

Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 4 Term 2, 2023

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, I attended the NSW Conference of the Association of Catholic School Principals. This was conducted in Wollongong, hosted by the Wollongong Diocese. The theme of the conference was 'New Hope. New Growth'. Over 340 Catholic school Principals participated in the first face-face conference in the past three years. The conference theme goes hand in hand with the two learning opportunities that were developed from our school evaluation at the end of 2022. Those two learning opportunities are:

- · Embedding high expectations for enabling success and learning for all, and
- Ensuring growth for all

This renewed hope and the draft Strategic Plan that our staff are currently working on places the College in good stead so that our students are given world class educational opportunities that foster their growth towards being not only contributors, but co-creators to today's and future societies.

Core to our mission is the proclamation of our faith in partnership with the Church and families to ensure that our students continue to receive an education founded on Jesus.

In light of this, at the next *Parents in Partnership* evening on 15 June, I will be inviting parents for their input into our Strategic Plan, so together we can maximise the outcomes for our students in our Catholic learning environment here at St Leo's Catholic College.

Mother's Day Celebrations



It was wonderful welcoming all the special women of the St Leo's community to the College recently. The Light of Christ Centre was buzzing, with over 500 visitors, where we celebrated as a community. Celebrating

Mother's Day at school is a wonderful way to recognise and appreciate the role that mothers play in our lives. It was lovely to see the young people (with all year groups fully represented) express their gratitude for the love and support they receive from

their mothers, and acknowledge the hard work and dedication that mothers put in on a daily basis.

We value the support of all mothers and the role they play in ensuring our College flourishes - and that sense of community and connectedness was very present last Friday. We also remembered those who find Mother's Day particularly hard for a myriad of reasons. You were in our thoughts.



CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE
MOTHER'S DAY PHOTOS IN
OUR PHOTO GALLERY

What struck me most, was watching the students and their mother-figures walking into the venue. Much of the time as teenagers, mother (and father) figures are usually left behind whilst they cannot be seen walking with their parents. All were so proud to walk with their mother-figures. A true indication of the pride and love - both ways.

Thank you to all those who were involved in this fantastic celebration.

Staffing

On behalf of the College we welcome the following staff members to the College:

Mr David Blake - Joining our TAS faculty, David is an experienced TAS teacher at local independent schools who also taught at St Leo's whilst one of our staff was on leave years ago.

David will be teaching junior TAS classes and assisting current Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber and Design and Technology students, supporting their major projects due early in Term III.

Mr Robert Matthews (*pictured*)- Rob is our new Business Manager. His previous role was National Operations Manager at EGroup Protective Services. Previous to this Rob has been operating at a state and national level of retail operations; executive and team leader positions in Westfield Group; Egroup Security and other companies.

We welcome David and Rob who will bring great skills and expertise to their positions.



Stage 6 Student Learning Conferences - Thank you

Thank you to the 300 parents that attended the Stage 6 (Year 11-12) Student Learning Conferences recently. These are great opportunities for feedback and discussion to take place amongst the three main key players in the young person's learning.

The following parent comment sums it all up:

'I just wanted to pass how well I thought the Stage 6 conferences were set out and run yesterday. Much more efficient and easier to manage being all in the one place, loved the giant time screen, numbered tables and sections. So, just wanted to say good job and thank you.'

Thank you to those parents/carers who provided feedback, so we can improve on the current model in the interests of continual improvement. Any other comments can be sent to daniel.lane@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your time,

Tony Gleeson Principal



Academic Growth Domain

Careers Expo – The Countdown is on!

Following a number of additional exhibitors signing up last week for our Higher Education and Careers Expo, we are excited to have released the final Presentation Schedule and Exhibitor listing.

The Expo is aimed mainly at Years 9-12, but all are welcome, including families from *other schools*, so please pass on details to anyone you know who may be interested. It's not too late to register!

When - Tuesday, 23 May from 4.30 to 6.30pm

Where - Mary MacKillop Centre, St Leo's

CAREERS EXPO - REGISTER HERE!



Maths News

Parent Partnership for Mathematical Learning

The Maths Team at St Leo's is looking to partner with parents to craft parts of a new Year 9 and 10 Maths Elective course from 2024 onward.

We hope to design projects that involve applying mathematical thinking in real-world scenarios or to solve real-world problems. Here are a few examples:

- Engineers and architects use certain geometric shapes and symmetries to optimise stability
- Algorithms that are designed to solve problems
- Businesses use mathematical models to inform marketing strategies or supply chain
- Financial planning that impacts low-income earners or investors
- How data is used to identify patterns in order to predict trends, or how data is analysed to identify weaknesses and/or solutions

We are looking for parents willing to share their insights, ideas, passions and areas of expertise as we innovate and improve our students' learning.

