



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Date: 24th November, 2016

Term 4 Week 7B

Dear Parents, Staff and Friends of St Joseph's Community,

Emmanuel: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2016

Once again this year the Diocese of Wollongong have prepared and published a very thoughtful prayer reflection guide for the Advent season. The following reflection is an extract from the First Week of Advent written by Fr Graham Schmitzer PP.

'To the untrained eye, Christmas and Advent are no more than an excuse for family reunions and end of year parties. But for the Church, this is serious business. Through the Liturgy, Christmas evokes and makes present Emmanuel - God with us. If the creator really did become part of creation, then human history has been changed forever. God now knows us from the inside out. God's advent to us is the beginning of our return to him. This is made a reality in the Eucharist. As Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI once remarked, "In the Eucharist, creation returns to the creator". Bread and wine, the fruit of our hands, become Christ himself. We are called to return to the reason for our existence.

Our whole life is the response to a call. And so, on the first Saturday of Advent, the Church presents us with the call of the first disciples. To what were they called? St Mark's Gospel (the first) tells us that Christ called the Apostles firstly to be his companions. No one can live alone. Christ himself felt the need for companionship.

He calls us to be his companions, his intimate friends. Only after we have accepted this invitation does he indicate what he wants us to do. Christ calls us firstly to be; only then are we called to do. This is the lesson taught us by the Contemplatives in the Church. The Weeks of Advent are given to us each year for serious reflection'.

Canteen Volunteers Luncheon - Canteen Closed

This is advanced notice that the canteen will be closed on Tuesday 29th November while the canteen volunteers have their annual Thank You Luncheon.

Annual School Report - Parent Survey

Parents are invited to participate in the preparation of the 2016 Annual School Report by completing a short online survey that will take only 2 or 3 minutes. Please [click here](#) to access the link.

Mr John Barrington, Principal





End of Year Parent Teacher Interviews

End of Year Parent Teacher Interviews for students from Years 7-10, will be held on Friday 16th December, 2016. Interviews will commence at 8:00am and conclude at 11:30am in the school Hall. Where possible, students are asked to attend the

interviews with their parents/carers, wearing full school uniform.

Bookings for Parent Teacher Interviews can be made through the Parent Portal. Please access the Portal via the school website> scroll to the bottom of the page to Quick Links> Parent/Carer Links> Parent Portal Logon or [click here!](#)

Bookings open on Thursday 1st December @ 9am. Bookings will close on Thursday 15th December @3pm.

Reports for students in Years 7-10 will be published in the Parent Portal. Students will not be issued with a hard copy. It is hoped that all reports will be published in the Portal by close of business on Tuesday 13th December, prior to Presentation Day. If you have not yet registered for the Parent Portal, please email corradini-p01@dow.catholic.edu.au to receive your registration information.

End of Year Awards 7-10

Parents of students in Years 7-10 will this year be notified by email if your child is receiving an Academic Award. This notification will be communicated as soon as recipients have been finalised which will take place over the next two weeks.

END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS

END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-11 WILL BE HELD IN THE SCHOOL HALL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER

YEAR 9 - @ 9:30AM

YEAR 10 - @ 11:45AM

YEAR 11 - @ 1:45PM

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER

YEAR 8 - @ 9:30AM

YEAR 7 @ 11:45AM

STUDENTS WILL BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE WITH THEIR PARENTS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION.



Important Dates for your Diary

28/11 - P&F Meeting 7pm

29/11 - Canteen Luncheon

5/12 - Year 10 First Aid Course

9/12 - Giving Mass

14/12 - Presentation Day and Final Day for Years 9, 10 and 11

15/12 - Presentation Day and Final Day for Years 7 and 8

16/12 - Parent Teacher Interviews Years 7-10

19/12 - Staff Development Day

20/12 - Staff Development Day

End of Term 4

Canteen Roster 2016

28th Nov Kim Power, Gianna Alexander

29th Nov **Canteen Closed**

30th Nov Leanne McMillan, Oriana Dimise, Amanda Quintel

1st Dec David Smith, Valerie McMillan

2nd Dec Mary Daly, Wayne Thomas,



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

This year, Vinnies has requested that instead of baskets, we use reusable shopping bags such as the ones you can purchase from Woolworths, Coles and Aldi to store the gifts. Students are encouraged to bring these bags in with their gifts if possible. Students have until Monday 5th December (Week 9) to contribute to the Appeal which will culminate in the Giving Mass on Friday 9th December, 2015.

