

Welcome to the

Year 7 2026 Information Evening

16 September 2025



St Leo's CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



Welcome

Bailey & Benji

2026 College Captains

Sub Title

Welcome to St Leo's!

Welcome parents and
carers, students, staff
and guests!



Acknowledgement of Country

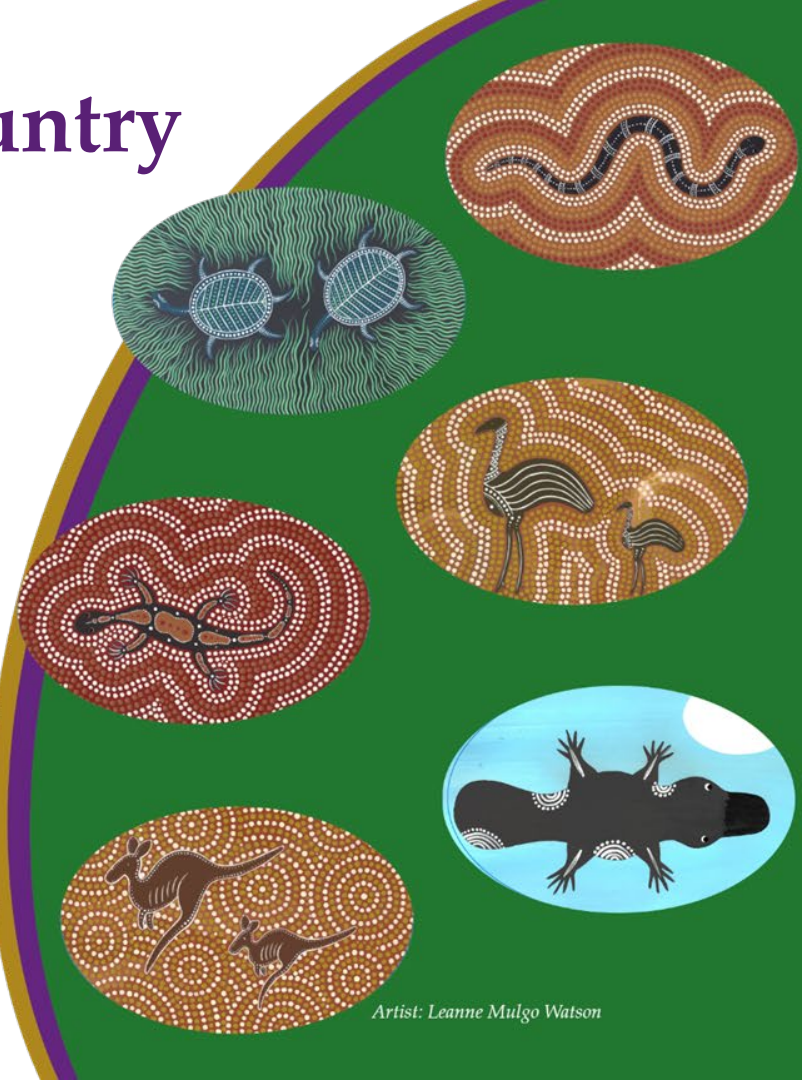
We walk together in footsteps millennia old.

St Leo's acknowledges the Darug and GuriNgai people, the traditional custodians of these lands here in Hornsby Shire on which we live, learn and work.

We honour and respect their connection to this land as part of the oldest surviving continuous culture in the world and pay respects to their ancestors and elders past and present.

Their spirituality flows through all of creation, reminding us that the land does not belong to us: we belong to the land.

Together, may we build a future based on compassion, justice, hope, faith, and reconciliation.



Artist: Leanne Mulgo Watson

St Leo's College Prayer

God of love and understanding, You are the source of strength and inspiration.

You called Pope Saint Leo the Great to guide Your people by his word and example.

We ask You to fill our community with the spirit of respect and dignity.

Guide us in the light of Your truth. May we grow in purpose and learning, and proclaim Your wisdom to the world.

Give us courage and hope to face the unknown. May we be faithful to God's law in our hearts and live with the peace of the Holy Spirit.

God help us to bear witness to the mystery of the cross and resurrection so we may be people of integrity and justice, walking in the footsteps of Christ your son.

