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ST PETER'S NEWS

CHALLENGING OUR STUDENTS THROUGH A FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE



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SEASON'S REFLECTIONS: CELEBRATING GROWTH AND EMBRACING HOPE



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students

We have come to the end of another school year and the preparation for Christmas. In these final days of school it is appropriate to reflect back on the year and the give gratitude for the amazing work that has occurred.

2023 has seen growth in many areas of schooling at St Peter's. This year, we embarked on a three-year journey to develop the literacy skills, particularly the writing skills, of our students. The journey is multi-pronged, and this year featured significant staff professional development in the science behind literacy instruction, with all staff attending four subject based sessions throughout the year facilitated by an expert external facilitator. The strategies that staff have learned have been taken back to the classroom and we have already seen an amazing improvement in the writing levels of many students. This year we have also targeted students who find literacy skills particularly difficult, and have engaged them in small group targeted learning, which again has resulted in amazing growth in student outcomes. The literacy focus will continue to be a major goal in 2024.

We are coming into the season where we celebrate the greatest event in the history of the world: the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We are blessed in our Christian Tradition as we know that Christmas inspires hope. The symbols and signs of Christmas; the Christmas Tree, the Star, the Wreath and Candles, the Bells, the Angels, the Shepherds and their Sheep, Mary and Joseph, the baby asleep on the hay, these all say to us "Don't Give up, Keep on Going" they remind us of the good in our lives.

If we let them, they will fill us with optimism for the year ahead. For Christians, hope is a powerful force as it comes from trust in Jesus Christ. We have hope because we trust in the Lord, and we know the Lord oversees every aspect of our lives. When we hope in the lord, we are not simply leaving things to chance, but rather we are trusting the outcome to God, and with that follows joy, peace and happiness.

The world has changed and often today you must look quite hard to find any reminder of the real Christmas story. We see lots of Santa Claus', Christmas trees and plenty of coloured lights, but in many homes and communities there is little mention of Jesus and the real Christmas message. Jesus makes our faith both a gift and a task. When we think gift, we focus on the three virtues, Faith, Hope and Love that have been given to us. However, these come with the responsibility to act, to share these gifts with others. This year we have witnessed hope through the generosity of some of our families who have actively supported others in our community, we have seen the amazing donations to Vinnies and Mary Macs and experienced the willingness of our students to be actively involved in supporting the community. This Christmas, I encourage everyone to consider how you can share the gift of hope within your own communities.

Finally, I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to all members of our college community for all the work that has been achieved this year. To our parents and carers, our students, and our staff, we have survived another year while also growing as a community, we have enhanced our learning and we are stronger as a result, thank you to everyone for your contribution to 2023.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday time, a peaceful Christmas filled with hope. I encourage everyone to reflect on the symbols that remind us of what a special time Christmas is, especially the beautiful image of the baby asleep in the hay. Best wishes to all

Tim Hildebrandt
Principal





2023: CELEBRATING STUDENT TRIUMPHS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students

Where has 2023 gone! This year has been phenomenal. As a School of Excellence, we saw the introduction of new projects and in particular additional ILP subjects: Dance, Ready, Set, Grow (sustainable gardening), the Raw Program (Mastering Literacy) and Stem Plus gave students additional choice. Next year this will include an elite Rugby League program called RISE.

Meeting the educational needs of all students at St Peter's is paramount. An area of learning we sought to focus more carefully on this year was around HPG students (high potential and gifted). Time was spent on researching and investigating the most effective pedagogies and practices associated with gifted education. Teachers who volunteered to teach this cohort of students, undertook a certificate in gifted education.

In Semester 2, fifteen of our students took part in a pilot program at St John Fisher Tumbi Umbi. Once a week they got the opportunity to experience life as a primary school teacher. For our Year 10 students this transformed into a work placement event. The girls spent a fortnight working alongside Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two teachers, receiving a more

in-depth insight into what teaching looks like on a daily basis. This has been a fabulous opportunity for our students, and I would like to extend my heart-felt gratitude to the wonderful community of St John Fisher, who have opened their hearts and classrooms to provide this unique life changing experience – Thank you! In Term Four, a similar experience was provided for two Year 12 students, who took up the challenge of teaching dance to students across the year groups at St Cecilia's in Wyong.

One of the college's targeted improvement areas is literacy, more so mastering the art of academic writing. This year we were able to secure NSW Government funding that allowed our intensive literacy program to continue. Identified students in Year 10 and 11 were provided with one to one and small group support each week. The progress and growth in achievement highlighted the benefits of having a tailored program such as this, in fact students who had not been identified approached us asking could they be part of it too.

To support students in mastering the art of writing, the college engaged Dr Trish Weekes. Dr Weekes' LiSA program (Literacy in Subject Areas) saw teachers participating each term in a half day workshop. The workshops allowed teachers to explore the literacy demands within your subject and provided staff with time to co-plan for the term ahead.

Embracing Success Together

Roisin McVeigh and Seamus
Assistant Principal / Student Achievement





EVANGELISATION & CATECHESIS

Wellbeing

I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for the incredible dedication, care, and support Mitchell Dryden and the Wellbeing team have consistently provided to our students during 2023.

