

7 September 2022, Volume 14

ST PETER'S NEWS

CHALLENGING OUR STUDENTS THROUGH A FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Each of us are blessed with a variety of gifts and talents and as a school it is our obligation to provide opportunities for students to unlock the God given gifts each person has been blessed with. Many students have creative abilities that are often not nurtured in a normal school environment.

Music education is a powerful tool and has many research-based benefits ranging from academic outcomes (including speech and reading skills), increased attention span, increased self-confidence, improved language ability as well as improvements in student wellbeing. The improvement in academic outcomes from music education has been shown to impact across a wide range of subject areas, including languages and mathematics.

The Arts make us literate, the Arts make us numerate; the Arts inspire us to achieve things we thought unachievable; the Arts help us to think in abstraction; the Arts give every child an opportunity to think, dream, imagine, visualise, improvise, explore, evoke, suggest, imply an enormous range of emotions and ideas, and remember all Arts pertain to the condition of music.

Richard Gill (2010)

Participating in musical activities, whether playing an instrument or singing, has also been shown to make changes in a child's brain that make it more likely that they will reach their full cognitive and academic potential. This same brain research is clear that high-quality music education is linked to academic achievement, better cognitive function and has health and resilience benefits also.

Ensemble music has even more benefits in developing peer relationships and the sense of belonging to a team. Similar to any sport, each member of an ensemble is a valued team member and has a responsibility to the team. Music ensembles are inclusive and supportive of students of all levels of abilities and allow for positive relationships to develop across year groups.

Last Wednesday night we hosted our College Cabaret night. This is an event that we have not for a number of years due to COVID. The evening celebrated the talents of our students across all year groups in the creative arts. One of the features of the evening was the first performance of our Year 7 ILP band.



This band consists of Year 7 students, most of whom have only started on their instruments this year. This group marks stage 1 of our new instrumental program which provides the foundation for a much larger instrumental ensemble program into the future.

I would like to congratulate all our performers from last Wednesday and extend my sincere thanks to all the staff and students who contributed to making the event such a success. I am looking forward to the next creative arts event.

Tim Hildebrandt

Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Faith in Action

As we return to normal there is a chance to enjoy some of the events that make school what it should be; communal and enjoyable. Last week we celebrated St. Peter's Day with a Mass where we gathered in prayer and shared the eucharist as a community for the first time in nearly three years. Father Raul's sermon centred on Love – 'what the world needs now is love.' By love he referred to respect, kindness and treating each other with dignity. Our readings centred on the fact that we are called to serve each other and to go out into the world and to make a positive difference.

In 2023 we will be offering a sacramental program here at St. Peter's for students who wish to be confirmed, for those wishing to receive the eucharist or for those wanting the rite of reconciliation. If these programmes interest you, please contact me here at the school. In terms of faith in action there are a number of opportunities available for our students and they include:

1. World Youth Day in Portugal in 2023
2. Praisefest – Friday Evenings (Social Gatherings Youth Ministry)
3. Masses recommencing at school in our chapel
4. A new partnership with Mary Macs Hostel where we volunteer to cook food and serve the marginalised.

Daily School Matters – 'Every Day Counts'

One of the most time consuming and important areas of my role here is to make sure that our students are present every day and accounted for. Attendance at school is compulsory and it is vital that if your child is away that you enter the absence on COMPASS within 5 days or it becomes an unexplained absence. If you are going to take extended leave or travel, then please contact the school and we can arrange for the relevant forms to be sent to you. Soft absences add up quickly and a few days here and there can lead to students missing hours of Mathematics or English. A student who misses 16 days per year or 4 days per term practically loses an entire semester of education by the time they reach the HSC.

We offer a range of support services for students who are struggling with their attendance. Please contact me directly if your family needs assistance.

Steven Hopley

Assistant Principal - Evangelisation & Catechesis

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

YEAR 11 EXAMS

Year 11 exams will commence on Monday 12 September (Week 9) running through till Wednesday 21 September (Week 10). Students will not have normal scheduled classes during this period but will be required to attend for their exams in full school uniform.

