

"Prima Primum" - First Things First

Darley Road Manly NSW 2095

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Email: stpauls@dbb.catholic.edu.au Phone: 02 9977 5111



19 February 2021

PRAYER

In his Pastoral Letter to the people of Broken Bay, Bishop Anthony reminds us that we have been given to the care of the Holy Spirit; God always present with us. If we encounter difficulty or we become discouraged in life, God' Holy Spirit is there to support, to lift us up, and to strengthen us. In his letter to the Philippians, our patron St Paul encouraged the early Church proclaiming, I can do all things through God who strengthens me (4:13).

As we enter into these first days of Lent, a period in which we are called to reassess and to realign ourselves with the values we profess, let us call on the Spirit to guide us.

Come Holy Spirit and fill our hearts. Rekindle in us the faith that draws us closer to God and closer to one another. Help us to live more simply, more generously, and with thanks for the many graces that God has given us, throughout Lent and throughout our lives.

St Paul, pray for us. Blessed Edmund Rice, pray for us. Live Jesus in our Hearts, forever.

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

In every school the one thing that unites the Parents, the Teaching Staff, and the wider community is that we all want what is best for the young men in our care. It is for this reason that we, the adults in their lives, place sensible boundaries around them. Because at this stage of their development, establishing boundaries and foreseeing consequences is not **yet** one of their strengths. Experts in brain science will tell you that the process of making and pruning connections in the synapses at the front of the brain takes time and is uneven. Parents will tell you that at times, understanding teenage behaviour is easier if you take ten years off your son's age (but only sometimes).

Many is the time I've spoken with an exhausted Mum at the school gate, only to be asked, "What has happened to my beautiful boy?" The answer is that he is in the process of becoming a magnificent man. But it can be like walking into a strong wind; at times he'll be pushed backwards, at other times there'll be a break in the wind, and he'll surge forwards. Importantly, our role is to be at their back the whole time.

As a very experienced student wellbeing expert and school Counsellor once said to me when I was particularly frustrated with one of my own sons, "The world is full of people and situations that will knock your son around, and even knock him down. He'll hear plenty of criticism. Your job is to be the one, constant, hopeful influence in his life. To believe in him so he will believe in himself."

At St Paul's we will continue to hold high expectations of your sons, of their learning, of their day to day relationships, of their uniform and grooming, and of their travel to and from school. And all because we believe in them, and that they are on the way to becoming something even better. Thank you for your support and upholding the same high standards.

One of the best ways for any student to deepen their learning is to teach what they have learned to someone else. In education, this is known as reciprocal teaching. After benefitting from their own first class Religious Education at St Paul's, a group of nine students from Year 10 have put their hands up to deepen their understanding of the faith and traditions of the Church by ministering as Catechists at Harbord Public School in 2021.

"For the pastoral activity of the Church to succeed the cooperation of a great many people is needed," explained Ms Toni Walsh, Catechist Coordinator for Manly Freshwater Parish. These young men will pass on to Year 6 students at Harbord their experience of what it means to live generously and be open about their faith.



Ashley Steele, Ben McSorley, Max Keen, Harry Larcos, Joshua Goel, Ash Leonard, Lee Rogers, Robbie Pocock and Michael Feledy were blessed by Fr John at a Commissioning Mass held at St John the Baptist Freshwater. Working in teams of three and assisting adult volunteers from Manly Freshwater, the students begin their service to the Church and the Parish community this week. Another great example of the variety of gifts and generosity that St Paul's students bring to our wider community.

God bless.

Mr Michael Reid College Principal

COLLEGE CALENDAR 2021

For 2021 school dates please refer to the Google Calendar Please check out the College on Social Media on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscatholiccollegemanly

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Next week the College has two big events happening that all the community will be involved in in some way. Firstly, we have the Year 3 Day – this is when the boys who are in the Year 3 classes at our Peninsula Catholic Primary Schools come to high school for a day. They will experience three classes throughout the day and work with some of our Year 8 and Year 10 students.

The second event is our Open Day Expo this is a showcase of who we are and what we do. Many of the boys will be involved in the event working with specific Key Learning Areas or Hospitality or in the Music performances. There is an expectation that every student will give an hour of his time on Wednesday afternoon between 4pm and 7pm, involved and engaged with their community. Teachers will have been asking your son to be involved and I thank you in advance for your support of this event.