Mitchell Dryden transitioned into the Director of Wellbeing in Semester 2, when I stepped up into the Assistant Principal - Evangelisation and Catechesis role. His leadership and commitment to the wellbeing of our students have made a significant impact on the entire community. Your ability to step up and take on this crucial role with such grace and passion is truly commendable.

To the entire Wellbeing Team, your unwavering support and consistent care have created a nurturing environment for our students to thrive. Your collective efforts to address their physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing have not only made a difference in their lives but have also contributed to the overall positive atmosphere within SPCC. In times of challenge, the team has shown resilience and empathy, making a lasting impression on our students and the entire community. Your dedication to fostering a culture of wellbeing is instrumental in shaping a positive and supportive learning environment where every student flourishes. Once again, thank you, Mr Dryden, and the entire Wellbeing Team, for your outstanding work and commitment. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and we are truly fortunate to have such a dedicated team ensuring the well-being of our students.

The Wellbeing Team 2023

Director of Wellbeing: Mitchell Dryden
 Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Tony Brosnan**
 Year 8 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mrs Megan Smith**
 Stage 4 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Mrs Susan Briggs**
 Year 9 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Czes Lawicki**
 Year 10 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Andrew Lomax**
 Stage 5 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Ms Jess Moroney**
 Year 11 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Adam Beavis**
 Year 12 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mrs Michelle O'Keeffe**
 Stage 6 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Mitchell Scott**

The Wellbeing Team 2024

Director of Wellbeing: **Mrs Candice Little**
 Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Tony Brosnan**
 Year 7 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Mrs Susan Briggs**
 Year 8 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Mitchell Dryden**
 Year 8 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Mitchell Scott**
 Year 9 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mrs Megan Smith**
 Year 10 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Czes Lawicki**
 Stage 5 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Ms Jess Moroney**
 Year 11 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Andrew Lomax**
 Year 12 Leader of Wellbeing: **Mr Adam Beavis**
 Stage 6 Assistant Leader of Wellbeing: **Ms Yasmin Rooney**

Evangelisation and Catechesis

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude for the support and guidance that the Religious Education Faculty have provided me throughout my time as Acting Assistant Principal - Evangelisation and Catechesis. I am truly thankful for the passion and expertise Leanne Glasscock and her Team bring to the classroom, creating an atmosphere for our students that encourages curiosity, critical thinking, and a deep understanding of religious and ethical concepts. Your unwavering commitment to excellence, and with the encouragement you have given me in moments of challenge and uncertainty has enhanced my leadership experience. I am grateful for the friendships and connections I have made within the faculty.

I would also like to thank Michael Tobin for your generosity of spirit, and enthusiasm for enriching students' experience with faith. I thoroughly enjoyed the Ignite conference and the connections made with students. As well as the enrichment of my own faith.

I would also like to thank Joanne Helm as our Parent Partner. Jo, you are a beacon of kindness, illuminating the lives of those around you with your warmth and compassion. Your genuine and selfless nature has touched not only my heart but the hearts of many fortunate enough to know you. In a world that can sometimes seem hectic and demanding, your consistent kindness stands out as a source of comfort and inspiration. Your ability to make others feel seen and valued is a rare and beautiful gift. You have a way of turning ordinary moments into extraordinary memories by infusing them with your positive energy and caring spirit.

As I express my gratitude for the kindness you've shown me, I also want to acknowledge the profound impact you have on the world around you. Thank you for being a shining example of the goodness that exists in humanity. Your kindness is a beacon that lights the way for others, and for that, I am truly grateful.

In Christ's love

Candice Little and Owen
 Acting Assistant Principal - Evangelisation & Catechesis



CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS AND WISHING FESTIVE GREETINGS TO OUR YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS

MERRY
Christmas

As we near the conclusion of an eventful academic year, it's time to look back at the remarkable journeys our Year 7 and 8 students have undertaken and extend warm holiday wishes as the festive season approaches.

Year 7

Year 7 Goodbye, Farewell, and Merry Christmas: Reflecting on the culmination of this academic year, we take immense pleasure in acknowledging the incredible growth and achievements witnessed in our Year 7 students. This year has been a transformative period for them as they transitioned from Primary School to a more challenging and diverse educational environment.

Highlights of Year 7's exceptional journey:

- **Academic Excellence:** The commitment and engagement displayed by our Year 7 students in the classroom have been truly commendable. Their thirst for knowledge and dedication have resulted in remarkable achievements across various subjects, showcasing their intellectual curiosity and pursuit of excellence.
- **Sports, Culture, and Leadership:** Beyond academics, our students have actively participated in sports, cultural events, and leadership activities, demonstrating enthusiasm, creativity, and admirable leadership skills. They've represented the College with pride and distinction.
- **Respect, Commitment, Compassion:** Their exemplary behavior, commitment, respect for peers and teachers, and their display of compassion towards others have truly made a positive impact on our school community. They've upheld strong values and created a nurturing learning environment.

- **Awards and Recognition:** The outstanding accomplishments of our Year 7 students have been duly recognized with numerous awards, including Bronze and Silver Awards for Dedication and Commitment. These accolades underscore the students' exceptional efforts and commitment to high standards.