The timetable for the Year 11 exams can be accessed by the following link: [Exam Schedule](#)

These exams are part of the preliminary assessment schedule and are to be treated like any other formal assessment task.

As a reminder should a student be absent from an exam the Illness/Misadventure process will then need to be followed.

Sandra Haines

Director of Studies

EVERY DAY COUNTS

THERE'S
MORE TO SAY
— AFTER —
RUOK?[™]



Ask RU OK?

How are you travelling?

You don't seem yourself lately – want to talk about it?



Listen with an open mind

I'm here to listen if you want to talk more.

Have you been feeling this way for a while?



Encourage action

Have you spoken to your doctor or a health professional about this?

What do you think is a first step that would help you through this?



Check in

Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing?

Have things improved or changed since we last spoke?

Learn what to say at ruok.org.au
A conversation could change a life

WELLBEING @ ST PETER'S

R U OK? Day

St Peter's Catholic College will be participating R U Ok Day? on Thursday 8th September.

R U Ok Day? is a day that empowers people to start a conversation with family members, work colleagues or friends who may be struggling with life.

The premise is **A CONVERSATION CAN CHANGE A LIFE**. You don't need to be a professional to check in - just a good friend and listener.

The four steps to having that conversation are:



More information can be sources at <https://www.ruok.org.au/>

If you know someone is struggling with suicidal thoughts, please seek support for them and yourself:

- If a life is in danger call 000
- Lifeline (24/7) crisis support: Phone: 13 11 14, Text: 0477 13 11 14, Online Chat <https://www.lifeline.org.au/crisis-chat/>
- Suicide Call Back service (24/7) Phone: 1300 659 467, <https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/>
- Kids helpline (24/7) Phone: 1800 55 1800, <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>
- Beyond Blue (24/7) Phone: 1300 224 636, <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>
- More services can be found at <https://www.ruok.org.au/findhelp>

Students can be supported at school through the School Counsellors and their Leaders of Wellbeing.

Regards

Candice Little and Owen
Director of Wellbeing

THERE'S
MORE TO SAY
AFTER
RUOK?

What you're going through isn't easy. It's good we can talk about it.

That's tough. Keep talking, I'm listening.

Have you been feeling this way for a while?

RUOK? DAY™



SAFEGUARDING
MONTH *families*

Catholic Schools Broken Bay Safeguarding Month - Families

This month we celebrate the important role families play in keeping children safe when they have a strong sense of belonging and connection to family.

We invite all families to share with us your experiences of how you connect as a family. The most creative and and inspirational entries will be showcased on our Diocesan Safeguarding Month webpage, <https://bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding/engaging-with-your-family>.

SAFEGUARDING MONTH *families*

SEPTEMBER 2022



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

BUILDING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS IN EVERY FAMILY

The Diocese of Broken Bay promotes awareness of Safeguarding each September.

We invite all families to share with us your experiences of how you connect as a family in the form of a story, a video or a photo during Safeguarding Month of September.

Some suggestions might include exercising together, bushwalking, baking or play a game.

Scan for
more
activity
ideas



bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding/engaging-with-your-family

The most creative and inspirational entries will be showcased on our Diocesan Safeguarding Month webpage.



SCAN
TO
ENTER



Entries will be open September 1 to September 30.

*Submission of entries will be taken as consent to share

bbcatholic.org.au/safeguardingmonth2022

YEAR 7 NEWS AND UPDATES

Welcome Back

We welcome back Mr Tony Brosnan from three weeks of long service leave!

Behaviour

As we near the end of the term, students are to be reminded of the behaviour and expectations of the classroom as well as on the playground. Students are to be respectful at all times; to themselves, their peers, and teachers. This is in line with one of the College Guiding Principles 'show respect' as well as the Year 7 theme of **'respect, responsibility and resilience.'**

Students are not to have their phones out during their lessons (unless specifically told by their teacher). If you are required to contact your child, it is to be done through the College administration office.

