Margherita is with tomato and mozzarella

cheese)

Pizza Vegetarian \$5.00

Pizza Ham and Pineapple \$ 5.50

Pizza Meatlovers \$ 6.50 TUESDAY

Portuguese chicken burger (peri peri chicken,

lettuce, mayo, sweet chili sauce)

\$ 6.50

#### WEDNESDAY

Beef or vegetarian ravioli \$ 6.50

Fried rice with vegetables \$ 6.00 (350g)

#### THURSDAY

Nachos with beef, beans, avo, sour cream, cheese \$ 6.50 (Vegetarian option available)

FRIDAY

Sushi (chicken/tuna/vegetarian) \$ 4.50

Edamame Beans \$ 3.50

Homemade butterchicken with rice \$ 6.50

#### Mother's Day Liturgy and Breakfast

Students are also looking forward to celebrating **Mother's Day** with their **mothers and mother figures** next Friday (6 May) from 7.30am, with a Liturgy followed by a light breakfast from 8am.

Last year we made the difficult decision to cancel the event the day before as Covid restrictions began again, so we expect a large number of you will be keen to enjoy your first Mother's Day as part of the Leo's community.

Please register your attendance for setup and catering purposes.

#### CLICK HERE OR ON THE IMAGE TO REGISTER.

As we recently commemorated Jesus' resurrection, we now look forward to a productive Term II as a People of Hope, looking to do our best for all and ourselves. It is a big ask, but we are comforted by the trust he puts in each one of us.

Stay safe and well, Tony Gleeson Principal

## **Academic News**

Mr Daniel Lane - Director of Learning Improvement

#### **Trial HSC Examination Dates**

The Trial HSC Examinations for **Year 12** are scheduled for **Monday 1 August to Monday 15 August**. These examinations will take place in the Light of Christ Centre. Further details will be sent to the school community during Term 2.

#### **NAPLAN Dates**



NAPLAN tests will be conducted for Years 7 and 9 from Tuesday, 10 May to Thursday, 12 May. Students are reminded to have the NAPLAN browser installed on their device and a pair of wired headphones for the tests. All tests will be conducted in the top level of the Mary MacKillop Centre. Students who are absent be able to sit for the exams on Friday 13 May and the week after if required.

### Subject Preferences – Year 10 into Year 11 2023 Dates

A reminder to parents and carers of Year 10 students that Subject Preferences will be taking place this Term for Year 11 subjects in 2023. An overview of the key dates is listed below. More details will be sent out soon, via Compass:

- Tuesday, 10 May (Week 3, Term 2) Morrisby Testing Information Session
   A staff member from Morrisby will run a Zoom session for all students and parents to guide in understanding the report provided from the Morrisby Profile.
- Wednesday, 8 June (Week 7, Term 2) Market Day Information Sessions
   This will be an opportunity for students to hear from teachers about the courses on offer at the College.





- Wednesday, 8 June (Week 7, Term 2) Subject Preferences one-on-one meetings
   Each Year 10 student and their parents are invited to attend a 20-minute interview with a staff member to discuss their subject preferences for 2023 and receive further individual guidance on their choices.
- Tuesday, 14 June (Week 8, Term 2) Careers Expo
   This will be an opportunity to hear from a range of providers about post-school options.

# **Year 7-8 Vaccinations on Monday**

Vaccinations will take place for Years 7 and 8 students next Monday, 2 May.

- Year 8 HPV dose 2 consent forms were collected last year
- Year 7 HPV dose 1 (no dTpa will be given to Year 7 at this visit, dTpa will be given at your clinic later in the year). Consent forms must be returned to the nurses on the day.
   Note: Any Year 7 student who does not hand in their consent card in time for this clinic can start their vaccinations at our next clinic in November.
- Any students who are absent at this visit can receive their vaccination at our next clinic in November.
   They do not need to go to their GP because they are absent.

# **Sports Report**

Mr Michael Kember, Leader of Sport

#### A Win for the Twins!

Congratulations to **Maddi & Milla D (Year 10)** who were (a very important) part of the U/16 NSW Softball team who became **National Champions** on the weekend! A fantastic achievement, so well done!

# **CAPA Co-Curricular Update**

#### CAPA Performance Polos - Sizing Survey

All parents/carers are asked to please fill out the <u>sizing survey</u> for their child if they are part of our Dance, Drama and/or Music ensembles. <u>Sizes are due by Friday, 6 May.</u>

#### **Dance Extreme Eisteddfod**

All parents should have received information via email regarding our first eisteddfod on Sunday, 19 June. If you did not receive the email, please locate the permission note on our <a href="St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA">St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA</a> <a href="Website - Dance">Website - Dance</a>.

#### **Term 2 Program**

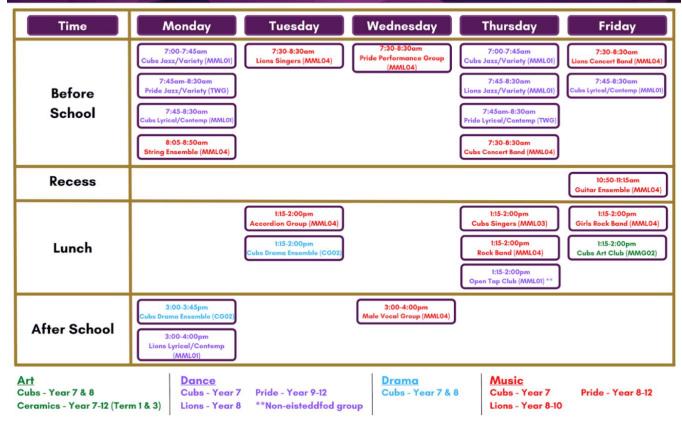
Our CAPA Ensembles resumed this week. Please check the Term 2 timetable below as there have been some new classes added and some changes to times.

It is important that students have signed up to their particular ensemble <u>Google Classroom page</u> to ensure they are receiving up to date information. With numerous camps taking place over the coming weeks, some of our ensemble/program leaders may be away at camp and therefore rehearsals cancelled. Please ensure your child checks their Google Classroom page regularly for these updates.



# Co-Curricular CAPA Ensembles / Programs Term 2





# **REMINDERS:**

#### **Private Music Tuition**

St Leo's offers our Pride Lands Private Music Tuition Program, for beginners through to advanced students. We have vacancies for students to learn an instrument in the following areas, **Guitar, Violin and Vocals.** 

If you are interested in receiving private lessons to learn an instrument and/or vocals, please complete the following <u>Expression of Interest form</u>. Students are welcome to join the program at any time throughout the year, including mid-term.

All information regarding our CAPA Co-Curricular Program is available via our <u>St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA</u> <u>Website</u>, we encourage you to bookmark this page.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to email Ms Skea for further information.

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