As our Year 7 students flourish into well-rounded individuals, embodying our College's values, we eagerly anticipate their continued growth and success in the coming years. Congratulations to the students, parents, and teachers for making this academic year a resounding success.

Year 8

As the final days of Year 8 draw near, we commend all students who received Embracing Learning and Bronze Awards for their unwavering dedication. Furthermore, the impressive number of Silver Award recipients highlights their persistent hard work and commitment to excellence.

Last week's 'Love Bites' program saw enthusiastic participation, showcasing the engagement and enthusiasm of our students in vital educational initiatives.

A few important reminders: Please ensure students adhere to wearing their sports uniform only on designated days, and if your child missed collecting their Sports Award, kindly arrange to collect it from Miss Smith. We eagerly anticipate our annual awards ceremony on Tuesday 12 December, where we will celebrate our students' achievements.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for the continued support and partnership of our families. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

As the year concludes, we wish all our families a joyous Christmas and a peaceful, rejuvenating holiday season filled with cherished moments.

Until next time, stay safe and keep thriving!

Stage 4 Team

REFLECTING ON A REMARKABLE YEAR: EMBRACING ACHIEVEMENTS AND ANTICIPATING 2024

Greetings to all,

As the curtain falls on yet another enriching year of schooling and we find ourselves on the brink of the Term 4 conclusion, it's an opportune moment to pause and reflect on the myriad of positive experiences that have graced our educational journey throughout this year. Additionally, let's eagerly anticipate the promises and prospects that await us in the upcoming year of 2024.

Year 9

Year 9 has relished the delights of Stage 5 electives, offering a diverse range of experiences to ignite curiosity and learning. From thrilling snorkelling adventures to invigorating bushwalks, alongside the academic exploration of the significance of currency, and the captivating world of film study within the realm of crime—truly a dream for many! The memories created and the skills acquired during this year are not merely fleeting moments but treasures that will resonate throughout your academic voyage at St. Peters. Our aspiration is that these connections forged during Year 9 will continue to flourish, serving as a strong foundation as you step into Year 10—a year that marks a crucial juncture in your educational journey.

Year 10

Year 10, the final chapter of Stage 5, witnessed the emergence of our students as 'leaders' and 'role models' within our school community (an assignment that might not resonate with everyone, of course).

Despite the challenges encountered, it was undeniably a successful year for many. While there might have been occasional shifts in dynamics and perhaps a few visits to A block, the overarching sentiment remains—a year filled with much enjoyment and growth.

As preparations for Stage 6 unfolded—a journey requiring both patience and determination—we now witness some among you bidding farewell to these halls, venturing toward new horizons.

To the rest, seize this opportunity to rest, rejuvenate during the holidays, and gear up for the exciting prospects that the coming year holds!

To each and every one of you, from the collective heart of Stage 5, we extend warm wishes for a joyous, safe, and spiritually fulfilling Christmas. May this break afford you the chance to indulge in activities you cherish and create moments that linger in your hearts.

We eagerly anticipate reuniting in the coming year, refreshed and brimming with enthusiasm. Until then, savour the holiday season to the fullest!

Stage 5 Team



YEAR 12 CHRISTMAS FAREWELL: EMBRACING SUCCESS AND CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS!

Christmas Farewell Year 12 2024

Congratulations on successfully navigating through your first HSC assessments! As the holiday season unfolds, I encourage each of you to take this well-deserved time to recharge, relax, and create enduring memories with your loved ones. Merry Christmas and may this festive season bring you joy, peace, and a rejuvenating break! Return in 2024, revitalized and poised to conquer your final year with renewed determination and focus. Your journey thus far has been remarkable, and the entire St. Peter's community believes wholeheartedly in your abilities and success. Cheers to this much-needed respite and the exciting challenges that lie ahead!

Year 12 2023: Celebrating Achievements and Looking Forward

The eagerly anticipated 2023 HSC results are set to be released on Thursday 14 December. As a token of appreciation for the unwavering dedication and hard work exhibited by our students throughout this year, St. Peter's is hosting a morning tea. This event offers an opportunity for students to come together,

engage in conversation, and reminisce with teachers about the final year of high school. It's a heartfelt thank you for the commitment and effort invested in achieving academic excellence.

Farewell and Welcome to Stage 6 Leaders

As the curtains draw on the year 2023, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing Stage 6 leaders, Michelle O'Keefe, Mitchell Dryden, and Mitchell Scott. Your unwavering dedication, guidance, and support have left an indelible mark on our Class of 2023. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours as you embark on new journeys in 2024.

A warm and enthusiastic welcome to our incoming 2024 Stage 6 team: Adam Beavis (Year 12), Andrew Lomax (Year 11), and Yasmin Rooney (Assistant). We are thrilled to have such capable and inspiring individuals steering our ship. Your leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication are invaluable, and we look forward to a fantastic year ahead, filled with new achievements, growth, and exciting milestones!

As we bid farewell to a memorable year and eagerly anticipate the promise of the new one, let us cherish the achievements, experiences, and friendships that have defined our journey so far. Rest well during this holiday season, and return in 2024 with renewed vigour and determination to conquer new heights!

Stage 6 Team





You're Invited!