Attendance

When a student is absent from school, parents are asked to phone the front office or enter a note into Compass that explains the absence. Students can also bring a note from home upon their return to school. If a student has more than 3 days of unexplained absences in a row, the Homeroom Teacher will contact home.

Students are also required to be in attendance for every lesson of the day.

Students are required to attend school each day and arrive on time. Coming to school each day will allow students to build attendance habits which will follow them into work and life. Students are encouraged to develop a good sleep, morning routine and limit screen time when going to bed.

If students are missing school, it can put them behind and makes it harder for them to catch up, leading to gaps in their learning and impacting on social and emotional connections.

Tony Brosnan and Megan Smith

Leaders of Wellbeing - Year 7



YEAR 9 NEWS AND UPDATES

Lake Burrendong

Lake Burrendong was a wonderful experience for all the students and staff involved. The weather was brilliant for the whole week and made for warm days and great nights by the campfire toasting marshmallows.

Students enjoyed a variety of activities including archery, archery tag, kayaking, mountain biking, orienteering and nightly games. The students engaged in everything and had loads of fun despite being away from the comforts of their own homes. A big thankyou to Mrs Skarstein, Mrs McDonald and Miss Ede for volunteering to come away on camp and making this such a memorable experience for the students. Also, a big shout out to the Aspect staff Simon and Lyndell, as well as their students Luke, Cooper and Elliot - thanks for a great week!

Wee Jasper Reserve

Wee Jasper was, once again, an amazing time for Year 9. The kids were co-operative and took every new experience with both hands. They challenged themselves everyday and were rewarded with great memories and talking points. The weather held up pretty well but the campfire at night was definitely necessary!

It was great to see all of our students trying new things: riding mountain bikes, crawling through caves, abseiling down cliffs, and just genuinely supporting each other every day.

A huge thankyou to all the teachers who attended this camp (Mr Miles, Mrs McLean, Mr Sanchez, Mr Scott, Mr Little and Mr Bates), without them this opportunity would not be the same. We hope everyone enjoyed their time at Wee Jasper, we certainly did!

Surf Camp

Surf Camp was a glorious one for Year 9 this year. Despite the persistent wet weather, all the students pushed through and enjoyed the water all week with no complaints! There was great teamwork throughout the week with everyone jumping in to share the cooking and cleaning between them all.

We got to enjoy the surf (though it wasn't always perfect conditions) and water every day- with some keen people catching some great fish. There was a campfire to bring us all together for stories and laughs, and star watching and sunrise viewing throughout the week. It was another fabulous week at Surf Camp and Mr Lawicki, Miss Rooney, Mrs Fortmann and Mr Lynch hope you had as much fun as they did!

Reminders

Next term will see us go into Summer Uniform but, a reminder as per usual, that Full Winter Uniform is still expected to be worn properly for the remainder of this term.

As we come closer to the end of the term, we want to remind you to keep persevering in all aspects of school. It's a really busy time for assessments and we know you're all applying yourself as best as you can.

Andrew Lomax and Jessica Moroney
Leaders of Wellbeing - Year 9



YEAR 11 NEWS AND UPDATES

Year 11 are now coming to the end of the Preliminary Course. Preparation for examinations are well under way and I have witnessed some excellent evidence of revision as well as fellowship among the students. Most students have shown dedication towards their studies and have effectively managed their time. However, there are some students who may be feeling concerned that they have not started their preparation early enough. It is important to remember the Preliminary Course is somewhat of a practise for the HSC and students can take lessons learnt from this year to enhance their time management and sharpen their study skills for the year ahead. I urge Year 11 to make the most of the time remaining this term and adhere to any teacher feedback received.

I would also like to remind students that no one should be parking at the back gate. Please park at the front gate. Students will have access to the carpark once the HSC is completed.

