



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
Website: www.sjcc.nsw.edu.au

Calendar Dates

November

- 14 Yr 7 Geography Excursion
Shortland Wetlands
Centre
- 18 Year 7 Connected
Learning Expo evening
- 19 Yr 10 French Immersion
Excursion
- 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 Excursion
-Parliament Visit
- 27 Year 7 Wet n Wild
Excursion

December

- 1 Yr 10 Canberra Trip
Surf Lifesaving Terrigal
Beach
- 2 Yr 10 Canberra Trip
- 3 Yr 10 Canberra Trip
- 11 Presentation Evening
-7pm
Final day for students

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A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

HSC Success

In a little over a month's time the final results of HSC will be revealed. The Year 12 cohort of 2014 has been a wonderful group of students and the celebration at their Graduation Ball on Wednesday night at Ettalong Beach War Memorial Club was a truly fitting way to farewell these young ladies.

As we await the results we have already had early acknowledgement of success with the major work in Visual Arts of Georgia U with her possible nomination for 'Art Express' a collection of the top HSC practical works for 2014. Congratulations go to Georgia and to her teacher Ms Nash for this wonderful achievement.

Staffing for 2015

It is with much pleasure that I welcome the following staff to positions at the college for 2015. Some of these positions come about with the movement of staff at the end of this year to other schools, while other positions are due to some increases in student numbers for 2015. Staff leaving at the end of this year includes Ms Alison Walsh to Tara Anglican School and Mr Kendall Perriam who is retiring from his permanent position.

The following positions are those known at present. Additional staff changes will be notified in our next newsletter.

- : Mrs Cathy Toby: permanent role as Leader of Student Wellbeing
- : Mr Kirk Mercer: permanent role as Leader of Administration
- : Mrs Michelle D'offay: permanent role as Leader of Management Systems
- : Ms Adriana Vladika: permanent role as Leader of Learning HSIE
- : Mrs Natalie O'Dell: permanent role as Mathematics Teacher
- : Mrs Samantha Andersen: permanent role as Japanese Teacher

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 Presentation Evening

The Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 presentation evening for 2014 will occur on Thursday evening, 11th December. On the evening we will acknowledge the students who have achieved excellence in their studies this year as well as showcase some of the wonderful talents of some of our students in the area of performing arts. We congratulate all girls who have achieved success in their studies this year and encourage all students to continue to work hard and to achieve their personal bests in all their endeavours. More information concerning this presentation evening will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Sports Presentation Assembly

The St Joseph's sports presentation assembly for 2014 will be held on Thursday, 20th November, to acknowledge and reward the students who have represented the college in sport during this year. It is continually pleasing to see so many girls give of their time and efforts to represent the college in the array of sports on offer. A number of students will receive special awards for their efforts in achieving representative honours at diocesan, state and national levels.

We congratulate all students who receive awards and encourage these students and others to be actively involved in representing the college again in 2015. Special thanks go to Mrs Northey, the college's PDHPE staff and the many teachers who have coached sporting teams at the college this year. Without their efforts students would not have the opportunity to participate in sporting competitions at the college.

Tony McCudden
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Six weeks down and only four to go! It is both frightening and exciting – frightening because of the many events we must fit into the calendar before the end of term and exciting because it ends with the long holiday and family gatherings to celebrate Christmas. Semester 2 examinations are done and teachers are finalising marks to write reports. We are getting ready to welcome our 2015 Year 7 students on orientation day in two weeks, finalising arrangements for the Year 10 Canberra trip and preparing for the annual presentation evening on December 11. The HSC is over for another year and Year 12 formal was our chance to farewell the class of 2014. The girls looked beautiful, spoke warmly and with humour and were very appreciative of the chance to catch up and say thank you.

Year 7, 2015 information evening

The information evening for parents of Year 7 2015 begins at 7pm in the Dewey Centre this Thursday November 20. Parents will meet Mr Matthews, Year Leader of Year 7 and the pastoral teachers and receive important information about student wellbeing, curriculum and the laptop devices students use to support their learning. The Assessment Handbook will be distributed and explained. We look forward to greeting as many parents as possible that evening.

Christmas toy appeal

Our annual Vinnie's Christmas appeal was launched early this week with each pastoral class presented with a basket to fill with toys for a particular age group – Year 7 to bring toys for girls aged 0-5, Year 8 toys for boys 0-5, Year 9 toys for girls 5-10, Year 10 for boys 5-10 and Year 11 a toy for a child under 10. We encourage the girls to donate a small unwrapped toy to the basket and brighten a child's Christmas. Pastoral classes will present their basket to a representative from St Vincent de Paul at our college assembly in early December.

Buses

The next four weeks will be especially stressful for the local bus companies as traffic volumes increase and student excitement levels increase in anticipation of the long summer break. It is timely to remind students that the bus companies and indeed the college,

expects all students to comply with their rules when travelling to and from school. Students must present their pass and use it for the direct journey between home and school. The pass cannot be used for other journeys such as to go to a friend's house or to go the Erina Fair. Please discuss this with your daughter to ensure that she is aware of the rules applying to school bus passes and that she understands how to use it correctly.

End of Term 4 – Years 7-11

The last day of formal lessons for all students is Thursday December 11, the same day as presentation evening. We expect all students to be at school every day until that date. Please remember that all absences from school must be received by the college within 7 days of the absence. Unexplained absences after that time remain on the student's record. We also remind parents to apply to the Principal in writing in advance of planned absences exceeding five days because legislation applying to all NSW schools requires parents to apply for an *Exemption from Attendance* from the Principal if more than five days leave is sought.