Amen

St Leo the Great, *Pray for us.*

Live Jesus in our hearts, *Forever.*



Agenda

1. Principal's Address

- Mr Anthony Gleeson, College Principal

2. Faith and Wellbeing

- Mr Patrick Brennan - Assistant Principal: Evangelisation and Catechesis

3. Learning @ St Leo's

- Mrs Fiona Milkins - Assistant Principal: Student Achievement

4. Transition Program - Mr Richard Hannan – Leader of Pastoral, Year 7

5. General Information, Key Dates & Next Steps...

- Mr Patrick Brennan - Assistant Principal: Evangelisation and Catechesis
- 

Year 7 2026 Information:

- Year 7 2026 New Student Information Handbook

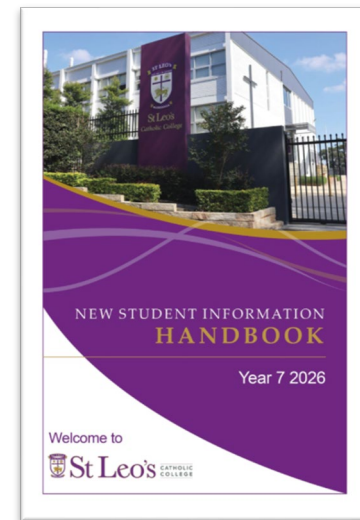


- Year 7 Web page:



Year 7 2026 Information:

- All information covered today (and more) is included in the **Year 7 2026 New Student Information Handbook** which is available on the Year 7 web page of the College website: stleos.nsw.edu.au/year7
- Please take the time to read through it at your leisure. It should answer most of your questions.





Principal's Address

Mr Tony Gleeson

The importance of selecting a school



Sedan



SUV



Hatchback



Wagon



People Mover



Van



Ute



Sports



Convertible



Driving the family



Transporting things



City driving



Long distance driving



Towing



Off-roading



Work



Fun



Luxury

Welcome!
Thank you for trusting us...



By the numbers: Year 7 2026...

- 240 in the cohort
- From 38 different primary schools
- 48 siblings of existing students
- 3 sets of twins
- 6 families with the same last name, and
- *984 school days (from tomorrow) will be your young person's final day of secondary schooling...
the Leaving Class of 2031*

Part of the Journey

- CSBB Strategy...*Shaping Tomorrow Together In Faith*
- Baptism to Post School journey – for students and families
- Cathedral Precinct – Cathedral College
- K-12 Pathways
- Enhanced Career Pathways



Our Mission

- St Leo's is a Catholic, co-educational comprehensive secondary school
- As such, the College exists to be as good as the very best to support the development of our young people in their faith and in their learning.
- 'We are committed to the formation of ***confident, competent Catholic-valued young people of conscience***'



Year 7 2026 >>> Year 12 Graduating Class of 2031!

It takes a village.....



Each of our young people has a story



Each of our Young People has a Story...



*'Our thoughts on starting
at St Leo's 2025'*

Please welcome
Year 7 2025 students
Jocelyn & Levin

'Parents in Partnership'



STUDENT



"The success of the educational path depends primarily on the principle of ***mutual cooperation***, first and foremost between parents and teacher..."


(Paragraph 15, Congregation for Catholic Education, Vatican City 2022)

PARENT/CARER

TEACHER

'Shaping Tomorrow Together In Faith' strategy charts a visionary course for a Catholic education that is faith-Catholic education that is faith-driven, future ready, and designed to meet the evolving needs of families' said Bishop Randazzo. 'The person of Jesus Christ, and his message of Good News is central to who we are and all that we do.' 'As we strive to be at least as good as the very best'

We are a school
full of human beings.
*We are not a perfect school,
but we aim to be continuously improving.*

The bottom of the slide features several overlapping, wavy lines in various shades of purple and a thin gold line, creating a dynamic, flowing effect against the solid purple background.

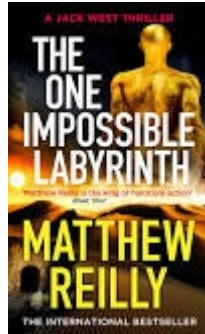
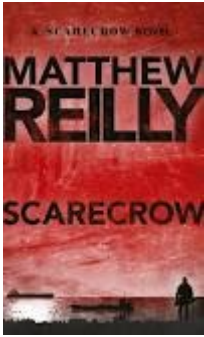
**My three 'tips' between now and the start
of the 2026 school year...**





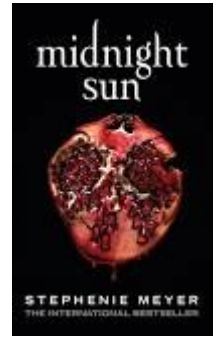
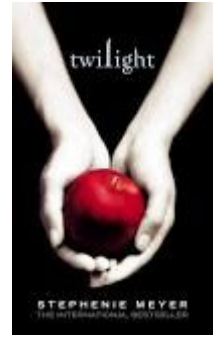
Get involved with as many opportunities as possible!





