



# JOEY'S JOURNAL

Russell Drysdale Street, PO Box 4041, East Gosford, NSW, 2250  
Phone: (02) 4324 4022; Fax: (02) 4323 3512; Email: [sjcc@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjcc@dbb.catholic.edu.au)  
Website: [www.sjcc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sjcc.nsw.edu.au)

## Calendar Dates

### October

- 20 Yr 7 Vaccinations (HPV3)
- 21 BBSSA Tennis @ Australian Tennis Academy @ Oxford Falls
- 22 Yr 12 2015 Info Evening  
Yr 9 Music Day Excursion
- 24 Yrs 7-10 Interruption Free Week
- 31 BBSSA St Augustine's Biathlon @ Shelly Bch, Manly

### November

- 5 Water Polo @ Warringah Aquatic Centre French's Forest
- 12 Yr 12 Grad Dinner
- 14 Yr 7 Geography Excursion Shortland Wetlands Centre
- 18 Connected Learning Expo evening
- 19 Yr 10 French Immersion Exc.
- 20 Yr 7 2015 Parent Information Evening
- 21 Softball Trials @ St Ives Village Green
- 25 Year 7 2015 Uniform Shop Lawn Bowls Invitational @ Mona Vale Bowling Club
- 26 Yr 7 2015 Uniform Shop  
Yr 10 Commerce Exc – Parliament Visit

### December

- 2 Yr 10 Canberra Trip

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## A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October we will celebrate in our Parishes as a Catholic community, 'World Mission Day'. World Mission Day is celebrated every year in every country wherever there are Catholics committed to building a better world for all of God's people. It is the day on which we reflect on the urgency to proclaim the Gospel in our times.

"World Mission Day is a privileged moment when the faithful of various continents engage in prayer and concrete gestures of solidarity in support of the young Churches in mission lands. It is a celebration of grace and joy. A celebration of grace, because the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, offers wisdom and strength to those who are obedient to his action. A celebration of joy, because Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, sent to evangelise the world, supports and accompanies our missionary efforts." wrote Pope Francis.

World Mission Day will be celebrated by the Catholic schools in the Broken Bay Diocese at the Mission Mass on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. St Joseph's, along with all other schools in the Diocese, will be represented by a small group of students and teachers.

### Year 12 HSC Examinations

The Year 12 HSC examinations commenced for 2014 on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> October. By now all students have completed their two English papers, along with a variety of other examinations. We wish all of our Year 12's all the very best for their remaining exams and hope that their efforts throughout this year are rewarded with some excellent results in these final examinations. The exams continue for the next 3 weeks. I remind the rest of the school community that they can support our Year 12's over the next three weeks by praying for their success and by being considerate towards them by keeping noise levels down around the examination area. The HSC exams run throughout recess, lunch and after school, so being mindful of keeping noise down at these times will help the Year 12's to maintain concentration throughout their exams.

### Year 12 Farewell Assembly

On the last Thursday of Term 3 the whole school community had the opportunity to farewell our Year 12 students with a final farewell assembly. It was an extremely fitting farewell for our Year 12's, made more so by the wonderful way in which the students in Years 7 – 11 responded to the occasion. The behaviour of all of the students, along with the respect and appreciation they showed to our Year 12's ensured that it was a very memorable farewell for them.

Our other Year 12 farewell ceremonies, the BBQ breakfast, the Year 12 Graduation Mass and the Year 12 Awards Evening were also extremely successful and combined to form a fitting end to their formal education at the college.

### Diocesan Parent Council Evening

The Diocesan Parent Council (DPC) are recognising our vibrant diocesan parent

community with an end-of-year celebration with the brilliant international Keynote speaker, writer & consultant Dan Haesler.

*Often all our focus is on our children's wellbeing – but what about our own?* On Monday 27 October, Dan will be presenting on the issues around personal wellbeing. Citing research from the field of Positive Psychology, Dan will encourage you to think about yourself for a change! An entertaining and inspiring speaker, Dan will give some practical strategies that will boost your wellbeing almost immediately!