Please feel in the form to indicate your interest and we will get back to you: Maths Partnership Interest Form

Maths Enrichment Program & Maths Foundation Program



This term, the St Leo's Maths team has launched a trial of *Mathematics Enrichment Program* and *Mathematics Foundation Program*. We worked with our Learner Diversity Team and parents to identify students and design the program such that students can learn at their own pace with the curated learning resources.

Students are welcome to attend Maths Club sessions (Tuesday lunchtimes in BHG07 or Thursdays 7.30-8.30am in BHG01) for questions that they may face in the program.

Mathematics can be a wonderful playground for the mind. We invite students of all levels to partake in this mathematical journey with us!

TUESDAYS 1.15 - 1.55PM © BHGOT COME FOR ANY AATHS HELP THAT YOU MAY NEED. EVERYONE IS WELCOAED!

Learning Diversity Feature

Post School Planning for Students with a Disability

During this term, there are multiple expos being held around Sydney that explore post school options for students with a disability. If you are interested in any of these expos, please find information flyers in the links below.

- Eastern Suburbs & Inner West Post School Expo 14 June
- Pathways to Post School Life Online Various May dates
- Western Sydney Employment, Life Skills & Leisure Expo
 21 June



Article: 'My child is having difficulties with learning. What can I do?'

We have permission from the Author to include the informative LDC Newsletter Article 'My child is having difficulties with learning. What can I do?' in our newsletter.

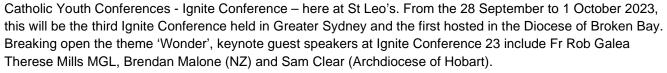
* Reprinted with permission by the author Melissa Sarikakis, Principal Psychologist and Director at Shire Child Psychology www.shirechildpsychology.com.au This article is part of the LDC Member Newsletter, Issue 1 2023. For further information about the Learning Difficulties Coalition of NSW please see our website www.ldc.org.au or contact our helpline 02 9806 9960 / info@ldc.org.au. Please contact Melissa Sarikakis or the LDC directly for permission to copy/reprint any part/s of this article.



Wonder Ignite Conference

At last week's College Assembly, staff from Broken Bay Diocese launched the Youth Ignite Conference to students at St Leo's.

Ignite Youth is proud to be running one of Australia's most powerful



Key partners joining the Ignite Conference Team include platinum sponsors Australian Catholic University, NET Ministries Australia and Acts 2 College of Mission & Evangelisation.

"I am confident that Ignite will be four days of engaging main sessions and workshops, lifechanging encounters with the Sacraments, dynamic music, and powerful preaching. May the 2023 Ignite Sydney Conference be an opportunity which will bring new hope and life to our community of the Church, and for the World Youth Day pilgrims, may it provide opportunities for them to continue their faith journey here at home."

- Most Rev Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay

Ignite Conference is so much more than a youth conference – it has something for everyone. It caters for creche aged children through to parents, teachers and parishioners. Families, high school groups, young adults, as well as priests and religious from around the country travel to Ignite Conference every year to be inspired, experience Jesus and sent out with a renewed passion for their Catholic faith. The main sessions feature live worship from Emmanuel Worship, powerful preaching and life-changing encounters with God.

The College encourages all of our students to attend this once in a lifetime opportunity.



Celebrating Upstanders

St Leo's celebrated the many 'upstanders' identified in the 2023 student wellbeing survey at last week's College Assembly.

Being an upstander means taking action to prevent harm or injustice from happening to others, instead of being a passive bystander. Upstanders are people who speak up and take action when they witness something wrong, whether it's a friend being bullied, a stranger being harassed, or any situation where someone is being mistreated.

There are many ways our students demonstrate this behaviour.

- Speaking up: If students witness someone being bullied or harassed, they can speak up and let the person
 know that their behaviour is not acceptable. This can involve calling out the person who is being abusive, or
 simply letting the person who is being targeted know that you are there for them.
- Reporting: If students witness a poor decision putting others at risk, they can report it to the authorities. This
 can include reporting it to a teacher or school administrator, or reporting it to an organisation that handles the
 issue in question.
- Supporting: If students see someone who is struggling, they can offer their support and help them through their difficulties. This can involve offering to listen, helping them find resources or support, or simply being there for them when they need someone to talk to.
- Educating: If students see someone who is engaging in harmful behaviour due to a lack of understanding or knowledge, they can educate them about the issue and help them understand the impact of their actions.