All parents should now be accessing Compass for all messages relating to your son's daily activities. This may include permission notes for an excursion, (consent can be given via Compass and payment for sporting events must still be made via QKR), information relating to events happening at the school and merits (or demerits) that your son has earned. These are just a few of the functions of Compass; if you do not have access to Compass or not sure how to access information please contact the College on 9977 5111. Your son also has

access to Compass and he is encouraged to check it each day for changes in the daily schedule and daily notices.

Ms Karen Shawcross Assistant Principal

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A lot has been happening at the start of the year. Ash Wednesday has been the high point with a beautiful Liturgy led by our student leaders: Year 11 PC2, Luca Bombardier (Year 7), Jasper Wish (Year 8), Declan Myrden (Year 9), Ash Steele (Year 10) and the Band, in particular Sam Smythe and Alex Newson.





Tuesday was a day to eat pancakes. Again, the Year 10 students were a fantastic help and have earned themselves service hours! It was so successful that for the first time in 13 years we ran out! A second run had to be organised for lunch time.





For the past week, the Year 8 RE classes have been competing in the Amazing Race to complete tasks that will unlock areas of study for their current unit, "The Life and Times of Jesus".







With the upcoming Year 3 visits and the Open Day Expo there are plenty of opportunities for students to commit to some service hours. One group that will be fulfilling a large amount of their expected hours are the boys in Year 10 who have been commissioned as Catechists to help at Harbord Public School.



Next week marks the start of the celebrations to mark 200 years of Catholic education in Australia. The boys will be given special prayer cards. We will be using them every day next week in Pastoral Care but expect them home by the Friday to put on the fridge.



Mr Steven Callow
Director of Religious Education

DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Last Monday evening the College Principal, Mr Reid and I had the honour of presenting Nicholas Taylor, Class of 2020, as the St Paul's Catholic College nominee for the Freshwater Community Bank Branch Student of the Year Scholarship. This scholarship recognises not just a strong academic achiever, but also a student who has made a contribution within his own school and local community.

It was humbling being in the presence of some amazing young people from lower peninsular secondary schools, who have managed to successfully complete the Higher School Certificate with not just 95+ ATARs, but also have given to their own communities in extraordinary ways. While not the recipient of the major award of \$15,000 towards tertiary education, Nick held his own among strong competition, and received \$2,000 towards his tertiary study.

When reflecting on Nick's application to his study and extra-curricular activities the overarching strategy was balance. In making the most of the opportunities that secondary school provides, our students need to balance their academic, sporting, and social lives. This helps them maintain focus on what is important, providing enough variety so that interest is maintained in all aspects of their lives. I encourage parents to help their sons set goals not just for their academic progress, but for their extra-curricular and social agenda as well. This will support each young man become a well-educated and well-rounded young man prepared to take on the challenges that life presents.

Mrs Trish McGregor
Director of Teaching and Learning

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELLBEING FOR LEARNING

Who do I contact?

Your first port of call for any matter relating to your son is his Pastoral Care Teacher whom he meets with each day. If there are any issues that you are concerned about and would like us to be aware of please contact your son's PC Teacher and they will inform me and his Teachers.

If you have concerns about a specific subject area where your son may be having difficulties, or if he needs further encouragement, you may communicate with his specific class subject Teacher. The individual Teacher's email address can be accessed through Compass.

ETIQUETTE & REPUTATION Behaviour and Name

The student body was addressed during Assembly by Student Leaders about how an individual's actions (behaviour) reflects their reputation (name). They also articulated how one student's actions (behaviour) in public reflects their reputation (name) as they have an identifiable commonality: they attend St Paul's Catholic College, Manly.

This year we strive for our students to develop a greater awareness not just of self but of others as well. This Term we focus on student actions whilst on public transport, in particular their etiquette.

Students must be reminded of the following:

- Do not push or shove other people
- Do not put your feet on the seats
- Do not bully or harass other passengers
- Make room for people getting on or off
- Cover your mouth when you cough and sneeze
- Speak quietly when on the phone or talking with friends
- Do not leave rubbish on the bus, or at bus stops or interchanges
- Remain in your seat do not move around the bus unnecessarily
- Use headphones with mobile devices and keep the volume down
- Obey reasonable directions from the driver (e.g. where to sit or to remain in the bus)
- Keep bags and other items clear of the aisle and do not allow these to block aisles
- Offer your seat to adults especially people with a disability, injury, elderly or expectant mothers (these seats are usually red in colour)
- Always tap on with your School Opal card when boarding the bus and always tap off when leaving the bus

Discussing your expectations of your son whilst traveling to and from school will assist in his development into a young man who actively demonstrates care, concern and respect for others and allows him to increase his independence in relation to responsibility. Encouraging your son to take responsibility and be accountable for his actions and inactions (not speaking up), is something that both home and school share.