Reading - It's so important!

Examples:
Stephenie Meyer
Matthew Reilly



Relax



Faith & Wellbeing

Mr Patrick Brennan

Assistant Principal - Evangelisation & Catechesis

Evangelisation & Catechesis

Tradition, Ritual & Symbols



Year 7 Welcome:
Clapping in & ringing of the Bell of Discipleship



*Student Leadership
Induction Ceremony*



Year 12 Graduation:
Clapping out & ringing of the Bell



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Year 7 Presented to the College



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Service - Street Retreat



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Service - Vinnies, Biggest Morning Tea, RU OK? Day, The Dish, Dom's Place, Clean4Shore, etc.



Evangelisation & Catechesis

**Vinnies Winter Sleepout -
over \$52,000
raised in 2024!**



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Retreat



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Year 7 Laudato si' Excursion



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Year 7 Laudato si' Excursion

“My favourite part was playing games with the year 11 student leaders, and I will always remember the liturgy we had at the end of the day.” **Alex B**

“I’ll always remember the peace I felt during the meditation.” **Lucy C**

“My favourite thing was the meditation and getting to see everything God has made”.
Isabella P

Evangelisation & Catechesis

Regular Activities:

- Monday - Rosary
- Tuesday
 - Vinnies
 - Environmental Group
- Wednesday - Bible Study
- Friday - Mass



Evangelisation & Catechesis

Ignite Conference 2025

July 10-13

Here @ St Leo's!



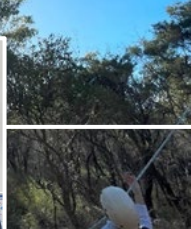
Wellbeing for Learning

- Continuity of Care (Year Leader + Mentor teacher)
- Peer Relations
- Positive Behaviour underpinned by Restorative Practice

'Social connectedness and good interpersonal relationships are considered protective factors that have a positive impact on mental (and general) health and wellbeing.' Beyond Blue

Wellbeing for Learning

Pastoral Days Camps





Learning @ Leo's

Mrs Fiona Milkins

Assistant Principal - Student Achievement

Learning @ St Leo's

**Ensuring
Growth
for All**



**Embedding High
Expectations**
for Enabling Success
in Learning for All

Learning @ St Leo's



A Leo's Learner is:

- Collaborative
- Independent
- Responsible
- Resilient

Learning at St Leo's is:

- Rigorous
- Informed
- Relational
- Empowered

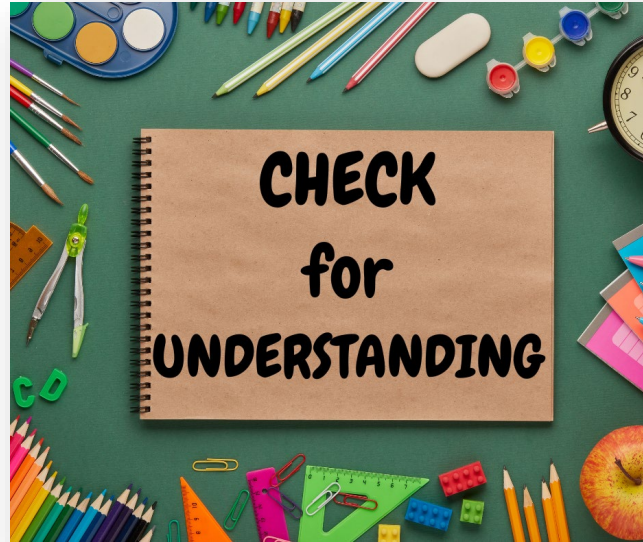
Learning @ St Leo's



Hope Filled

All students are guided to develop a growth mindset that enables them to become young people who are resilient and persistent, and believe in their capacity to achieve, reflect and grow. The Catholic Values develop the capacity for every student at St Leo's to work both independently and collaboratively to contribute positively in their world and the world of others.

Assessment is not a scary word!