Being an upstander can be challenging, and it often requires courage and empathy. However, taking action to help others can also be incredibly rewarding, both for the people you help and for yourself. By standing up for what is right and helping others, these students have made a positive difference at St Leo's.

The College congratulates the following students:

Year 7 - Khobe T; Ignacio S; Maddie H; Sahasra K; Aidan D; Danny P

Year 8 – Sophie A; Harry D; Chelsea F; Mia H; Ruby B; Isaac L; Patrick A; Noah R; Daniel O; Daniel D; Nicholas M; Jimi F; Oliver M; Armando M; Holly A; Arturo B

Year 9 - Matthew B; Alison D

Year 10 - Ethan F; Simone T

Year 11 - Holly B; Emma W

Year 12 - Lilly P

NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Applications

Recruitment for the 2024 NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is now open.

Membership of the YAC is open to children and young people between 12-24 years of age residing in NSW. Applications are sought from children and young people from diverse backgrounds, life experiences and from different locations around the state. Written or video applications are welcome.



The 12 member YAC provides a direct avenue of communication between young people and the NSW Government. The YAC meets regularly throughout the year to discuss a range of topics and provide feedback on policies, procedures and resources affecting children and young people.

Members also provide feedback to government agencies and decision makers, community organisations and the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People on issues concerning children and young people

APPLY HERE

Youth Week Survey

ACYP wants to provide an opportunity for students aged 12 and over to share their views about the issues young people in NSW face by completing a short survey. **COMPLETE THE SURVEY HERE**.

Youth Wellness Workshop for Year 9-10 Students

The City of Ryde has partnered with Phoenix House Youth Services to deliver Wellbeing Workshops starting in Week 2 of Term 3 for Year 9 and 10 students.

Youth Wellness is a series of workshops that will be delivered face to face over 6 weeks. The workshops will cover topics such as Respectful Relationships, Body Image and Self Esteem, Cognitive Neuro-Psychology, Distress Tolerance, and Self Care. All students will also receive a directory of support services as well as an open invitation to engage with and receive support from Phoenix House Youth Services. The workshops will run for two hours each week and will be facilitated by two registered mental health professionals.

Ages: Years 9 & 10 Times: 5pm to 7pm

Where: Ryde Library, Wallumettagal Meeting Room When: Mondays for 6 weeks from July 24

Do you know a young person who might benefit from attending? Register a student in one, some or all sessions by emailing jessicaru@ryde.nsw.gov.au with the following information: Student Name, Year, Parent Contact, Sessions, and anything to be aware of: e.g. support needs, triggers.

Registrations will close end of Term 2, Friday 30 June.

SCHN Tip Sheets

School-Link at the Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN) have developed a series of Behaviour Tip Sheets with accessible and up-to-date information on mental health topics for carers of children and adolescents with an intellectual disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder. Each topic is available in a range of versions and languages and cover the following topics. Click the images in this flyer to view the 5 topics:

- Anxiety
- Sensory Processing Difficulties
- Self-Injury
- Aggression
- Navigating Adolescence





What's Been Happening @ Leo's!

EarthCare Clean4Shore excursion

A group of 14 students from Years 7 to 12 who are members of the EarthCare group spent a glorious sunny Tuesday on the Hawkesbury River as part of the Clean4Shore program last week.

Clean4Shore engages school and community groups to remove litter and general rubbish from the Hawkesbury River. Their main aim is to improve and restore the waterways and mangroves through the removal of plastics and other rubbish. In just one year, Clean4Shore removed over 30,000 plastic bottles!

During the train ride home the students shared their positive reflections on the experience:

"I found the Clean4Shore trip amazing. The best part was the pride and satisfaction that came from knowing that we did something to help the world around us. Additionally, we got to know everyone a bit better too."





CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CLEAN4SHORE SLIDE VIDEO

"Though it could be quite hard sometimes, it reinforced my connection to both the people and the environment. It was very disappointing to see the amount of microplastic that are in our waterways."

"Getting in and out of the boat could be challenging at times especially getting stuck in the mud which went up to my knees. It was really eye opening to see all of the plastic and other rubbish that was strewn along the riverbed."

Many thanks to **Ms Hawke** who organised the excursion and to **Mr Huo** who also accompanied the students.