The coming holiday break will be the last one before Year 12 commences. I hope students enjoy the break and find time to relax, spend time with family and friends and engage in leisure activities. It has been a big term and students deserve a well-earned break. I look forward to welcoming this cohort back as the class of 2023!

Examination Reminders

Students must be dressed in full school uniform and arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the exam.

All required equipment should be packed in a clear zip lock bag. Students must know their student number and this can be found in the Stage 6 Office.

RU OK Day

On Thursday 8th September we will be celebrating RU OK Day. It's our National Day of Action when all Australians are reminded that every day is the day to ask, 'Are you OK?' and start a meaningful conversation whenever they spot the signs that someone they care about might be struggling with life. I hope students will take up the opportunity to check in with a loved one or a friend as a result of this important awareness week. A wellbeing BBQ will be held on Friday 9th September in period 2.

Coast Shelter Volunteers Needed

It would be wonderful if students who do not have an exam on Tuesday of Week 9 to volunteer for Coast Shelter. If students are able to volunteer on Monday 12 September please see Mrs O'Keefe.

The Vocalist

We wish Mia C all the best as she competes in The Vocalist, a new 13-week competition held at Halekulani Bowling Club. This is an opportunity for young talent to have a stage to share their talent with the local community.

Cabaret Night

Congratulations to Amelia G, Mia C, Georgia Rose S, Tarah M and Louise A on their wonderful performance to a sell-out crowd on Wednesday 31 August. The audience were extremely impressed with the talent on display and a wonderful night was had by all.

Michelle O'Keefe and Scott Stretton

Leaders of Wellbeing - Year 11



CABARET A SMASH HIT IN 2022

As Gabby and I took on the role of Creative Arts Portfolio Captains in November of 2021, we knew immediately that Cabaret Night was something we wanted to do. We worked hard in convincing the leadership team that our idea was valid, convincing Mr Hildebrandt to buy us 300 meters worth of fairy lights, and convincing Mrs Haines that we were actually capable of pulling it off.

For some reason they believed us.
And they were right to.

Cabaret night was an absolute success! On Wednesday 31 August, 200 people gathered in our exclusive venue (aka the College Hall), seated at luxurious circular tables with black table clothes and vivacious vases of flowers. 300 meters of fairy lights were strung back and forth above the heads of the audience and with the help from Mr Tobin and the Youth Ministry team, we had charcuterie boards and platters ready to be served.

The night featured incredibly talented performers such as Mia C and Tara M, also featuring our very own teacher band, composed of our lovely talented Music Department. The night also debuted Year 7 ILP band, as they made their first ever public appearance!

Our charismatic MC's Jayden D and Mia C absolutely stole the show and tied it together wonderfully. The night even featured Ex-School Captain Elliot Mylchreest for a extra pizzazz.

Gabby and I are both incredibly proud of what we created and it would have been impossible without the endearing and warmly welcomed help from Mrs Haines, Mr Judge, Mr Jarvis, Mr Burke, Mr Gallen and Mrs Selfridge.

If you were in attendance; thank you so much for your support! If you were not; keep your eyes peeled, we've heard the Creative Arts Captains for 2023 have a lot in store...

Tori Tracey and Gabby Li

2022 Creative Arts Portfolio Captains



VET / CAREERS AND PATHWAYS

Year 11 and 12

As Year 12 move closer to the end of their school life they look towards their post school options. Congratulations to those who have already received job offers for apprenticeships and traineeships and early entry offers to University - their learning will be life-long.

Over the past few weeks students have attended the University of Newcastle, **Uni & Me Program**, guest speakers from **Central Coast Group Training**, excursion to Crown Plaza Terrigal for the Hospitality students.

Year 11 are also coming to the end of their Preliminary course and VET student form both Year 11 and 12 have engaged in some truly authentic learning through Hospitality Christmas in July and High Tea Event, the Cabaret and St Peter's Day Talent quest for Entertainment students and the Retail 'pop up' shop during St Peter's Day.