Miss Senitta Hurley

Secondary Social Justice Day

Last week Ashley Cummins, Felicity Abel, Bradley Schmidt and Lauren Milligan had the pleasure of attending the Social Justice Day at Corpus Christi Catholic High School. The 2016-2017 Social Justice Statement sent out by the Bishop is 'A Place at the Table', which is about social justice in an ageing society. During the day, we learnt about what the 'elderly' contribute to society and how important they are in order for the community to function. We heard about the hundreds of 'elderly' people who are isolated and feel constantly alone and what strategies that we as community members can set in place to help battle this growing issue. Towards the end of the day, we were split into groups, each group with their own elderly member of the community and we were able to ask them various questions. We learnt a lot from our short period of time with them. The experience was very enlightening and opened up not only my eyes, but those of every student who attended.

Ashley Cummins, Year 11



We are seeing an increase in game and app developers taking more social responsibility and implementing additional ways to protect users.

Instagram: Hiding Inappropriate Comment Controls

Instagram has created a new setting which allows users to automatically hide inappropriate comments. It will hide a default list of keywords, including obscene language. Go to Instagram Settings > Comments > and turn on 'Hide Inappropriate Comments'.

Facebook and Instagram: Self-harm Prevention Tool

In Australia, it is estimated that 45% of people will experience a mental health condition in their lifetime. Facebook and Instagram have worked closely with mental health experts to address self-injury. Both platforms have recently released a suicide and self-harm prevention tool enabling people to anonymously report other users who show signs of self-injury through their images, "likes", comments or hashtags. The platform then sends the owner of the posts a message, along with details of support services.

On Instagram you can report an image > It's inappropriate > Self injury. Facebook allows you to report a post > I think it shouldn't be on Facebook > It's threatening, violent or suicidal. For more information [click here](#) or [here!](#)



BYODD Option for 2017

During Week 5 all students in Year 9 received a letter requesting parent input in relation to the 2017 Year 10 1:1 Notebook Program. The feedback showed that whilst the majority of parents were happy with the school purchased option, a significant number also supported the BYODD option for 2017. As a result, the school will purchase Notebooks for those parents who have selected the first school purchased (payment through school fees) option, whilst those who have selected BYODD will be able to purchase their own. A letter confirming each parent's preference will be issued shortly.

Mrs Christina Fraser, ICT Coordinator

From the Finance Office!

School Fees

Please arrange payment of outstanding fees as soon as possible or contact the Finance Office on 4230 8518 should you need to discuss your account. All fees are to be paid by Friday 2nd December.

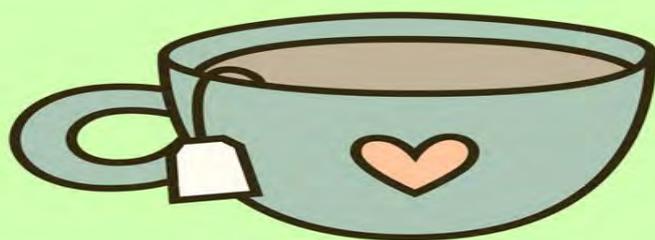
The Finance Office will close on Friday 9th December, 2016.

No payments will be received after this date.

Year 7, 2017 Orientation Day

The first steps of the next chapter in their lives began for the new Year 7, 2017 students, last Thursday. Their happy faces filled the hall, the school lighting up with 115 Year 6 students. Bags bigger than themselves, hats and their own nervous thoughts were preparing them for their future years, as well as the 40, Year 9 Peer Support Leaders. Throughout the day, we all participated in a variety of activities that encouraged them to get to know their future classmates and their older role models. It was great to witness the gathering of many members of the school community, with the incoming Year 6 students mixing with the older students by lunchtime. The Peer Support Team is very excited to welcome these new students into the school community for 2017!