Further information related to student travel on public transport can be accessed here:

About School Transport Travel Scheme

Student Codes of Conduct when travelling

We would appreciate your support in encouraging your son to label his belongings, especially all items of his College Uniform and classroom items such as his pencil case.



Ms Angela Bowland
Director of Student Wellbeing for Learning

COLLEGE COUNSELLOR

Parents and Teachers influence children most during their first twelve years of life. We have less influence over teens as they become increasingly independent and look to their peers for guidance and approval.

The following article will help ensure that you have a positive influence on children at any age:

Mrs Mary Thomas School Counsellor

CAREERS

For comprehensive careers information please visit St Paul's Careers on our website at link below where you can find a calendar of careers based events along with information on the different pathways available to your son during and after school.

http://stpaulsmanlycareers.com/

For our Careers Newsletter please click on this link:

http://stpaulsmanlycareers.com/?page=newsletter

To subscribe to our careers email alerts of further and higher education provider open days and events, please follow the link below:

https://stpaulsmanlycareers.com/?page=calendar-of-events

Mr Dale Casburn Leader of Post school Options

COLLEGE NOTICEBOARD



YOUTH MINISTRY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

Praisefest

Manly Freshwater Parish invites all young people to PRAISEFEST (Online)

Meet young people from the Parish and across the Diocese as we gather, participate in community and break open the good news in a new and fresh way.

We will be welcoming a very special guest speaker and, not to mention, some fun and creative segments we will be doing in this online environment.

So make sure you join us down at the Parish Centre!

Date: Friday 19 February **Time:** 6:00pm to 8:00pm

 $\textbf{Venue:} \ \mathsf{Zoom} \ \mathsf{Meeting} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{Live} \ \mathsf{Stream} \ (\mathsf{Link} \ \mathsf{to} \ \mathsf{follow} \ \mathsf{on} \ \mathsf{CYBB}$

official event)

PROJECT COMPASSION 2021 - "BE MORE"



This week began with raising over \$450.00 for Shrove Tuesday with the help of some amazing Year 10 students. The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion

Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression, and injustice.

We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving by supporting Project Compassion. Saint Oscar Romero is our inspiration for Project Compassion 2021, so in his words let's "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."

Ms Joanne Kalayzich Youth Ministry Coordinator

JAPANESE

Year 9

A Valentine's Day surprise! Year 9 students of Japanese were treated to some origami hearts and chocolates from a local girl's school. This part of Valentine's Day traditions in Japan where only boys receive chocolates from girls. Our St Paul's

boys will have to return the favour threefold for the girls on March 14th known as White Day.

We have also been learning about shodo (calligraphy) this week. This is a compulsory subject for students in Japan. We practiced the Kanji for 'like' and 'really liked as well as students' names. These were timely Kanji for Valentine's Day!

Well done everyone!







Year 8

St Paul's Year 8 students have just embarked on their learning of Japanese: writing their names, using greetings and, in preparation for yesterday, learning about Valentine's Day. If we were in Japan, only the boys would receive gifts - usually chocolate or cookies. One month later, on "White Day", they would have to return the favour. We prepared by making origami hearts and enjoying a treat.







Mrs Amanda Kibby Leader of Learning languages

SPORT

On Tuesday 16th February the Open Touch Football team had a successful Gala Day reaching the final against St Edward's College, East Gosford. The side played their best game in the semi-final beating St Augustine's College, Brookvale in an exciting game.



The U15 Touch Football team also had a successful day reaching the semi-final. They finished second in their pool, beat

St Peter's College, Tuggerah in the quarter-final, and then lost to the winner of the day St Augustine's in the semi-final.



Standouts for the sides were Blake Long for the Opens team and Zane Monahan for the U15 team.

Water Safety Course

From Week 4 until Week 10 in Term 1 our Year 7 students will be participating in a Surf Survival Program on a Thursday afternoon between 2:00pm and 3:00pm at Manly Beach. Learning skills to be proficient in the ocean helps save lives. Please remember to bring a towel.