Dear Year 12 2023

As you approach the culmination of your academic journey and 2023 comes to a close, we cordially invite you to celebrate your achievements with us.

Let us commemorate your successes and revel in your HSC results by joining us for morning tea.

**Thursday 14 December @ 10.00am
Patrick Square**

To RSVP please see Mrs O'Keeffe's email.

THE ART BLOCK IS FILLED WITH COLOUR AND CREATIVITY!

As another year comes to an end, the Visual Arts and Photo Digital Media students have been busy creating some incredible artworks, and these are proudly on display in our Q Block Gallery.

The Chickens have finally hatched out of the kiln! Our Year 7 students have had great success in creating their ceramic 'Textured Chickens', each with their own unique and colourful personality. Some of our students had fun getting into the Christmas spirit, as we have 'Xmas Tree Chickens', a 'Santa Chicken' and 'Reindeer Chicken'. The students are looking forward to taking their chickens home, and some may even end up under the tree as gifts!

Year 8 have wrapped up their 'Sweet as Pop' unit to create some vibrant and delicious looking paintings, inspired by Pop Artist, Wayne Thiebaud. They are now exploring Surrealism and the strange worlds of the Surrealist artists, through dreams, nightmares and 'weirdness'. Year 8 are having fun learning new skills in Photoshop to create digital artworks for their own 'Surreal Rooms'.

Our Stage 5 Art students have been busy experimenting with various printmaking methods to produce a collection of prints for their 'Printing the Landscape' Assessment. The students have created some stunningly beautiful and intricate artworks using Drypoint Etching, Lino Stamping, Gelli-plate and Collagraph printing to produce artworks inspired by the 'built environment'. They have learnt some great skills, not only in technique, but also in mounting and presenting their artworks for the gallery space. We are very proud of their accomplishments. Year 9 and 10 are finishing off an incredible year with hand painted ceramic tiles and ceramic Christmas trees.

And finally, our Stage PDM students had the opportunity to engage in a Photography Workshop with local photographer, Jim Picot. This workshop was organised by our Pathways & Partnerships Leader, Ms Bailey, and Jim generously shared his time and knowledge with the students about his 'Drone Photography'. Year 9 and 10 participated in a Q&A session with Jim, as he showed us his beautiful images of the Central Coast and around the world, and later they were fortunate to fly the Drone and take some great photos high above St Peter's and the Tuggerah area. The PDM students have also demonstrated their photographic skills in Studio Photography to create a Digital Folio of works for the recent assessment, 'Portraiture'.

We would like to congratulate all our students on their dedication to their learning and for ending the school year on such a creative high with their fabulous artworks and photographic imagery.

Merry Christmas!

Nicola Oram & Amanda Purnell
Visual Art Teachers



THE DANCE ROOM WAS A BUZZ WITH EXCITEMENT THIS YEAR

The dance room was a buzz with excitement this year. 2023 was the year we introduced dance to Year 7 and 8 for ILP, and our talented dancers in Stage 5 and Stage 6 flourished!

Our Year 12 students were lucky enough to have an incursion in the hall with Sydney Dance Company, where they learnt composition skills and some of the recent repertoire for Sydney Dance Company's performances at the Opera House and then go on to witness the performance live.

Year 11 were thrilled to watch Sydney Dance Company perform at their Walsh Bay headquarters in an intimate theatre of the round set up and scored front row tickets! All of our Stage 6 students were inspired and encouraged them to consider careers in the field of Dance after high school.

This year a couple of our HSC Dance students, Georgia-Rose and Amelia received two HSC Dance Callback nominations for their Major Works. Congratulations girls.

We also had a wonderful dance troupe that rehearsed Friday mornings at 7:30am-8:30am, they were phenomenal and showcased their talent every week and worked hard to compete on stage in competition against other studios.

We are very proud of the student's work ethic and commitment to learning in Dance for 2023 and we are looking forward to everything that 2024 will bring!

Wishing everyone a happy and holy festive season!

Sarah Heywood & Jaylah Nakhoul
Dance Teachers



EMBARKING ON THE ULTIMATE MARINE ODYSSEY: LADY ELLIOT ISLAND UNVEILED!

I'm buzzing with excitement as I sit down to share the incredible escapade we had on the pristine Lady Elliot Island from 30 November to 3 December. Hold onto your snorkels, because this is no ordinary field trip story - it's a geography adventure of epic proportions!

From the get-go, Lady Elliot Island had us spellbound with its azure waters and vibrant coral landscapes. But let me break down the highlights that turned this trip into the stuff of legends:

Manta Ray Extravaganza

Imagine being on a glass-bottom boat, minding your own business, and suddenly, BAM! Six manta rays decide it's time to party at the surface. It was like they heard we were in town and wanted to show off. We were so close; I half-expected them to ask for a selfie. Who knew mantas were such attention-seekers?

Turtle Power

Our Lady Elliot adventure turned into a real-life turtle love story as we witnessed several green turtles laying eggs in nests on the island. Nature unfolded before our eyes like a scripted drama, complete with tears (of joy) and applause (from us).

Shark Tale

Move over, Hollywood; Lady Elliot Island is the new stage for shark dramas. Black reef tip sharks glided through the coral like they were practicing for a synchronized swimming competition. No menacing Jaws music here - just sharks being their cool, chilled-out selves.