Rev Adrian Gomez

Year 9 Camp – Photos

CLICK HERE TO VIEW A PHOTO GALLERY OF THE YEAR 9 CAMP

Year 11 Biology Excursion



On Friday, 5 May our Year 11 Biology students went to Long Reef rock platform to undertake a field study on the local organisms found in the area. They had the opportunity to use a range of scientific equipment and looked at the relationships between organisms and the environment that they live in.

We had fantastic Autumn weather and

the group were able to get up close to tidal rock shelf animals including a sea hare pictured below.

This field trip is connected to some further work that they will be doing relating to ecosystems and biological diversity.

A great day enjoyed by all!

Ms Mel Duff



Japanese Students Experience Kendo

On Thursday, 11 May, students of Japanese experienced the martial art of kendo thanks to volunteers from *Reishinkan Kendo*, East Roseville.

Students had an amazing time watching and learning about the



various aspects of kendo from state and world champions before trying their hand at it themselves.

They certainly provided these professionals with a good challenge!

A sincere thank you to the *Reishinkan Kendo* members who generously gave their time to share their passion and experience with us here at St Leo's. It was truly a wonderful experience!



Ms Julia Carroll

Year 11 Studies of Religion - Incursion with Mrs Sadaf Khan

It seems to me that the more educated someone is, the more humble and inclusive they become.

Mrs Sadaf Khan, a highly qualified life-long learner, a searcher of Holy Mystery, shared episodes from her life pilgrimage with a very privileged group of Year 11s last week. Her gentle words and tone about faith

demonstrated her humility and her embrace for all faith journeys and all people. Her Shi'ite upbringing in Lahore, Pakistan paradoxically clashes AS WELL AS complements her private Catholic girl schooling.

All these educational "strands" allow her to search for Allah/God/The One in her day to day journey as well as special travels. We heard of her walks in the Franciscan priory at Kellyville, her trip to Iran, the strength she gains from fasting at Ramadan, her discipline in maintaining her five times a day prayer ritual.

How blessed are we to have the strength of our beautiful English teacher, one who has "taken the scarf" which empowers her and frees her to continue searching for her best self and her god!

Mme Simone Noel & Mrs Colleen Kofron

REMINDERS:

Important Term 2 Dates

Term 2 Week	Date	Event
5	Tues 23 May	Careers Expo, 4.30-6.30pm
5	Thu 25 May	World's Biggest Morning Tea
5	Fri 26 May	Sorry Day
6	Mon 29 - Wed 31 May	Year 7 Camp - The Tops
6	Wed 31 May	College Photo Day 2 - Individual & Mentor Group photos, Years 8-12
6	Fri 2 June	College Photo Day 3 - Individual & Mentor Group photos, Year 7 (and individual/sibling catch-ups)
6	Fri 2 June	Vinnies Winter Sleepout
7	Sun 4 June	Musical Rehearsal
7	Mon 5 Jun	World Environment Day
8	Mon 12 Jun	King's B'day public holiday
8	Thu 15 June	Year 10 Pastoral Day
8	Thu 15 June	Parents in Partnership Meeting
8	Fri 16 June	Year 8 Pastoral Day
9	22 - 24 June	College Musical
10	Tue 27 June	Year 7-8 Studio Concert
10	Wed 28 June	Year 9-12 Studio Concert
10	Thu 29 June	Last day of Term 2 for students
10	Fri 30 June	Staff Development Day (System) – pupil free day

College Photos - Wed 31 May & Fri 2 June

MSP Photography will be capturing your child's memories here at the College no:

- Wednesday 31 May (Year 8-12) and
- Friday 2 June (<u>Year 7</u> and catch-up individual/sibling photos).





Note there will be one **final photo day in Term 3** (July 28) for co-curricular group photos where any final individual and sibling catch-up photos can be taken.

Ordering your 2023 photos is quick and easy! You can <u>order now</u> through the Compass Portal. Be quick to order and take advantage of the special pricing, when you order through the Compass Portal. But these prices are only available for a limited time. To place your order, make sure you have your Compass login details handy!

Online ordering closes <u>Friday 2 June 2023</u>. Note an Archive Fee applies after this date.

Click here to Start Ordering!

If you are having problems logging into your parent portal, click "Can't access your account?" and follow the prompts. Sibling Photos are also available to order through Compass and must be ordered before midnight PRIOR to photo day.

Please note that students hold the responsibility of presenting themselves for their family photo at their allocated time slot. If you have any questions regarding the photography service or packages available for purchase, please contact our friendly team on 9499 6555 or by email to sydney@msp.com.au



New St Leo's Careers Website!