Laptops @ School

- Laptops are a tool for learning
- Secure Network provided
- Blended learning approach
- Handwriting is still important



Devices @ School

- Notifications are to be switched off
- Laptops must be charged
- Headphones must not be worn around the College



Devices @ Home

Set boundaries | Share the experience |
Remove distractions

Important Home Conversations:

- Determine when and where digital devices can be used at home
- Determine a time when digital devices can be used for entertainment
- Determine where the laptop should be charged every night



Mobile Phones

- Out of sight and switched off from 8.30am to 3pm, including recess and lunch
- Mobile phones and devices will be **confiscated** until the end of the day if they are accessed
- An infringement will be issued if a mobile is confiscated





Year 7 2026 Transition Program

Mr. Richard Hannan

Leader of Pastoral, Year 7

Year 7 2026 Transition

- **Student Orientation Day -**
Friday 14 November 2025
9am - 2.30pm
The Light of Christ Centre (TLOCC)
- **Parent Presentation - High School Transition-**
Wednesday 26 November 2025
6-7pm, TLOCC
- **First Day 2025 -**
Thursday 27 January 2026
8.30am - 2.30pm, TLOCC
(See Handbook for details)



Student Requirements for start of Term 1:

- **BYOD device**
 - Option of either PC/Windows-based or Apple OS device
 - See Handbook for full specifications
- **Stationery**
 - the College will provide a stationery pack to each student on Day 1
 - We suggest picking up students on Day 1 if possible as they are heavy
- **Textbooks** - made available online, so not needed initially. Additional resources will be advised throughout the year as required e.g. novels
- **Padlocks** - students require a **padlock** for their lockers. This will be included in the stationery pack provided.

Student Requirements for start of Term 1:

Uniforms – *more information in the Handbook*

- Order new uniforms through Midford Turramurra (formerly Cowan & Lewis) by **15 December** for guaranteed delivery by start of school year.
- 2 sport polos required – 1 x House + 1 x general sport. When ordering, Houses will not yet be allocated. We will send list to supplier to allocate.
- Please ensure **every item is labelled!**
- Second hand uniforms:
 - Sustainableschoolshop.com.au (online),
 - The Uniform Exchange (in person/online),
 - or other sites e.g. Marketplace

Student Requirements for start of Term 1:

- **Opal Cards**

- New cards will be required by all students as they are starting a new school
- Order online directly through **Transport NSW** – in **student's** name
- Opens in Term 4 - Order before the end of year (suggest ASAP)



Introducing...
Key Staff to Know

Introducing...

Mrs Kerstin Cole
Leader of Learning Diversity



Introducing...

Mrs Tess Denham-Fabry
Parent Engagement Co-ordinator



Introducing...

Ms Sarah Szacsvay
Community Tutoring Co-ordinator
& College Archivist



Introducing...

Mr Peter Farqhar College Counsellor



Introducing...

Ms Jaimi-Lea Andrews
Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Introducing...

Ms Lucy McNay
CAPA Co-curricular Co-ordinator



Introducing...

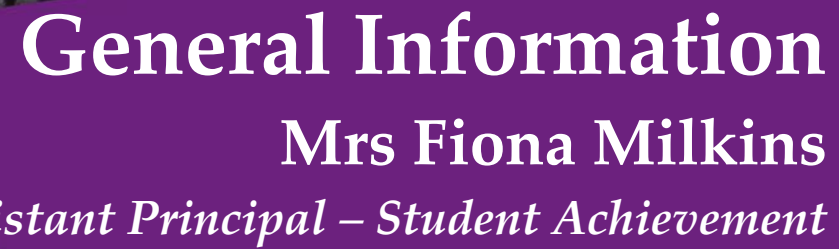
Mr Michael Kember
Leader of Sport



Introducing...

Miss Nelly Emotional Support Dog





So Many Opportunities...Groups & Clubs

Get involved!





CAPA Cubs



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE

What is the CAPA Cubs Program?

This is a **specially designed program for Year 7** focused around participation in the Creative and Performing Arts ensembles and programs at St Leo's which are **accessible** for all St Leo's students.

The *CAPA Cubs* program accommodates all skill levels and will be the first step for Year 7 as they progress further into our *Lions* and *Pride* CAPA programs here at the College.

Private Music Tuition is also offered on site during school hours.



The Cubs Concert Band

An introductory band open to all students which consists of beginner to intermediate repertoire.

The Cubs Singers

An introductory vocal group exclusively open to Year 7 students.

The Cubs Dancers

An exclusive Year 7 ensemble for all ability dancers, beginners to advanced.

The Cubs Drama

An introductory group to Drama through high energy, group interaction and production for Year 7.

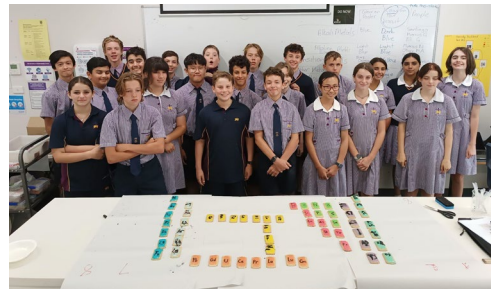
The Cubs Art Club

A Visual Arts Club that inspires students from Year 7 to further their artistic talents in Drawing.

