



# Joey's Journal

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## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

### Year 7 – 10 Examinations

The Year 7 – 10 end of year examinations begin on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. All students have received their examination timetables and should by now be preparing themselves for these exams. We wish all our students the very best for their exams and hope that their efforts throughout this year are rewarded with some excellent results in these final examinations.

### Remembrance Day

During the month of November we remember all those family and friends who have died and gone to eternal life. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, Armistice Day, the day when World War One ended in 1918, is a special day of remembrance for all those who lost their lives fighting so that our freedom would be preserved. Let us never forget the contribution of all those brave men and women. We pray for them and for all our deceased relatives and friends at this time. We will celebrate Remembrance Day at the college at our morning assembly on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November.



### HSC Examinations

Congratulations to all our Year 12 students on the completion of their Higher School Certificate examinations for 2015. The very last examination for our college will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Our Year 12 students are to be commended for the way in which they have prepared for their exams and for the way in which they have conducted themselves throughout the whole examination period. We wish them every success for their future and we look forward to receiving some pleasing HSC results from these exams.

God bless and best wishes for the fortnight ahead.

**Tony McCudden**  
Principal

## Headlines

### Calendar dates – see page 2

Years 7-10 examinations begin Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Remembrance Day – a morning assembly will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Year 12 HSC examinations conclude on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Congratulations to all the girls

Year 10 to complete HSC: All my own work after yearly examinations

Year 9 camp – 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December

Bishop Peter Comensoli visits the college and 'The Voice', Ellie Drennan returns to sing to us all

2016 Year Leaders represent college at Grip Leadership conference in Newcastle

Year 12 attend BBYTE day at MacKillop College in Warnervale

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## From the Assistant Principal

Lots of interesting things have happened over the past couple of weeks. We welcomed Bishop Comensoli to the college for the first time and invited Ellie Drennan to return to sing for Bishop Peter and the girls. It was our chance to congratulate Ellie on winning *the Voice 2015*.



Bishop Peter spoke about World Youth Day in particular with Year 10 students and met with our Year 12 leaders to discuss the diocesan response to the Syrian refugees expected to arrive in Australia in coming months.



We have trained leaders and presented an information evening to parents of 2016 Year 12 on understanding and managing the HSC. Year 12 leaders attended the diocesan Mission Mass and the 2016 Year 11 leaders represented the college at the Grip Leadership Conference in Newcastle. Students in Years 7 – 10 have been organising revision programs for exams and many girls have completed their last HSC exam.

### Whooping cough

NSW Health requests that schools notify parents about the recent outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis).

Whooping cough is contagious and starts like a cold that then progresses to bouts of coughing which can last for many weeks. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night. Children with these symptoms should see a doctor. It is possible for fully-vaccinated children to be infected and it is especially dangerous for babies.

Parents are asked to notify the school if your doctor diagnoses whooping cough. NSW Health asks parents to keep children at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics and to keep coughing children away from babies.

## Headlines (continued)

School fees and charges for 2016 - a letter from Peter Hamill

Family Registrations forms have been sent out - due back by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November

## Calendar Dates

### November

- 2-3 Yrs 7-10 interruption and assessment free period
- 4-9 Yrs 7-10 exams
- 6 HSC ends  
BOSTES HSC final ranks available to students
- 10 Yr 12 Formal - Ettalong
- 9-12 PAT test week
- 10 AMOW (All my own work)
- 11 Remembrance day assembly
- 13 AMOW  
Yr 7 Wetlands Excursion
- 17 Yr 7 Connected Learning expo evening 6pm
- 19 Sports awards assembly  
ERC P1-2  
Yr 7 2016 Learning support orientation  
Yr 7 2016 parent information evening
- 20 BBSSA softball - St Ives
- 23-24 Warmun visit
- 25 Yr 7 2016 uniform sales
- 30 Yr 10 Canberra trip - returns Dec 2  
Open B'ball competing in National Championships - Canberra - ends Dec 4

### December

- 7-9 Yr 9 camp
- 9 Yr 11/12 (2016) Drama excursion to Syd Theatre
- 10 Presentation evening 6pm  
ERC

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Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Please check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program).

Your local public health unit can provide advice. Phone 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/whoopingcough/Pages/Information-for-childcare-and-schools.aspx>

### Children's e-Safety Commissioner Website

In July the Office of the Children's e-Safety Commissioner launched its website <https://www.esafety.gov.au/> which provides comprehensive information and resources to combat cyberbullying of young people and illegal/offensive online content. The website provides information and avenues for complaint/action/resilience building:

- eSafety Legislation and Compliance
- Complaints and Reporting
- eSafety information on sexting, cyberbullying, online gaming, social networking
- Classroom, school and parent resources
- Social Media Regulation

It is important to note that if a social media site is involved in bullying conduct, a complainant (the target of the bullying) must first make a report to the social media operator before making a complaint to the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner. A complainant must preserve evidence of the offensive material to support a complaint. Social Media operators include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Ask.fm, Flickr and Google+.