Brooke Smith and Kristina Puljak, Year 9 Peer Support Students



Year 12 Morning Tea Invitation

When: Friday the 16th December

Time: 11am to 12 noon

Where: Outside the Trade Training Centre
We would love you all to come for this last time together.

Please RSVP to Ms Stutchbury by 13th Dec



Congratulations

Preston Ridley in Year 8 has recently returned from a 3 week tour of the UK. He was selected in the Australian Futsal Team after playing for NSW in January at the National Championships. Preston has spent 3 weeks training and playing tournaments in England, Scotland and Wales. He had the opportunity to attend some English Premier League games and tour Old Trafford (home of Manchester United of whom he is a mad supporter) and Anfield. He will be representing NSW again in January 2017 at the National Championships. Preston has also been

selected in the Wollongong Wolves U/15's Team for the 2017 outdoor season. This will be his 3rd season with the Wolves. What a superstar in the making! Well done Preston!



Good Luck

- To Tahlia Wilson who is currently in Hobart competing in the Cricket Australia U/18 National Championships. Tahlia is an integral member of the 2016/17 Female Under 18 ACT/NSW Country Team.
- To our Junior Boys Cricket Team who are playing against Young in Round 3 of the Berg Shield Cricket Tournament in Goulburn this week.

Mrs Michelle Garbutt, Sports Coordinator



St Paul's Parish Youth Choir

This year a Youth Choir has been established in the Parish. The choir is for students in Years 3-6 and High School. Rehearsals are held each Friday afternoon at 4pm (for 30-45 mins) in the Parish Church. Members of the Youth Choir will be singing at a number of the Christmas Masses. I would like to extend an invitation

to any student who would like to sing in the Choir at Christmas, to attend our Christmas Mass Practices on Friday 2nd, 16th and 23rd December. For more information and enquiries, please email Catriona Neilsen (Music Ministry Leader, St Paul's Albion Park).

Uniform Shop Trading

The last day of trading for the Uniform Shop for 2016 will be Thursday 1st December. The shop will re-open on Friday 27th January from 9:30am-3pm and Monday 30th January from 12-4pm. Normal trading from Thursday 2nd February, 2017.

Return to School Dates 2017

**Year 7, 2017 commence Tuesday 31st January, 2017
Years 8-12 commence Wednesday 1st February, 2017**



Congratulations Year 12!

Our Year 12 students have entered part of their Year 12 Movie into a "Can't Stop the Feeling" (Justin Timberlake) Seven Sunrise Competition. It got a special mention on air as an exceptional entry. To view the full Sunrise story [click here](#). To view the full entry (which is really cool!!) [click here!](#) We wish our students the best of luck and congratulate them on the success on their entry.



Year 9 Child Studies

Students in Year 9 Child Studies have been covering the topic “Born to Read”. To enhance the study of this literacy unit, students had to write, illustrate and publish a story book for a student in Kindergarten at St Paul’s Primary School. On Monday, students presented their books to their St Paul’s buddies, who were thrilled with having the gift of a book, especially made for them !



GOOD JOB



The following is an extract from MHCAREERS NEWS if you wish to see more please email sue.kennedy@dow.catholic.edu.au

1300 Apprentice: Interview Preparation and Research

This blog helps to explain the interview preparation and research stage of finding an apprenticeship/traineeship.

<http://1300apprentice.com.au/chads-blog-interview-preparation-research/>

Macquarie University: Pre-Law Pathway

Applications close 14th February 2017

New students who achieve an ATAR of at least 93 and have been admitted to a non-law degree at Macquarie University to begin in 2017, can apply for admission to the pre-law pathway prior to their first semester of studies. The program will allow students to undertake introductory law classes, and upon satisfactory completion of these units, allow students to transfer into either the Bachelor of Laws or a Double Degree with Bachelor of Laws.

<http://www.mq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/getting-into-university/entry-schemes-and-pathways/pre-law-pathway>

UMAT 2017 Registrations Open Soon

Registrations for UMAT 2017 open early December 2016 and close 2nd June 2017.

The test takes place nationally on the 26th July 2017.

UMAT is a test that is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the universities listed on this website.