I recommend you give consideration to attending this free evening. It is being held at the Catholic Schools Office Pennant Hills. Your invitation with relevant information can be found later in the newsletter. All parents and carers are welcome and there is no cost. To assist with catering please RSVP via the DPC website [www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com](http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com)

God bless and best wishes for the fortnight ahead.

**Tony McCudden**  
Principal

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the final term of 2014 – exciting on one level because it is the term in which we celebrate many of the successes of the school year, yet frightening on another level because we have so much to do before Christmas in about ten weeks and we are another year older but hopefully wiser! The girls finished Term 3 in magnificent fashion with all the celebration and tears accompanying the departure of the wonderful class of 2014. The 'feel good' culture of the week flowed into a fantastic final day where we recognised R U OK Day. Students engaged with the theme of the day 'show you care for and care about each other' with such sincerity. They bought balloons with positive affirmations for their friends, shared cake, performed for each other and demonstrated the qualities that make we teachers and I'm sure you as parents very proud of 'our girls'.

### Some reminders please

#### 1. Bus pass

Students are issued with a bus pass for a specific bus. They are required to carry this pass at all times and produce it on demand as they board the bus. It is valid for the bus route for which it has been issued and is not transferrable. There have been some incidents recently where students have 'lent' their pass to a friend or used their pass to catch a different bus. Students may have their pass withdrawn by the bus company if they repeatedly breach these regulations.

#### 2. Summer Uniform

Term 4 is a summer term so students have returned in their summer uniform. We seek your assistance please to ensure that your daughter wears her uniform correctly and that she meets our expectations for hair, makeup and jewellery. The essential uniform standards include:

3. Skirt - the hem is to be 5 cm above the middle of the knee
4. Black leather lace-up shoes with a distinct heel and white socks
5. College jumper on those days when the temperature drops
6. Hair tied back; no coloured nail polish; very minimal jewellery
7. College backpack

If you have any questions or queries regarding correct uniform please contact your daughter's Year Leader at the college.

#### 3. Punctuality to school

Despite several reminders to the students and requests for parent support to ensure students arrived to school by 8.30am every day, lateness continues to be an issue. Late buses are unavoidable but lateness due to tardiness is unacceptable. It is unacceptable in the world of work including in the world of casual jobs and it is unacceptable in the world of learning. We ask that you ensure your daughter's transport arrangements are such that she arrives to school on time please. Senior students about to begin HSC courses have been reminded that they must be at school by 8.30am every morning or lose the privilege of leaving early when they have study periods after lunch.

#### School measles vaccination catch-up program 2015

NSW Health will be offering a single dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine to students in Years 11 and 12 in 2015. MMR vaccine will then be offered to students in Years 10 and 11 in 2016 and Year 10 only in 2017. This is in addition to the routine program offered to students in Year 7 involving human papillomavirus (HPV), diphtheria-tetanus-whooping cough (dTpa) and varicella (chicken pox) vaccines. There has been a significant increase in the number of measles cases in NSW in the past few years, with a large number occurring in adolescents and young adults. The MMR vaccine is very effective and two doses are usually given at 12 months and 4 years of age to provide life-long immunity. Teenagers and young adults are the group most likely to catch measles when it spreads in NSW because they may have missed their vaccinations

and/or the second dose was not recommended in the National Immunisation Schedule during their childhood. The school will contact parents early next year with the date on which the measles vaccine will be offered to our students in Years 11 and 12. Parents can read more about this program at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation) or by contacting your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055

I hope the next two weeks brings rewarding challenges for all!

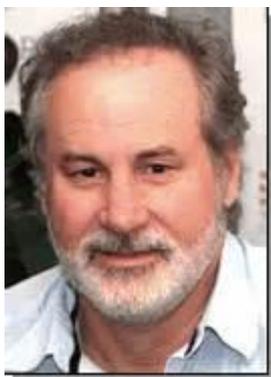
**Helen Love**  
**Acting Assistant Principal**

## FROM THE RE LEADER

### The Plight of Asylum Seekers

On Friday October 10 our Year 11 2 Unit Studies of Religion students were invited by St Edward's to hear an address by Phil Glendenning.