There is much to accomplish over the next few weeks as we gear up for the end of the year at school and prepare ourselves at home for the Christmas season. Much will be happening here in the absences of the girls. Major renovations of the bathrooms are planned and we will commence a program of classroom refurbishment by completing four classrooms as 'display rooms' and seek student and teacher feedback on suitability of colours and style for teaching and learning before progressively refurbishing all classrooms.

I wish you well as you juggle all your commitments.

Helen Love
Assistant Principal

FROM THE RE LEADER

Book of Remembrance

During the month of November we will be praying for the repose of the souls of loved ones. If you would like to add someone to the list, please have your daughter write their name in the Book of Remembrance on the altar in Shekinah.



Nicole Harrison
RE Leader

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Years 7 - 10

Term 4 has certainly been very busy and the Year 7 – 10 students are to be congratulated on their mature approach to the recent yearly examinations. Classes and learning will continue until the end of term so it is important that all girls are in class. The semester 2 reports for Years 7–10 will be posted to families toward the end of term. Parents may phone teachers to discuss their daughter's report in the final weeks of term.

Year 12, 2015

The next few weeks will be busy as the girls complete their first HSC assessment tasks. It is important the girls are familiar with the expectations of each task and mark on their calendars the due date. Planning in advance will reduce stress and give the opportunity to perform to a personal best.

Please remember that if you would like further information regarding the HSC including internal assessment, the written examinations and calculation of HSC marks then go to:

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/yourhsc>.

Year 10 Canberra Trip

The Year 10 Canberra trip is fast approaching. All permission notes and medical and dietary information should have been returned to Ms Nash last week. The students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture and democracy. The Australian government is contributing funding to partly offset the cost of the excursion through the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate. This has been factored into overall costing.

Year 7 Connected Learning Expo

The Connected Learning expo is Tuesday 18th November. Invitation letters have been sent home to Year 7 families. The evening commences at 6.30 pm. All our college community are welcome to come along and be amazed at the hard work and creativity of Year 7 as they present their projects.

Kathy West

Leader of Learning and Teaching

FROM THE LEADER OF HSIE

Semester 2 has proved to be a busy and enriching time for the students in their HSIE studies. The girls have again immersed themselves in a range of excursions which have helped to develop their HSIE knowledge and skills.



Our senior geography students had a fantastic year this year bringing their learning to life with their fieldwork. Year 11 Geography spent a morning on the dunes at North Entrance looking at how biophysical interactions impact on the nature of ecosystems. Year 12 Geography visited the city to examine the role of urban dynamics in the changes that are present around the CBD. They examined urban decay in Alexandria, looked at the impacts of the Green Square development and did a short case study on Pyrmont. In Term 3 Year 12 again travelled to the Hunter Valley to complete a case study on a productive activity. The students visited Tyrrell's winery as well as Tamburlaine to look at the processes involved in organic viticulture.

The Year 10 History excursion to the Rocks area and Opera House enhanced student understanding of the various areas of historical and cultural significance in Sydney. The Year 10 Geography excursion to local coastal beaches allowed students to put their field work skills into practice and gave them an improved understanding of the issues affecting our coastal beaches.





We also have a number of excursions and incursions to look forward to in the upcoming weeks. Year 7 will be attending an excursion to Shortland Wetlands Centre on the 14th of November to accompany the girls' current classwork on Biomes in Geography. Year 10 Commerce will visit the State Parliament of NSW on the 26th of November where they will have the opportunity to participate in role plays relating to parliament and house visits. And later in the term on the 4th of December, a solicitor from Legal Aid NSW will deliver a lecture to Year 12 Legal Studies students on young offenders. This issue is part of the student's core studies on crime and this lecture will provide the students with valuable insights into how young offenders are dealt with in the criminal justice system.

With the recent completion of the yearly examinations we would also like to reinforce to both parents and students that all subjects are still undertaking coursework and it is essential that students continue to come to class prepared to learn.



Adriana Vladika
Acting Leader of HSIE

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Students leaving at the end of 2014

We have a number of families hoping to gain a place at St Joseph's in 2015. If your daughter is intending to leave the college at the end of this year and you have not already contacted the college to advise us of this please contact your Year Leader as soon as possible so that places can be made available.

School Fees

All fees are scheduled to be finalised by the end of November unless you have made arrangements with the college to vary your payment schedule past these terms. We understand that for many families finances are tough and talking about money can be a sensitive topic. Please be assured that all financial discussions are treated with the utmost discretion. The college is very willing to work with you to come to a payment arrangement that is achievable. If you need financial support please contact the college at the start of the year or as soon as your fees start to become unmanageable. Fee arrangements are set for the **current year only** so setting these arrangements at the start of the year ensure regular payments are spread over a longer period in manageable amounts. In all instances please keep communicating with the college should you need to vary your payment schedule so that we can document and maintain a financial history for your account.

Family Registration Forms

All families have been provided with an orange Family Registration Form. These forms must be completed and returned to the college by **next Friday 21st November 2014**. It is important that you complete both sides of this form including signatures on the reverse side of the form. The Family Registration Form is a requirement of the Catholic Schools Office and is necessary for billing in 2015. If this form is not received by the due date your account will be due in 3 instalments and no siblings discount will be applied.

Nicole Murphy
Business Manager