Fish Galore

Fish enthusiasts, rejoice! Lady Elliot Island was a piscatorial paradise. It was like attending a fish festival with schools of all shapes, sizes, and colours. I didn't know fish could be such trendsetters.

Sunset Serenity

As the sun dipped below the horizon, we gathered on the island to witness a sunset so breathtaking it felt like nature was showing off. The sky painted in hues of orange and pink, creating a watercolour masterpiece that brought a perfect close to our days.

Eco-Lessons

Beyond the mesmerizing marine life, our trip doubled as an environmental management crash course. We got an insider's look into environmental management and learned the ropes of how an eco-tourism resort operates. It turns out, being green is not just a trend; it's a lifestyle, and it's pretty cool.

I couldn't hit pause on this post without giving a massive shoutout to the incredible Hervey Bay Motel and Hervey Bay RSL for turning our trip into a comfortable and memorable experience. In a world where hospitality sometimes feels like a lost art, Hervey Bay Motel and Hervey Bay RSL have truly set a gold standard. They didn't just provide a place to sleep; they became integral parts of our adventure, leaving us with fond memories and a desire to return.

A heartfelt thank you from all of us for making our stay unforgettable. If hospitality were an Olympic sport, you both would have won gold!

Finally, a colossal round of applause is due to our fearless trio of teachers - Mrs O'Keeffe, Mrs Fortmann, and Mr Lynch. They weren't just teachers; they were marine biologists, life guards, medics, snorkel masters, stand-up comedians, tour guides extraordinaire and total legends. Their dedication and passion made this trip not only educational but downright hilarious at times.

In a nutshell, Lady Elliot Island was not just a trip; it was an odyssey into the heart of the Great Barrier Reef. I've got my fins ready for the next adventure - who's in?

Until the next plunge into the unknown

Richard Miles
Leader of Learning - HSIE



HOLIDAY SURVIVAL TIPS FOR YOUR TEEN

With holidays coming up soon, here are some tips to help your teen make the most of their break. Busy vs Bored – it's important for them to have a balance between busy so they don't get bored and having enough relaxation time so that they don't feel stressed. Also, your teen needs to get enough sleep, about 9 hours per night. Remember to use what has worked in the past to maintain a good sleep pattern. Physical activity – please remember the importance of physical activity for your teen's mood so make sure they plan some type of outdoor activity for 15 – 30 minutes per day e.g. walking, swimming, bike riding etc.

Outings and Activities – routine is important, even during holidays so make sure that your teen has a plan for a regular outing or an activity for each day or a week. These plans don't have to be great; they just need to be good enough.

Screen time – with leisure time available during the break, the number of hours your teen spends on their screen often increases without you or them noticing it. It is really important to encourage positive alternatives or get them to negotiate their limit to screen time. Connect with family – often during term times, our lives are so busy, and we struggle to have quality time with our teens. Use this opportunity to reconnect and restore your relationship with your teens.

Listed below are some of the contacts, should your teen (or you) need some additional help during holidays:

- Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 or www.kidshelp.com.au for free 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.
- Youth beyondblue – 1300 224 636 for free 24/7 support service
- Reachout – au.reachout.com
- Headspace – www.headspace.org.au or phone Gosford on 02 4304 7870, Wyong on 02 4394 9180 or Lake Haven on 02 4394 9100
- Mental Health Intake Line – 1800 011 511
- Lifeline – 13 11 14
- Suicide Callback Service (for ages 15 +) - 1300 659 467 provides immediate telephone counselling and support in a crisis, available 24/7
- 13 YARN (for all ages) - 13 92 76, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are going through a tough time and feel like having a yarn, available 24/7
- 1800RESPECT (for all ages) 1800 737 732 - support if you, or someone you know, is experiencing sexual assault or domestic and family violence, available 24/7
- Parent Helpline – 1300 1300 52, counselling service available between 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 4pm to 9pm on Saturday and Sunday (closed on public holidays)

We have also added two websites for parents to access as well.
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources>
'Downloadable resources to help you start the chat about online safety issues and strategies with your child.'
<https://www.parentline.org.au/parents-carers/> Heaps of great resources/factsheets to support parents or carers

RECOGNIZING SPORTING SUCCESS: ACHIEVEMENTS AT ST. PETERS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

As the school year comes to a close, we proudly reflect on the outstanding achievements of our representative sports teams at St. Peters Catholic College Tuggerah. The dedication and commitment of our student-athletes have illuminated the sporting arena, showcasing their prowess and teamwork.

In Touch Football, our 7/8 Girls secured 2nd place in Broken Bay and 3rd in Central Coast/Hunter All Schools and 6th place in the NSW State Finals, while our Open Girls claimed an impressive 3rd place in Broken Bay.

The Rugby League field saw triumphs across all age groups, with the 14 Boys emerging as champions in Broken Bay and earning a spot in the Northern NSW State Finals. The 14 Girls remained undefeated in Broken Bay, and our Open Girls reached the Grand Finals in Central Coast All Schools Competition.

Soccer enthusiasts witnessed the 13 Boys clinching 1st place in the Broken Bay Championships, while the 13 Girls showcased their skills as semi-finalists.