Phil spoke specifically about the shocking way Australia treats asylum seekers. He stated that at a meeting of the United Nations the previous week in Switzerland, he had felt extremely



embarrassed at being an Australian citizen. No other country in the world is so heartless when it comes to the pleas of these people who are escaping persecution in their own countries. He urged the students to be counter cultural and stand up for the rights of these helpless people.

Ways of doing this were to write to the local and federal members petitioning them to change our nation's stance on asylum seekers. Our students were visibly shocked at the truths Phil brought to light, and some students who hadn't an opinion on the topic felt stirred to protest.

*Phil is the director of the Edmund Rice Centre. He was also the founding National President for Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR) and remain on the Board and the author of the Australian Citizens Statement that is the basis for ANTaR's Sea of Hands. Phil has also just been elected to the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) Board. With a background in education, Third World development and political science, today he is primarily involved in peace and reconciliation work - especially with youth - in Australia, Northern Ireland, Israel and Palestine, Rwanda and Aboriginal Australia. Previously he was the national adult education and information officer of Caritas Australia.*

*Phil joined the Board of AJA shortly after it was created.*

**Nicole Harrison**  
**RE Leader**

## FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

The HSC examinations commenced on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October. The NSW HSC is a credential that is recognised by further education providers and employers as evidence of academic achievement and commitment. Best wishes Year 12 for the completion of the remainder of your written examinations.

### Year 12, 2015 information evening

Invitation letters were sent home earlier this term in relation to the HSC information evening on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** commencing at 7 pm in the Dewey Centre.

### Year's 7-10 yearly examinations

The yearly examination period for Years 7 - 10 begins on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Week 5. The girls will receive their yearly examination notifications and examination timetables in the next fortnight. All students should be clear on the content to be tested and be starting to organise their study preparation. The week prior to the examinations is assessment free and provides time for students to work with their teachers on examination preparation and revision.

For some students it can be difficult to stay positive and focussed as the examinations approach. It is important students do things to make themselves feel good and to reduce feelings of stress. If your daughter has any questions or concerns then she is advised to discuss them with her class teachers. Getting the right amount of sleep, exercising regularly as well as eating nutritional food (especially breakfast) will help her to feel good, be relaxed and concentrate on her studies.

To assist with study and revision please remember students can build their learning skills by working through any of the units of the online study skills resource located at <http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au/>. Our school's login details to [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) are:

Username: forsjconly  
Password: ggresults

### YEAR 7 Connected Learning Expo

Year 7 are putting the finishing touches to their final Connected Learning project for the year: WOW – *the wonder of water*. Each group will be presenting their WOW project at the Connected Learning Expo evening in Term 4. All families are invited to attend what promises to be a fabulous evening. Please note the following Expo date in your diaries:

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.**

## Saturday School of Community Languages

Applications are now open for courses at the Saturday School of Community Languages. Students interested in studying their background language can find information including application forms and centre locations at: <http://www.sscl.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

**Kathy West**

**Leader of Learning and Teaching**

## FROM THE LEADER OF MATHS

### Staff News

On behalf of the Maths faculty I would like to farewell Ms Emma Fenning who leaves this week to have her second child. Ms Fenning will be sorely missed by her students and by the Maths staff alike. She has been an invaluable asset to the Maths faculty and we appreciate her hard work and smiling face at school.

### ICAS Maths Results

Congratulations to all girls in Years 7 to 10 who entered the competition this year. The girls earned 2 Distinctions, 12 Credits and 2 Merits. Special congratulations to Molly F in Year 8 who won the Principal's award for the highest mark in the college, and to Danica E in Year 7 who also earned a Distinction.

### Year 12 HSC Exams

The Maths faculty would like to wish Year 12 the best of luck with their HSC examinations. The girls are reminded that help is available from the Maths staff should they need assistance in their preparation for next week's exams.

### Year 7 to 10 Exams

Students in Years 7 to 10 received their task notification in Week 2 for the yearly exam. This notification lists the topics that will be tested in the task. The girls will also receive some revision material to help them prepare for this exam. They are reminded to begin their revision early so that any areas in need of clarification can be identified and so that they can seek extra help from their teacher well before the exam date. Good luck to all girls with their yearly exam.