We celebrate our students' achievement in various ways and none of their success would happen without the commitment and support of the VET teachers and support team, families and community partnerships.

Year 10 Subject Selections

Interviews regarding courses for Year 11 2023 continue as students think more carefully about their futures and the many opportunities available to them, e.g. TVET or School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT) please contact me, also if you are willing to take on an SBAT in your business.

The YES Program through TAFE has also been offered to Year 10 for Term 4.

Please check your Compass notifications for some recent local events around future careers and apprenticeships and traineeships.

For details information around see the Careers and Pathways Website via Compass and good luck to Year 11 and 12 for their future examinations.

Remember, "Self-belief and hard work will always earn you success" Virat Kohli.

Year 12 VET Hospitality Excursion

Last week Year 12 Hospitality students ventured to The Crowne at Terrigal as part of their VET course,

The location was amazing, the view spectacular, the food was super yummy and the service was fantastic. The staff were very knowledgeable and helpful.

It was lovely to hear positive feedback given towards the students for their excellent line of questioning, and as a result Crowne Plaza's HR team have asked students to forward resumes through as job opportunities opened up. It was a wonderful showcase of excellence from our Hospitality VET students.

Pauline Dibb

Leader of Learning - VET/Careers & Pathways



YEAR 11 SOFTWARE DESIGN GETS A BOOST

On Friday 2 September our Year 11 Software Design & Development students were lucky enough to have Mr Damien McGuire from the School of Now come and give a masterclass workshop.

Students spend the day with Damien working on achieving a greater understanding of how to analyse and unpack questions with the key focus on identifying key words and terms within the questions for their upcoming preliminary exams.

Year 11 were engaged and with Damien's assistance worked on questions from past HSC papers ensuring they are confident and prepared for their exams before heading into their HSC year.

Well done boys and thank you to Damien and the Diocese of Parramatta for the workshop!

Andrew Rankine

Software Design & Development Teacher



NEWS FROM THE STP WORLD OF SPORT

Broken Bay Athletics

The Broken Bay Athletics Championships were held at Sydney Olympic Park on Tuesday 30 August. Congratulations to all 55 students who attended the event and competed with great spirit. Some of the highlights were Tristan B 1st in the 16 years 1500m, Zane C 1st in the 17+ Discus, Duncan F 1st in the 15 years 100m and Thabisa M 1st in both the 13 years 100m and 200m. These athletes will now compete at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships at Sydney Olympic Park on 12 September. Good luck boys.'

National Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to Joey F who travelled to Adelaide for the National Cross-Country Championships in August.

Joey came 4th in the Under 17-19 Boys Para, running 12 Min 22 sec for the 3km. He was also part of the NSW Under 20 Para team that won the team event.

Broken Bay Golf

The Broken Bay Golf Championships were held at Shelly Beach Golf Club on Friday 2 September. Declan C, Desiree H, Sarah G and Douglas R represented the College. Congratulations to Desiree who won the Girls Open Stroke Event shooting 81 and Douglas won the Under 13's Net Event with a 75 after handicaps were taken off.

Duncan Little

Sports Co-ordinator





Tell Them From Me

PARENT SURVEY

Time to complete the "Tell Them From Me Partners in Learning" survey

As part of our focus on school effectiveness, St Peter's will be participating in an online survey for students – Tell Them From Me® (TTFM®). The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve.

During the next couple of weeks all students will be given the opportunity and time to participate in this survey during regular school hours. Students will be given a random username and password to access and complete the survey online.

Students' names cannot be linked to their responses which allows it to be completely anonymous. Results will show all student scores combined together – it is not possible to single out individual students in the results.

The survey takes approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey measures include such topics as emotional and social well-being, physical health, and behaviours and attitudes linked to student success. The survey also allows students to give their thoughts and feedback in open-ended question responses.

Parents and carers are an essential and valued part of the campus community. We use your survey feedback to make practical improvements and inform school planning. The online survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and is anonymous and voluntary.