Aussie Rules Football dominated with the Junior Boys becoming Central Coast and Northern NSW Champions, qualifying for State Finals, and achieving Broken Bay Championships glory. The Junior Girls dominated as Broken Bay Champions and our Intermediate Boys & Girls both took away the Silver medal. The Senior Girls secured the Central Coast Championship and a remarkable 3rd place in the State.

In Oz Tag, the Junior Girls displayed their prowess, securing 2nd place in both Central Coast and NSW State Finals. Such an amazing campaign.

Our netball teams achieved commendable success - the Open Girls securing 3rd place in Broken Bay, the 13 Girls claiming the top spot in Broken Bay, and the 7/8 Girls triumphing as Central Coast 1st with Northern NSW qualifications.

This year has been a testament to the hard work and passion of our student-athletes, coaches, and the entire school community. As we bid farewell to 2023, we look forward to another exciting season of sports, where our students will continue to shine and bring glory to St. Peters Catholic College Tuggerah.

Next year we see the introduction to the NRL RISE program as one of two pilot schools in the nation, which I am extremely excited to be a part of.

Thank you for your unwavering support throughout the year. Here's to a future filled with more victories and shared successes!

Jacob Hawkins
External Sports Co-ordinator

Merry Christmas



PATHWAYS AND PARTNERSHIPS CHRONICLE: NURTURING CAREERS AND INSPIRING FUTURES

St Peters Pathways and Partnerships have experienced another successful year offering many events and opportunities that inspire, educate and help students have real life experiences with industry and career pathways that help them make decisions around subject selection, and what they would like to pursue after they finish at secondary college.

Over this term we have had many students engage in pathway events.

At the start of the term, we had 5 Year 10 Commerce students represent St Peters Catholic College at the **NORTH Challenge**. Competing against 6 other Central Coast Schools, they presented a well-informed solution to the housing crisis on the Central Coast after being offered real life experience with North Construction and their management. Although they were runners up this year, they made St Peters Catholic College so proud with their dedication and professional presentation.

Our Year 9/10 STEM students have been engaging in a **STEM Changemakers program** where they have learnt about design thinking over the past 6 weeks learning from industry professionals in the STEM industry.

The **TAFE Taster days** were offered to all stage 5 students who were interested in pursuing a career in Early Childhood, Hair and Beauty, Fitness, Automotive and Hospitality. We have up to 15 students attend each of these TAFE Taster Days where they learnt what a day in the life is like working in these industries and all the pathways available.

Math is Life - Year 7 & 9 students enjoyed listening to guest speakers discuss real life experiences and how they utilise math every day in their professions. They were offered presentations and an interactive session to understand how important the foundation of what they are learning in class will benefit them throughout their lives. The 'Math is Life event' gave students the opportunity to hear from industry professionals demonstrate how math is used in everyday life whether students pursue a career in Trades – VET Pathways, Engineering – University Pathways, Food industry, financial literacy and everyday life.

Our Year 9/10 Commerce students were offered a program from **Seven Mile – Enterprise in the**

community. This program offered students real life business problems where they learnt how to deepen their learning and presentation skills through utilising AI. Students were all given the opportunity to present in teams. One team was selected to represent St Peters Catholic College at CSBB and compete against other Diocese of Broken Bay colleges. This was a great experience for our students to grow and learn from these pathway opportunities.

Year 11/12 – **University of Newcastle** have started the sessions on the lead up to their last senior year and demonstrating the many opportunities that wait for our students once graduating at the end of Year 12.

We have finished off the year with **MUSIC MONTH**. Over the past 4 weeks, we have been lucky to welcome some amazing musicians and talent.

We ran a vocal workshop for Stage 5 from **Liam Burrows**. Liam was first found on Australia's got talent where he was a runner up in the grand finale. Liam has continued his music career and is a well-respected Jazz Musician. This interactive workshop showcased how to build confidence whilst performing and understanding the music industry. Liam offered our talented music students the opportunity to perform and gave all students such wonderful feedback to help their growth as musicians.

The 2nd workshop for Year 8 ILP Band – **MMAD – Musicians making a difference**. We had 2 very talented rap artists – Mirrah and beatboxer/looper – The Joel Turner run a workshop on how to create lyrics and perform. This interactive music workshop saw Year 8 create lyrics and a song through powerful use of words. The whole school were lucky to receive a performance at lunchtime from Mirrah and Joel. Students were dancing and enjoying the beats.

Our 3rd workshop by **Chris Koelma – Electronic music workshop**. This workshop was offered to Year 7 ILP Band, stage 5 music and Stage 6 students. All students used the equipment to create their own music through an interactive music workshop.

We will finish off **MUSIC MONTH** with a special guest performance from Sunsoli at lunchtime for all students next Monday 11th December and a mufti day. Students are asked to donate a gold coin. We will be giving all proceedings to Mary Mac charity.

This year has been a wonderful time in Pathways watching students learn, grow, finding their passions and learning about what industries spark their interest.

Kylie Bailey
Pathways and Partnerships



SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS ALERT! 🎉

Cowan & Lewis

Get ready for the new school term!