St Leo's has a brand new Careers Website!

Use the site to easily access HSC information, research all the various school and post-school study options, search for current job vacancies, traineeships and apprenticeships, find University, TAFE and any other types of courses available across Australia.

You can also view and register for upcoming St Leo's Careers and Pathways events, explore career options based on subjects you like (Career Targets), read or subscribe to the latest Careers Tools newsletters – even find out how to apply for a Tax File Number or lodge a Tax Return!

To make it easy to find it, the Careers website will soon be accessible via the College website. In the meantime, you might like to bookmark it!

Visit the CAREERS WEBSITE



Cultural Growth Domain

Co-Curricular Eisteddfods 2023

Eisteddfods are just around the corner for our co-curricular ensembles. Please keep an eye out for more information and permission forms next week. See dates below - please note these may be subject to change:

Dance

<u>City of Ryde Eisteddfod</u> – 22 July (Weekend - PM)
 Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club (Dance only)

Lions and Pride Contemporary

Lions and Pride Jazz
Lions and Pride Hip Hop

 The Hills Dance Spectacular – 27 August (Weekend)

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Dural

Cubs, Lions and Pride Jazz
Lions and Pride, Hip Hop
Lions and Pride Lyrical/Contemporary

Hawkesbury Eisteddfod - 29 August (Tuesday)
 Windsor Function Centre

Cubs, Lions and Pride Jazz Lions and Pride, Hip Hop

Lions and Pride Lyrical/Contemporary

Music

<u>City of Ryde Eisteddfod</u> - 25 July (Tuesday)
 Cox's Road

Girls Rock Band, Rock Band, Accordion Group and Guitar Ensemble

City of Ryde Eisteddfod - 26 July (Wednesday)
 Ryde Eastwood Leagues

Cubs and Lions Singers and Male Vocal Group

City of Ryde Eisteddfod - Between 1-3 August (TBA)
 Ryde Eastwood Leagues
 Cubs and Lions Concert Band and Pride Performance Band

Drama

<u>City of Ryde Eisteddfod</u> - Between July/August (TBA)
 Ryde Eastwood Leagues or West Ryde Community Centre
 Drama Club Groups

Co-Curricular Website & Contact Details

All information regarding our CAPA Co-Curricular Program and timetable is available via our St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA Website, we encourage you to bookmark this page. For any enquiries please do not hesitate to email Miss Shinas.

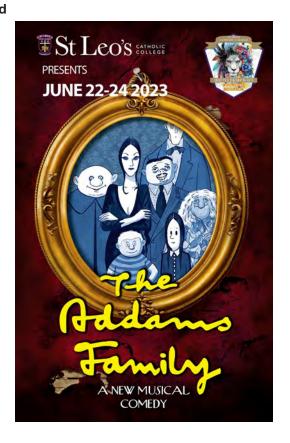
The Addams Family: School Edition

Tickets and more information will be released SOON!

Performance Dates:

- 22 June 2023 Opening Night
- 23 June 2023 Evening
- 24 June 2023 Matinee & Evening





Private Music Tuition

St Leo's also offers our Pride Lands Private Music Tuition Program. If you are interested in receiving private lessons to learn an instrument and/or vocals please complete the following expression of interest form. Students are welcome to join the program at any time throughout the year, including mid-term.

A Talented Artist in our Midst



Amber art-marking and holding a painting attached).

Amber J of Year 12, is a woman of the Wiradjuri and

Barkindji tribes that come from her father's side.

Amber is a talented artist, and has been commissioned by clients (image attached of her stunning Kingfisher painting) and local schools to produce Aboriginal artworks, including Hornsby South Public School (images of





She is currently working on artworks for Pennant Hills Public School, Asquith Public School, and Cheltenham Girls High School.



Physical Growth Domain

BBSSSA Cross Country

The Broken Bay Cross Country is always a highlight on the St Leo's sporting calendar with the 50 strong team competing at St Ives Showground this year. A new course created new challenges for the students especially with greater running into the bush.

On the day we had fantastic individual results as well as age group team results. The team results are worked out using the best three individual results from each school. In the overall school point scores, we finished 6th in the girls, and 4th in the boys.

Congratulations to all students who competed on the day, with all top 10 performances listed below.