Statistics released so far show that in the first three months of operation, the Office of the Children's e-Safety Commissioner resolved 40 cases of online bullying, referred 624 children to the Kids Helpline, and had removed over 2000 pieces of illegal content from websites. It is timely to remind parents to monitor your child's social media activity and watch for signs that may indicate she is a victim of bullying or hurtful messages.

The e-Safety Commissioner is promoting a safer internet day in early 2016. Details are available on the website.



Best wishes to all families as over the next two weeks as students prepare for and complete examinations.

**Helen Love**  
Assistant Principal

## From the REC

### BBYTE 2015

At the beginning of this term, Year 12 attended the BBYTE (Broken Bay Year 12 Event) day at MacKillop Catholic College in Warnervale. We were welcomed by the College Principal Mrs Ferguson and the student leaders of the college before being led through an opening ice breaker that provided a great chance to catch up with friends from other schools and meet new ones. Bishop Peter addressed the year group and using the day's theme of relationships, he referred to the different types of relationships, what to expect from relationships and relationships in the Catholic context. Then followed the extremely engaging youth speaker David Kobler who shared his wife Katie's inspirational story about a past in which she was bullied and experienced abusive relationships before becoming a loving wife and mother of two.

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David used humour to speak about several aspects of relationships and was able to highlight some of those uncomfortable topics in his presentation. We mingled over lunch with friends made earlier in the day before attending a series of short seminars after lunch. BBYTE 2015 was a great day and we were lucky to have been involved.

Rebecca E

### Year 11 2016 leaders at the Grip Leadership Conference Thursday October 29



## From the Leader of Learning & Teaching

### Year 12 2016

Our new HSC students have made a very positive start to their Year 12 studies and have been busy making decisions about course choices and pathways for post school destinations. At the recent information evening documentation and information about the process and requirements of completing the HSC was presented. The 2016 HSC Assessment Handbook containing the college assessment policy and procedures has been distributed to students and uploaded to the college website. Students are reminded to sign the appropriate form to confirm their receipt of the assessment handbook and return it to my office. This is an exciting year and I encourage parents to read through the handbook carefully with your daughters, mapping out when assessment tasks are due and talking through the delicate balance of major project work, revision, work and relaxation. The first HSC tasks are due in the coming weeks and many assessment tasks occur in the last couple of weeks this term. For best results it is important the girls are organised and plan for each assessment task well in advance. If the girls are ill or have a

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misadventure on the day of an assessment task they must notify the relevant Leader of Learning, Ms Nash or myself and complete the appropriate documentation and be prepared to sit/hand-in the task on their return to school.

### HSC disability provisions

Disability provisions in the HSC examination are practical arrangements to help students who couldn't otherwise make a fair attempt to show what they know in the examination room. The provisions granted are determined by how the student's examination performance is affected. Students who wish to apply for disability provisions should see Mrs Pearce to collect a BOSTES application form.

### Year 10 HSC: All My Own Work



Year 10 are looking to transition into senior study and are both excited and nervous about the subject choices they have made and directions they want to head. All students will be completing the mandatory BOSTES course *HSC: All My Own Work* that is a pre-requisite for HSC

study in Week 6 after their yearly examinations. This program includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when using information as part of their HSC studies and is delivered in self-paced learning modules about plagiarism, acknowledging sources, copyright, scholarship practices and working with others. Mrs Powers will facilitate the running of *HSC: All My Own Work*.

### Years 7-10 yearly examinations

All students should now be busily preparing for their final examinations of the year. Examination timetables have been handed to students which will assist them in allocating their revision time in the next week. Best wishes to all students for these assessments. The examination requirements and procedures printed on each timetable are listed below:

- Each student is expected to behave in a manner appropriate to a formal examination setting, i.e. remaining silent in exam rooms, making a serious attempt at all parts of the examination, not copying another student's work, not writing graffiti on examination papers and not engaging in any other activity while under examination conditions
- Mobile phones are **prohibited** in the examination rooms
- **No** extra time is given if a student is late for an examination
- **Students in Years 7 - 9** missing an examination must provide an explanation from parents/guardians to the relevant Leader of Learning immediately on return to school. Arrangements will be made to sit the examination at a later date.
- **Students in Year 10** absent from an examination must provide a completed Illness/Misadventure form with appropriate documentation to the relevant Leader of Learning immediately on return to school. Arrangements will be made to sit the examination at a later date.
- Black pen is the most appropriate for examinations
- Students must bring all required equipment with them e.g. ruler, calculator, pens, tissues
- All equipment must be in a clear plastic container
- There is **no borrowing of equipment** during an examination
- Water may only be taken into examination rooms in clear plastic bottles
- Students will meet with the Leader of Learning and Year Leader and line up as directed in the following areas prior to each examination:
  - Year 7 – driveway
  - Year 8 – canteen
  - Year 9 – Founders Court
  - Year 10 – Carroll Court
- Students will be seated in alphabetical order in each classroom for all exams

**Kathy West**

**Leader of Learning and Teaching**

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## From the Leader of Year 9

Year 9 have a lot to look forward to in Term 4. Staff have been very impressed with the way the girls have settled into the routine of school life.