The uniform shop is open to serve you during the holidays with extended trading hours:

Holiday Trading Dates & Times:

Monday 15 January to Thursday 25 January
(Closed Australia Day Public Holiday)
9.00am – 12.00pm

Planning ahead for when school resumes?
We've got you covered!

The shop will be open on:
Monday 29 January & Tuesday 30 January
9.00am to 12.00pm

Regular School Term Schedule
Commencing Wednesday 31 January:
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
8.00am – 9:30am

Don't miss out!
Get your school uniforms hassle-free and be ready for the academic year ahead.

Find us on campus at
St Peter's Catholic College
Located on the main driveway between the
Eastern and Western Carparks
or
contact us at www.cowanlewis.com.au

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES! IMPORTANT INFORMATION

On behalf of the entire College community, I extend a warm welcome to all of our new families at St. Peter's Catholic College. We are thrilled that you have chosen our institution for your child's educational journey.

Important Dates to Remember:

- **Digital Enablement Day:** Monday 29 January
- **Years 8-11 New Student Orientation:** Tuesday 30 January
- **First Day of School:** Thursday 1 February
- **New Student ID Photos:** Thursday 1 February

Digital Enablement Day - 29 January 2024

Families are reminded that the Digital Enablement Day will be held on Monday 29 January between 8.30am and 3.30pm. Families only need to be on campus for maximum 30 minutes. No booking is required and you just need to bring your child, their laptop and any Administrator passwords for the laptop.

Please note: families will have already received the instructions regarding setup of their child's device at home. If you have successfully setup your child's device (after 1st January) there is not need to attend the Digital Enablement Day.

Uniform Fittings for Year 7 2024

Cowan & Lewis are currently booking New Student Uniform Fittings via their website. Appointments are available Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, morning appointments are available from 8am to 9:20am and afternoons from 3:20pm to 5:00pm. To book head to the Cowan & Lewis website

Wishing you all a happy festive season and we look forward to starting school again with all our new faces in 2024!

Warm wishes

Linda Selfridge
Registrar

UPCOMING EVENTS @ ST PETER'S

Tuesday 12 December
Tuesday 12 December
Wednesday 13 December
Wednesday 13 December
Wednesday 13 December
Thursday 14 December

2024

Monday 29 January
Tuesday 30 January
Thursday 1 February
Friday 2 February
Monday 5 February
Monday 5 February
Friday 9 February
Wednesday 14 February
Tuesday 27 February
Tuesday 5 March
Wednesday 6 March
Monday 11 March
Wednesday 13 March
Wednesday 13 March

Years 7 to 10 End of Year Presentations
Stage 5 Drama Night
End of Year Mass
Walk & Talk-a-thon
Last Day of School for 2024
Year 12 2023 HSC Results Celebration & Morning Tea

Year 7 2024 & New Student BYOD Digital Enablement Day
Year 8 to 11 2024 New Student Orientation
All Students Return to School for 2024
Year 7 2024 PAT Testing
Year 7 2024 PAT Testing
Year 7 2024 Welcome BBQ
Opening School Mass & High Achievers Ceremony
Ash Wednesday
Year 7 2024 Belong Reflection Day
College Enrolment Open Evening
Swimming Carnival
Year 12 Retreat commences
Year 12 Retreat concludes
Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN commences

*It's never too late to
join the journey of
advent... as a family who
not use this guide to
enjoy the journey that
is the true meaning of
Christmas*

ADVENT

**A Christmas Discipleship Guide for
the Whole Family**

WHAT IS ADVENT?

Traditionally, the Advent season is a 4 week long period meant to prepare our hearts for Christmas Day - when we celebrate the birth of Jesus! Advent means "coming." Similar to those who awaited the arrival of the Messiah over 2,000 years ago, in this Advent season we await the celebration of Jesus' birth and anticipate His coming again one day.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

EACH WEEK WILL HAVE A FOCUS BIBLE PASSAGE TO READ, A DISCUSSION GUIDE THROUGH THE DOMAINS, AND AN ACTIVITY. USE THE CALENDAR ON THE NEXT PAGE TO INTENTIONALLY PLAN YOUR TIME.

ONCE A WEEK

FIND THE BEST TIME THAT WORKS FOR YOU/YOUR FAMILY



MEAL TIME



BED TIME



MORNING TIME



DRIVE TIME

STARTING NOV 26



STEP 1 - READ THE PASSAGE



STEP 2 - DISCUSSION



STEP 3 - PRAY



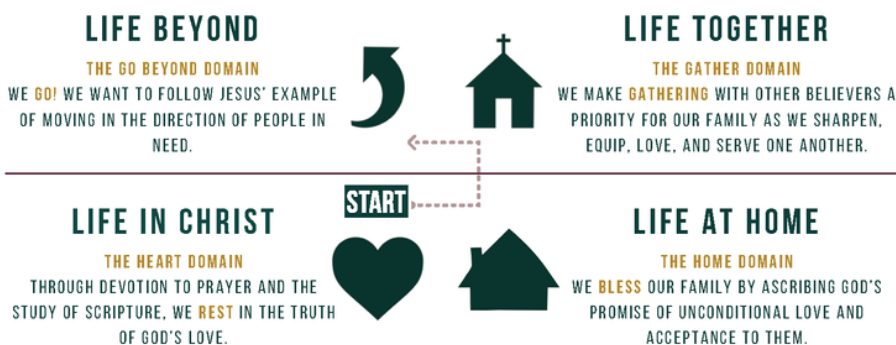
STEP 4 - ACTIVITY

ABOUT THE 4 DOMAINS

There are endless ways to use this discipleship guide but the hope is that you would use it to continue to seek true fulfillment in Jesus Christ, starting in your own heart and home this Christmas season. The guide can be used individually or with your family to spark gospel centered family discipleship.