Please complete the below waiver form. When asked to enter the Teacher's email, please use timothy.emmerson@dbb.catholic.edu.au.

https://www.seaaustralia.com.au/school-waiver-form

Thursday Sport

Please find below arrangements for Thursday Sport in Term 1:

Year 9 and Year 10 sport selections are displayed at the Sports Office.

NSWCCC Sport Registrations

NSWCCC Sport Registrations 2021 for pathway sports open on 1st February

Registrations are via the CSNSW.sport portal. For instructions on how to register go to –

Guide For Parents – Sport Registrations >>

Term 1 Individual Nominations Sport Registrations:

- Tennis Closes 22 February
- Baseball Closes 26 February
- Golf Closes 25 February
- Volleyball Closes 5 March
- Water Polo Closes 11 March
- Hockey Closes 15 March
- Diving Closes 19 March

Swimming and Touch Football registrations are through the Diocesan/Association pathways.

For further information, go to the CSNSW Sport website Sport pages.

All sport enquiries, please contact me at timothy.emmerson@dbb.catholic.edu.au

BBSSSA Sport Link

Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sport Association link:

https://www.brokenbaysport.org.au/secondary

Mr Tim Emmerson Leader of Sport

HOMEWORK CLUB

The Homework Club is run after school each Monday and will be held in classroom S22 until 4.30pm. Students are welcome to bring any work that they may need assistance with.

Mr Ben Arthurs Leader of Diverse Learning

2021 PHOTOGRAPH AND VIDEO PERMISSION FORM

Dear Parent of Year 8 to Year 12 students,

We seek your consent to make photographs and videos of your son for College promotions and marketing each year. These photos and videos may be available to the public and include photographs and videos of your child in our College Newsletter and on our College intranet.

Please read the Standard Collection Notice for further information:

Please complete and sign this 2021 Photograph and Video Permission Form for each of your sons and return to our College Reception or email to the College at stpauls@dbb.catholic.edu.au (if your son is 15 years old and over, he must also sign the form please) by Tuesday 23rd February, 2021.

Mr Frank van Bokhoven Business Manager

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property is located at the College Reception in the Cardinal's Palace. If your son is missing any item(s) please ask him to check with the College Receptionist to determine whether it may have been handed in.

Please label your son's uniform items. Uniforms are expensive and when they have no identification, we cannot return them to the owner.

If your son has outgrown his school uniform please consider donating any item, particularly senior uniform grey shorts, trousers and blazers – this has proven to be a very helpful solution to many boys experiencing wardrobe 'malfunctions' during the course of the school day and is a great way to recycle and reduce landfill.

The College ties are always very welcome as these are often misplaced by the boys.

PARENT LIAISON GROUP

If you are interested in being more involved with St Paul's and the Parent Liaison Group, you are very welcome. If you have any feedback or questions, please feel free to email us at plgspcc@gmail.com

Mrs Michal Brenchley and Mrs Leisa Cannon Parent Liaison Group

CANTEEN

As well as cash, the online Flexischools ordering and payment service will be available for ordering in 2021.

To register, please follow the instructions available at the following Url,

http://www.flexischools.com.au/

Cut off time for lunch orders via Flexischools is 9:30am

EFTPOS is available.

We welcome new ideas and initiatives and work hard to accommodate requests.

Special dietary requirements are available on request: gluten free, dairy free, halal, vegetarian, vegan, and nut free can be catered for.

Tania and Teresa Yummy Bears Kiosk

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms may be purchased from Pickles at 43 Carter Street, Brookvale. Phone number 9905 2711

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you following us on social media? Important communication will continue to be emailed, posted, and placed in the newsletter but social media is another way to keep up to date with the happenings here at St Paul's.

FACEBOOK: @stpaulscatholiccollegemanly

INSTAGRAM: spcc_manly

If you have concerns about your son appearing on social media, please alert the College immediately.

BROKEN BAY NEWS

Broken Bay News monthly publications are available via this link:

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/broken-bay-news/broken-bay-news-editions

PLEASE BOOKMARK THESE LINKS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

College Website: Enrolments email Student achievements email: www.stpaulsmanly.nsw.edu.au enrolments@dbb.catholic.edu.au stpauls@dbb.catholic.edu.au