Peer mentors were selected and they will have the huge task of helping our new Year 7 girls with their transition into high school. Some girls were also chosen for the Rypen leadership program, which is run by Rotary early next year.



We also had our very successful reflection day last week where the girls were challenged to ignore the stereotyping and media based harassment that can effect self-esteem and self-image. It was an excellent opportunity for the girls to reflect on their personal faith within the context of a catholic college.

The girls have exams coming up in a couple of weeks and it is important that they settle into a good routine of study and revision. After the exams we have the Year 9 camp to look forward to which will be a real opportunity to develop friendships and leadership skills.

So it's already a busy term with plenty ahead. Thank you for the interest you show in your daughter's education and for the valuable contribution you as parents make to our community.

**Terry Gahan**  
Year 9 Leader

## From the Business Manager

### 2016 School Fees & Sibling Discounts

Please see below a letter from our Director of Schools, Mr Peter Hamill, regarding our 2016 Tuition Fee and Building Levy. These fees are due to increase by only 2% for St Joseph's families. These charges are collected by our college on behalf of the Catholic Schools Office and are used to fund teacher salaries, technological improvements and building projects across all Broken Bay diocesan schools.

This week all families should have received an orange Family Registration Form for 2016. **All Families** are asked to complete and return these forms so that the college can ensure our contact information for you is true and correct.

If you have other children enrolled in a systemic catholic school in the Diocese of Broken Bay you are eligible for a discount to your tuition fees and/or building levy. **No discount will be provided unless you complete, sign and return this orange Family Registration Form.** Family Registration Forms are due back to the college by Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> 2015.

If you have yet to finalise your 2015 school fee account please contact the finance team on 4324 4022 to discuss an extended payment plan option.

**Nicole Murphy**  
Business Manager

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## MESSAGE TO PARENTS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS

October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

At this time each year, following endorsement by the Diocesan Schools Finance Committee and approval by the Bishop of Broken Bay, I write to advise you of school fees and charges for next year.

### TOTAL ANNUAL SCHOOL FEES

Total annual school fees are made up of three components:

Diocesan Tuition Fees which are principally used to contribute to salary costs. The majority of salary costs are met by Commonwealth and State Government grants. Increases in Diocesan Tuition Fees will range from 2% to 6% across different schools.

Diocesan Building Levy to assist with the upgrading of school buildings and the construction of new schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay. The levy will increase by 3.4%.

School-Based Charges to meet many of the expenses at your school. In most schools these charges will increase by 2% - 5%.

Regrettably it has been necessary to increase fees. However, the CSO has limited the increase in the Total Annual School Fees to a maximum of 5.5%. For some schools the increase will be less.

### WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT DIOCESAN TUITION FEES FOR DIFFERENT SCHOOLS?

In essence, to comply with the Australian Education Act, parents from communities that have a higher socio-economic status are required to make a greater contribution to their children's education. Across the Diocese the Diocesan Tuition Fees will increase by between 2% and 6% in 2016. Fees at your child's school will rise by 2%.

Diocesan Tuition Fees for 2016 will be:

Years	K – 6	7 – 8	9 – 10	11 – 12
1 <sup>st</sup> Child	\$1,492.00	\$2,035.00	\$2,157.00	\$2,601.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child	\$1,193.00	\$1,628.00	\$1,726.00	\$2,081.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child	\$746.00	\$1,017.50	\$1,078.50	\$1,300.50
4 <sup>th</sup> Child	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

### DIOCESAN BUILDING LEVY

The Diocese currently receives very modest levels of support from government for the building of new schools and the upgrading of schools to meet current needs. The Diocesan Building Levy is used to build new schools and renovate existing schools. Most schools in the Diocese have loans relating to renovation work that need to be serviced. The current level of this debt is \$104 million. So that this work can continue, in 2016 each family will be asked to contribute \$910 per annum.

### **SCHOOL-BASED CHARGES**

In addition to the Diocesan based tuition fees each school sets its own school-based charges. These vary across the Diocese and cover such items as excursions, sport and other school needs. In light of the need to raise diocesan tuition fees, I have requested principals, as far as practical, to contain school-based charges and to provide information to parents about charges in 2016.

### **PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

I recognise that for some families this change in fees may pose a significant challenge, and should this be the case, I encourage you to discuss your situation with your principal. The Diocesan Schools System has a commitment to supporting families experiencing financial difficulties. No child will be excluded from access to a Catholic systemic school due to genuine family financial hardship.

Fee payments are due at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3. Parents can apply to the school to arrange smaller, more frequent payments.

I acknowledge the generous support by families of our Catholic schools through their financial contributions to the school.

Yours sincerely



Peter Hamill  
Director of Schools