The four domains of the Christian life are designed to help believers experience true fulfillment in Jesus Christ. We "START WITH THE HEART" - our personal relationship with Jesus. If we are experiencing true fulfillment in our heart domain we see the habit of RESTING in the truth of God's

DOMAINS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



love. Next, the Home Domain reflects true fulfillment in Jesus through BLESSING those in our home and family. Then if we are experiencing true fulfillment in Jesus in the Gather Domain, we prioritize GATHERING with a community of believers. Lastly, the Go Beyond Domain expresses true fulfillment in Jesus through the GOING OUT and sharing His love with others. The focus of the next four weeks will be to examine the themes of Advent through the domains of our lives.

WEEK 1: BEHOLD THE PROMISES

GRAB YOUR BIBLE

READ: Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 The dominion will be vast, and its prosperity will never end. He will reign on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish and sustain it with justice and righteousness from now on and forever. The zeal of the Lord of Armies will accomplish this.

This passage points to hope, promise, and anticipation. It speaks of a Messiah who would bring light, peace, and justice to a world in darkness. For Christians, it is a central text that points to the birth and mission of Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of this prophetic promise. His birth, life, and ministry are often seen as the embodiment of the "great light" and the fulfillment of the titles given in verse six. Reflect on the questions on the next page.



ACTIVITY

Light a Candle & Reflect

Take time with family or friends to sit down and set a new pace for this Advent Season. Commit to scheduling time together to be intentional about reflecting on God's goodness and peace through the gift of his son, Jesus. Celebrate and give thanks and praise to God.

WEEK 2: BEHOLD THE MIRACLE

GRAB YOUR BIBLE

READ: Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was deeply troubled by this statement, wondering what kind of greeting this could be. 30 Then the angel told her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Now listen: You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end." 34 Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?" 35 The angel replied to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 And consider your relative Elizabeth—even she has conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called childless. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 "Behold, I am the Lord's servant," said Mary. "May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

This passage marks the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary, delivering the astounding news of God's plan for her to bear the Savior, Jesus. Mary's response, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word," demonstrates her humble and obedient heart. It represents a profound moment of surrender to God's divine will and highlights the promise of Jesus' birth as a pivotal moment in human history. Reflect on the next page.



ACTIVITY

The Names of Jesus

Turn to the back page of the booklet to find the Names of Jesus Word Search. As a family, grab different colored pens or highlighters to see who can find the most names.

WEEK 3: BEHOLD THE CHILD

GRAB YOUR BIBLE

READ: Luke 2:1-20

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole empire should be registered. 2 This first registration took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. 3 So everyone went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family line of David, 5 to be registered along with Mary, who was engaged to him and was pregnant. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 Then she gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. 8 In the same region, shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: 11 Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped tightly in cloth and lying in a manger." 13 Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: 14 Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people he favors! 15 When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 They hurried off and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger. 17 After seeing them, they reported the message they were told about this child. 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary was treasuring up all these things in her heart and meditating on them. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard, which were just as they had been told.

This passage narrates Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem for the census, culminating in the humble birth of Jesus in a manger. Despite their challenging circumstances, this event fulfills Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah's birthplace. It serves as a poignant reminder that God often works through the ordinary and the unexpected to fulfill His divine purposes. Reflect on the next page.



ACTIVITY

Create a Names of Jesus Garland

- Cut 1 by 10 in (2.5 by 25.4 cm) strips from colorful pieces of paper.
- Choose several names of Jesus from the word search activity & write one name on each strip.
- Attach the ends of one strip, then glue them together in a loop.
- Slide another strip through the first loop, then glue the ends together.
- Keep adding loops each day & talk about the names of Jesus as you do.

WEEK 4: BEHOLD THE GIFT

GRAB YOUR BIBLE

READ: Matthew 2:1-12

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, wise men from the east arrived in Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star at its rising and have come to worship him." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 So he assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people and asked them where the Messiah would be born. 5 "In Bethlehem of Judea," they told him, "because this is what was written by the prophet: 6 And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah: Because out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." 7 Then Herod secretly summoned the wise men and asked them the exact time the star appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report back to me so that I too can go and worship him." 9 After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was—the star they had seen at its rising. It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route.

In this passage, we encounter the Wise Men who traveled from afar following the star to worship Jesus. Their journey symbolizes a quest for truth and meaning. The Wise Men's worship and their symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh illustrate their recognition of Jesus as the King, High Priest, and Savior. Reflect on the next page.



ACTIVITY

THANK YOU NOTES

Giving and receiving gifts on Christmas is a blessing. One of the best ways to say thank you is with a written note. Take some time this week to write out thank you notes for all your blessings this Christmas.