And many more...

- **Spiritual** - Rosary, Bible Study groups
- **Academic** – Debating, Public Speaking, Maths & Science Clubs
- **Social Justice** - Vinnies, Enrivo Group, etc.
- **Sport** - Aerobics, Fitness/Athletics, Cross Country training
- **Special Interest** - Chess, Robotics, Lego, Duke of Ed, Dungeons & Dragons, Knitting

** Note current group examples only
These may change each year or term*





Sport @ St Leo's



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Internal Sport Program

- As part of the regular College timetable, Year 7 participate in 2 hours of weekly sport.
- Students participate in various activities including but not limited to: Self-defense classes, Dance, Touch Football, Basketball, Netball, Soccer, Hockey, Indoor Rock Climbing, Indoor Trampolining, Gym/Fitness ... just to name a few.

Representative Sporting Program

- St Leo's is part of the **Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) Sport Association** and competes at gala days throughout the year.
- Students can trial for sports that are advertised throughout the year and can play in as many sports as they would like.
- Training for these sports are usually undertaken before school.
- Students also have representative pathways through CSBB, onto NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (**NSWCCC**) and then **NSW All Schools**

College Swimming Carnival



- College carnival is held in Term 4 –
Monday 9 December at Hornsby Aquatic Centre
- For students who **wish to gain selection** in the St Leo's Swim Team **to compete at the Broken Bay Championships**
- If your son/daughter would like to compete, please complete the entry form on the Year 7 web page
- Entries due by **Thursday 31 October**



General Information

Mr Pat Brennan

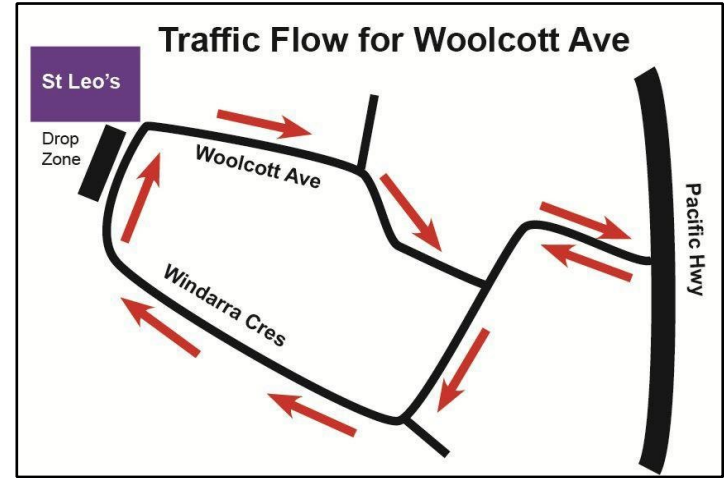
Assistant Principal – Evangelisation & Catechesis



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE

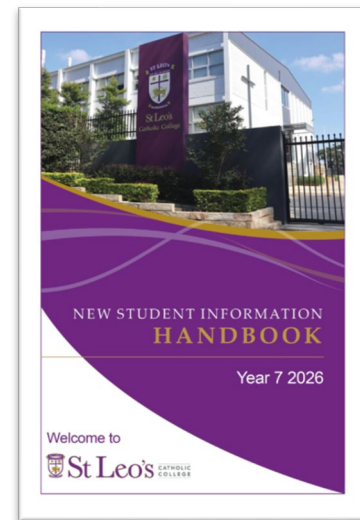
Other things to know...

- **Traffic Flow in Woolcott Ave -**
Woolcott Ave/Windarra Cres loop
(Gates A and B), are **one way** during
pickup and drop off times.
- **Parking -**
As you will have noticed, parking is an issue due to our quiet residential
and beautiful bushland surrounds. Please consider our neighbours when
parking and ensure residents are able to enter/exit driveways.



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Q&As

- A copy of this presentation will also be available on the web page along with the Handbook.
- Following this presentation and reading through the Handbook, there is also an online form to submit any remaining questions.
- We will collect questions and collate an 'FAQ' documents to distribute the answers to all parents/carers.



Year 7 2026 Information:

- Year 7 2026 New Student Information Handbook



- Year 7 Web page:



Thank you again for your attendance.



We look forward to seeing you at Orientation
on November 14!



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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