### Mathsonline

I would like to remind students to make good use of the Maths Online website ([mathsonline.com.au](http://mathsonline.com.au)) in preparation for these up-coming yearly exams. All girls will have received a login and password from their Mathematics teacher which will give them access at home and at school. The girls can come and see Mrs Hayes if they have forgotten their login or password.

### Maths Tutorials

Maths tutorials will continue after school this term until Week 9. A Mathematics teacher will be available each Wednesday between 3:00pm and 3:50pm in

Room 31 to help the girls with homework and to offer any assistance in their preparation for the yearly exams. Students are not required to stay for the whole time, but are reminded they are to arrange their own transport with parents when they have concluded their Maths session.

**Mrs Ruth Hayes**

**Leader of Maths**

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Connected Learning News.

In Year 7 Connected Learning lessons we aim to develop students' information literacy and research skills. In order to gain specific information about student progress in this area, students were surveyed about their approach to research and use of the school library. Students were surveyed twice: at the commencement of the *Wonder of Water* project (at the beginning of Term 2) and then again as the project neared completion (at the end of Term 3). Students were asked the same set of questions to discern if there have been any changes in their research habits as a result of information literacy skills learned during Connected Learning lessons.

There were some interesting changes. There was a rise in the number of students who reported using both the Internet *and* the school library for research, and a drop in the number of students who used the Internet only. In the second survey, there was a small drop in the number of students choosing Google as their favourite search engine. There was an increase in students who reported using the college library's online resources, such as the library catalogue *Destiny*, and the library website *LibGuides*. There was also a significant increase in the number of students who reported knowing the log ins to online library resources. Additionally, in the second survey a higher proportion of students indicated that they knew how to locate a book in the library.

There was little difference in students' opinions about the quality of Wikipedia, with the majority of students rating its accuracy and reliability as average or poor in both surveys. There was, however, a small rise in the number of students who rated the quality of World Book Online Encyclopaedia as excellent or very good. The survey revealed that fundamental changes in research practice have occurred and that students develop specific research skills during Connected Learning lessons. This is a solid foundation for further development in the area of information literacy as the girls move into Year 8 studies.

The complete survey and results have been emailed to all parents/carers of Year 7 students.

**Karen Powers**  
**Teacher Librarian**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### BLESSING OF HSC CANDIDATES

St Patrick's Parish is praying for all HSC candidates, and wishes them great success. If you would like to receive a blessing for spiritual strength during your HSC exams, please come along to any of our Masses (6pm Vigil, 7.30am, 9am & 6pm Youth Mass] this coming weekend, October 18/19.)

St Patrick's Parish, 76 York Street, East Gosford.  
Phone: 4325 1042. Email: [patsgos@acs.net.au](mailto:patsgos@acs.net.au)

# Celebrating Our Diocesan Parent Community

The Diocesan Parent Council is pleased to present ...

International keynote speaker, writer & consultant

## Dan Haesler

Throughout the year, the DPC presents seminars to support families in their parenting role, *this evening is for YOU*. Dan's talk will focus on the issues around personal wellbeing. Citing research from the field of *Positive Psychology*, Dan will encourage you to think about yourself for a change!

*Entertaining and informative*, Dan will give some *practical strategies* that will boost your wellbeing almost immediately!

*"powerful and genuinely engaging"*

*"a gifted speaker"*

**Monday 27 October**

TIME: 6.30pm for finger food & drinks

7pm Guest speaker - Dan Haesler

VENUE: Diocese of Broken Bay Catholic Schools Office

423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills

RSVP: DPC Website [www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com](http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com)

8pm DPC Review of Year & AGM

Following Dan, the DPC invites you to stay for a snapshot of DPC events in 2014 and an opportunity to acknowledge your school and cluster DPC reps and invite new members for 2015.

# Diocesan Parent Council

Central Coast | North Shore | Peninsula

[www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com](http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com)