If you have more than one child at this campus and feel that your children's experiences differ, you can complete the survey more than once.

Follow the link below on your computer or tablet:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/stpeters>

NCSS Challenge

Congratulations to the Year 9 IST students who successfully competed in the 2022 National Computer Science Skills (NCSS) competition.

In this competition, students are presented with a series of 10 challenges that become increasingly difficult and progressively test their ability to master new programming concepts using the Python programming language.

Each challenge was marked out of 40 marks and students were encouraged to try different solutions if they don't succeed on their first attempt.

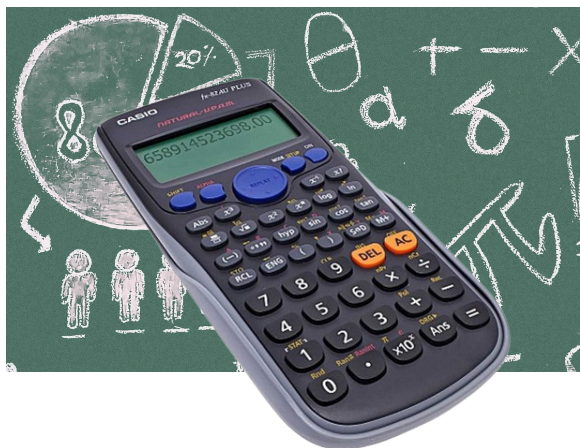
Well done to all who participated in this year's competition.

Elliot H (399 points)	HIGH DISTINCTION
Callum Howland (390 points)	HIGH DISTINCTION
Jacky L (359 points)	HIGH DISTINCTION
Jesse W (348 points)	HIGH DISTINCTION
Riley Skellern (319 points)	DISTINCTION
Amen S (290 points)	CREDIT
Jackson R (279 points)	CREDIT
Jalen B (270 points)	CREDIT
Aditya B (259 points)	MERIT
Alessandro E (230 points)	MERIT

Tom Goodwin

Leader of Digital Innovation and Learning

MATHS HELP AVAILABLE TUESDAY



Maths support is available every Tuesday during Break 1 in the Explore Zone of the Library.

If your child is struggling with concepts or particular topics we encourage them to come along and discuss with Ms Michell and her team of Maths whizzes.

Calculators are also available for daily hire from the College Library, for more information please see Ms Skarstein & the Library Staff.

Teresa Michell

Leader of Learning - Mathematics

ST PETER'S CAREERS WEBSITE



St Peter's Careers Website

The St Peter's Careers website is a valuable resource for all parents, carers and students. Information is regularly updated includes a weekly STP careers newsletter that contains exciting career development opportunities for students across a wide variety of industries and pathways.

The website explores post school options, provides key information for senior school students including UAC information, minimum standards, HSC information and USIs.

Why not visit <https://stpeterscareers.com> today to discover how we can assist you and your child in their post school options.

Pauline Dibb

Leader of Learning - VET/Careers and Pathways

UPCOMING EVENTS @ ST PETER'S

Thursday 8 September
 Thursday 8 September
 Thursday 8 September
 Friday 9 September
 Friday 9 September
 Monday 12 September
 Tuesday 13 September
 Wednesday 14 September
 Monday 19 September
 Tuesday 20 September
 Wednesday 21 September
 Friday 23 September
 Friday 23 September
 Monday 10 October
 Tuesday 11 October

Catch Up School Photo Day
 RU OK Day
 Year 12 Visual Art Body of Works exhibit
 Year 9 Reflection Day
 Year 12 Bush Dance
 Year 11 Exams commence
 BBSSA rugby 7's & Boys AFL
 Year 12 Reports available on Compass
 Year 12 Pyjama Day
 Year 12 Final Year & Whole School Assemblies
 Graduation Mass and Ceremony
 Year 11 Exams conclude
 Last day of Term 3
 Staff Development Day/Pupil Free Day
 First day of Term 4