<http://umat.acer.edu.au/>

University Bridging Courses

Many universities offer bridging courses in a range of areas. These courses are designed to provide students with the necessary information to study certain courses and replace pre-requisites for certain courses. For example, bridging courses can be offered in science so that students can undertake a science degree without having studied science at high school. These courses are generally run in the lead up to first semester admissions.

For more information, check your desired course & university to see if bridging courses are available.

University of Newcastle: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/future-students/uonprep-bridging-courses/about-uonprep-bridging-courses>

Macquarie University: <https://web.science.mq.edu.au/bridging-courses/>

University of Sydney: <http://sydney.edu.au/science/fstudent/undergrad/entry/bridging.shtml>

University of New England: <http://www.une.edu.au/study/study-options/landing/foundation-units>

University of New South Wales: <http://www.science.unsw.edu.au/future-students/bridging-courses>

Australian National University: <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/apply/preparatory-bridging-courses>

South Cross University: <http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/science/essential-information/bridging-courses>

University of Wollongong: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/enrolment/UOW008203.html>

Designing Bright Futures: UNSW Art & Design Graduates

1 December 2016, 6pm – 8pm, Australian Design Centre, Darlinghurst

The evening will feature a selection of works from 2016 graduates of UNSW Art and Design. The works explore the ideas of innovation, capacity for social impact and more. To register for the event, follow the link. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/opening-night-designing-bright-futures-selected-unsw-design-graduates-tickets-29240618477>

Whitehouse Graduate Exhibition and Showcase

28th November, 6pm – 9pm

29th November, 6pm – 9pm

Students from Whitehouse's Bachelor of Design will exhibit graduate collections on the runway.

<https://www.facebook.com/410444979008399/photos/a.430364500349780.119583.410444979008399/1306088456110709/?type=3&theater>

ATYP Summer Holiday Workshops

Comedy Masterclass – 4th to 6th January

Short Film Making – 9th to 13th January

Musical Theatre Through the Ages – 9th to 13th January

Rise Up – 16th to 20th January

Stage and Screen – 16th to 20th January

HSC Intensive – 16th to 19th January

Cabaret Masterclass – 23rd to 25th January

<http://www.atyp.com.au/workshops-holidays>

Air Force Flight Camp

This camp is for young women aged 16–24 to experience Air Force aviation careers and opportunities. The camp will take place in East Sale on 7th – 10th March 2017. Applications close 15th February 2017.

<http://bit.ly/2fGt0Ke>

Hour of Code

The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science designed to demystify code and show that anyone can learn the basics. The hour of code can be completed at any time during the week and may be split up into multiple sessions.

<https://hourofcode.com/au>

2016 HSC Showcase Information

ARTEXPRESS will be launched at the Art Gallery of NSW on the 1st February

Callback will be held at the Seymour Centre from the 9 to 10th of February

Encore will be held at the Sydney Opera House on the 20th March

OnStage will be held at the Seymour Centre from the 4th to 10th of February

Shape 2016 seminar booking forms will be available online from the 21st November and the exhibition will be held at the Powerhouse Museum

<http://news.bostes.nsw.edu.au/blog/2016/11/10/2016-hsc-showcase-information>

YMCA NSW Youth Parliament Applications for 2017

Applications open March 2017

The program for 2017 will be open to students in years 8 to 12, with training camp and residential camp held in July and September respectively. The program will provide study sessions set aside for those undertaking their HSC and new peer leader program for the students in years 10 to 12, who will help mentor those in years 8-9 throughout the program with help from the taskforce.

<https://www.facebook.com/ymcayouthandgovernment/photos/a.379684292885.163994.244611967885/10154343999547886/?type=3&theater>

What Does an Architect Do?