- 2nd Marcelo S-N (U/14 Boys) Qualified for NSWCCC
- 2nd U/17 Girls (Emma W, Holly B, Bridgette C)
- 2nd U/14 Boys (Marcelo S-N, Oliver M-A, Marcus N)
- 2nd U/16 Boys (**Ethan L, Conor C, Giacomo B**)
- 3rd U/12 Girls (**Lucy E, Freya A, Isabella B**)
- 4th Oliver M-A (U/14 Boys) Qualified for NSWCCC
- 4th Lachlan L (U/17 Boys) Qualified for NSWCCC
- 4th U/15 Boys (Kaylan H, Zack S, Wesley S)
- 5th U/13 Boys (**Xavier V, Keagan S, Aidan D**)
- 5th U/17 Boys (**Lachlan L, Jackson M**)





6th – U/16 Girls (Ella S, Lucy P)

6th - Ethan L (U/16 Boys) - Qualified for NSWCCC

6th – U/13 Girls (Eleanor H, Lola L, Grace B)

6th – U.15 Girls (**Bronte T, Tahlia H, Emily C**)

7th – **Ella S** (U/16 Girls)

7th – **Kaylen H** (U/15 Boys)

7th – **Conor C** (U/16 Boys)

7th – Cameron D (U/18 Boys)

8th – Marcus N (U/14 Boys)

9th - Lucy E (U/12 Girls)

9th - **Emma W** (U/17+ Girls)

10th – **Holly B** (U/17+ Girls)



BBSSSA Intermediate Soccer Gala Day

On Wednesday, the Intermediate Boys and Girls soccer teams travelled to Cromer Park for the Broken Bay Gala Day. The weather was a mixed bag of sunshine and rain with a cold wind but this didn't stop our teams playing great football in all matches.

The girls had a tough pool but after an initial defeat to Stella Maris, had victories over Brigidine (2-1) and St Brigid's (5-0) before another loss to the tournament runners-up Mater Maria. This meant that they finished 5th overall across both pools.

The boys started strong with wins over St Brigid's (2-0) and St Paul's (7-1) before a loss to St Edward's meant that they qualified for the semi-finals. In the semi-final, they played out a nil all draw with Mater Maria, before scoring a winner in an exciting extra-time period to make the grand final. In the final, the toughness of the day caught up with the boys and they went down 2-0 to St Augustine's - but to finish runner's up is a fantastic achievement.

A big thank you to Luella R (Year 11 student) for coaching the girls, and Mr Glen Downey for coaching the boys.

St Leo's Sports Cup

The St Leo's Sports Cup run by the Vinnies group has kicked off over the last few weeks. Students from Year 7-12 have entered teams in both the futsal and netball competitions. The games have attracted crowds in the LOCC and created a great environment that is fostering school spirit. Currently both competitions are in the quarter final stages, with the remaining quarter finals being held next week before the semi-finals and grand final.

The winning team in both competitions will then have the opportunity to play against a staff team in what promises to be a highly entertaining match. Students are encouraged to follow updates on their year group Google Classroom pages for when matches are being played.

Athletics Carnival – New Date

The College Athletics carnival will now be held on **Thursday 17 August**. Students have been encouraged to enter the carnival since the end of Term 1, and if there are any students who would still like to enter the Championship events please see Mr Kember over the next few weeks.

Next Edition:

- School Sport Australia Softball
- BBSSSA Open Basketball
- NSWCCC Football
- Peninsula Cup Update

Community Notices

Volunteers Required as Readers and Writers for Trial HSC Exams and HSC Exams

Readers may be approved for students whose disability prevents them from independently reading and/or comprehending written questions.

Writers may be approved for students whose disability prevents them from independently communicating their responses in a handwritten format. This includes, spelling difficulty, and illegible or extremely slow handwriting

People who act as readers and writers do so on a voluntary basis.

We have three students in our 2023 HSC cohort that require a reader and writer for their Trial HSC Exams (31 July – 14 August) and the final HSC Exams (11 October – 31 October) later in the year. We are seeking volunteers to act as readers and writers for these students. If you are interested in volunteering, please check your eligibility against the criteria listed below and email tamara.bowman@dbb.catholic.edu.au asap.

Who can act as a reader and/or writer? The following people can act as a reader and/or writer – a:

- former student of the school
- suitable adult
- retired teacher.

Who cannot act as a reader and/or writer? The following people cannot act as a reader and/or writer – a:

- relative or friend of the student
- currently employed teacher or private tutor
- person who recently taught the student
- non-teaching employee at the student's school such as a teacher's aide, clerical or office staff, lab technician
- person who has a close relative sitting the same examination
- NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) appointed examination supervisor or presiding officer.