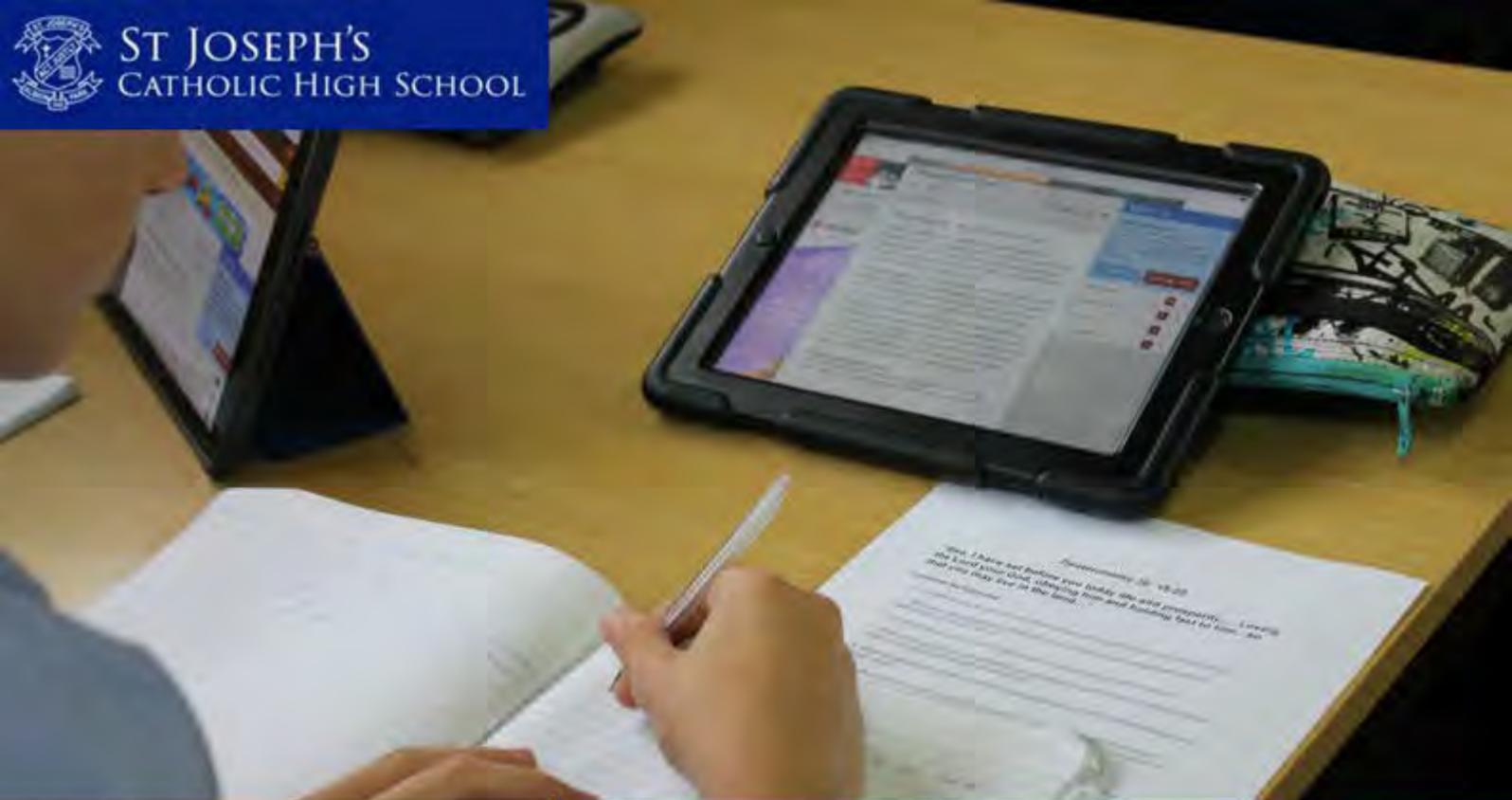
The Architectural Board of Practice SA has produced these videos, entitled "What Does an Architect Do?"

<https://vimeo.com/apbsa>

ASIC: MoneySmart Financial Literacy for Young People

This page set up by the Australian Government includes a bunch of tips for under 25s about credit and debt, getting a car, your first job, moving out of home, mobile phone plans, online transactions and more. Resources are also available for teachers

<https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/life-events-and-you/under-25s>



**IPAD
INFORMATION
NIGHT
YEAR 7 2017**

**MONDAY
28TH NOV
2016
6:30PM
TO 7:30PM
LIBRARY**

You are invited to an information evening for new parents & carers. This evening is designed to assist you in helping your child to be ready for the new year.

Topics to be discussed are:
iPad requirements

Responsible use at home and at school
Google Classrooms, Calendars and Drive
iPads tips and tricks

Please come along and meet our IT team.

Tea & Coffee provided