Dear Stella Community

Opening School Mass

Bishop Peter Comensoli is to be thanked for celebrating our Mass for the start of 2015 at St Mary’s Cathedral today. It was a really beautiful event beginning with Year 12 leaders leading Year 7 2015 into the Cathedral, sharing the journey as the youngest and the oldest students of the College. The Gospel chosen spoke of the role of the Holy Spirit who will ‘teach you everything and remind you of all that I (God) told you.’ I thank all the staff and students who made the Mass such a wonderful community event for Stella.

Welcome Evening for Years 11 and 12

Thank you to Years 11 and 12 parents who were able to join us for the Welcome Evening on Wednesday this week. Thank you to Mrs Cleaver and to the pastoral care teachers for their attendance and to all the families who took the opportunity to meet the staff. This year we are focusing on developing stronger relationships with families to ensure the girls achieve to the best of their ability.

Health Warning

We have had notice of a case of mumps in the school. Please refer to the Factsheets within this Newsletter from NSW Area Health for the symptoms to watch out for.

Swimming Carnival

Our Swimming Carnival is nearly here - Wednesday 4th March is the day. Just to prompt you about a request that might come your way - all girls are to travel to and from the pool with the school community. No one is to be dropped at the pool or picked up after the carnival has finished. We will be back in time to meet our regular buses at the school and it much easier to manage if there are no exceptions put in place.

Prayer

This beautiful reflection is by the well-known Irish poet and philosopher John O’Donohue and I thought it apt to share it with you today:

All that is eternal in me welcomes the wonder of this day

The field of brightness it creates offering time for each thing to arise and illuminate

May I have the courage today to live the life that I would love

To postpone my dream no longer but do at last what I came here for and waste my heart on fear no more.

May I live this day compassionate of heart, clear in word, gracious in awareness, courageous in thought, generous in love.

Elizabeth Carnegie
Principal
IMPORTANT DATES

17 Feb  •  Years 8 & 9 Welcome Night 7.00pm, Theatre - Details next page of Newsletter - don’t forget to rsvp today!
  •  Shrove Tuesday, pancakes will be sold at recess $2 - monies raised for Project Compassion

18 Feb  •  Ash Wednesday

20 Feb  •  Year 7 Surf Survival Day

24 Feb  •  International Students Welcome Afternoon  3.30 - 5.30 on the Deck - refer to Page 4 for details

25 Feb  •  Year 7 (2016) Information Night Theatre
  Session 1 6.00 - 7.00pm  Tea & Coffee 7.00 - 7.30pm  Session 2 7.30 - 8.30pm

27 Feb  •  Year 7 Benedictine Day

4 Mar  •  Swimming Carnival North Sydney Olympic Pool
  •  Stella Maris & St Augustine’s present “Our Town” - Star of The Sea Theatre 4 Shows Only 4 March - 7 March 7.30 pm Tickets http://www.trybooking.com/GNBH (see Performing Arts Section of this Newsletter for details)

7 Mar  •  Year 7 2016 Academic Scholarships Examinations 9.00-10.30am, Benedict Campus

9 Mar  •  Duke of Edinburgh Information Night - Bronze Award 6.45 - 7.15pm, Theatre

10 Mar  •  Careers Expo 4.00-7.00pm, Benedict Campus
  •  Year 10 Welcome Night 7.00pm, College Deck

16 Mar  •  Year 7 2016 Performing Arts Scholarship Auditions

18 Mar  •  Year 7 Orientation Camp through to 20 March
  •  College Open Night 5.00-8.00pm

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Year 7 Scholarships - 2016

Stella Maris College offers scholarships for Academic Ability and Performing Arts.
Academic Scholarship testing will be held on Saturday 7th March, 2015.
Performing Arts Scholarship auditions will be held on Monday 16th March, 2015.

Details and registration forms are available on our website:
www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

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inclusive innovative inspiring
Shrove Tuesday - Tuesday 17th February

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday and acknowledgement the start of Lent, students will be selling pancakes at recess. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren’t allowed in Lent. Pancakes are eaten on this day because they contain fat, butter and eggs, which were forbidden during Lent.

So bring $2 on Tuesday for a yummy pancake!
All money raised will be donated to Project Compassion.

Ash Wednesday and Lent

If there ever is a day of the year when you can spot Catholics at a glance, Ash Wednesday is it. It is the one time when Catholics literally wear their faith on their foreheads.

The ashes we receive on our forehead in the shape of a cross serve as an outward sign of our sinfulness and need for penance. The ashes also symbolise and serve as a reminder that one day we will die and our bodies will return to dust. Hence the traditional words, “Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return.”

The tradition of receiving ashes has its origins in the Old Testament, where sinners performed acts of public penance (See Jonah 3). The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the previous year’s palm branches used in the liturgy for Palm Sunday.

On Wednesday 18th February Father David Taylor and St Mary’s Parish will be celebrating Mass and distributing ashes at lunchtime in the Chapel.

Local Churches will also be offering Ash Wednesday services, please contact your Local Church for times.

All students and staff are welcome to attend.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and continues for forty week days. The colour of vestments worn by the priest during Lent is violet for it symbolises repentance.

The forty weekdays of Lent represent the period which Jesus spent in the wilderness during his temptation (Mt 4:2; Lk 4:1). During Lent, we are called to renew our relationship with God and others, especially the poor.

Jesus calls us to continuing conversion and repentance throughout our lives. Lent is a time in the liturgical year designated by the Church as particularly appropriate for the penitential practices of prayer, self-denial and almsgiving.

- **Prayer** - Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.

- **Self-denial** - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or desert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor.

- **Helping others** - for example, spending time talking to or helping to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Rebecca Robin-True, Head of Religious Education
UPCOMING EVENTS

Stella Maris College, Manly

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to invite you to the Year 8 and 9 Welcome Evening on

Tuesday 17th February 2015

7pm in the Theatre

and later on the Deck in the College Courtyard

Year 8 and 9 Welcome Evening

Please return RSVP slip to your Year teacher or email your Head of Year by Friday 13th February

Student’s name: __________________________

☐ We would love to come  Number of people attending ___

☐ Unfortunately, we are unable to attend

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CHINESE NEW YEAR!

Come help us celebrate Chinese New Year and welcome our new international students.

We’ll have food, games and prizes!

When: Tuesday 24th February from 3:30-6:30

Where: The deck

What to wear: red clothing

Hope to see you there!

RSVP: For catering purposes please email Ms Collins by 17 February.
Communicable Diseases Factsheet

Mumps

Mumps is a contagious viral infection that occurs mainly in school-aged children. Immunisation with a mumps containing vaccine prevents the disease. People with mumps should stay away from others for nine days after the onset of swelling of the salivary glands.

Last updated: 19 August 2013

What is mumps?

Mumps is an infectious disease caused by the mumps virus. In the past, mumps infection was very common in childhood. Due to immunisation, it has become uncommon in Australia.

What are the symptoms?

- Common symptoms of mumps are fever, loss of appetite, tiredness and headaches followed by swelling and tenderness of the salivary glands. One or both of the parotid salivary glands (which are located within the cheeks, near the jaw line, below the ears) are most frequently affected.
- About one third of infected people do not show any symptoms at all.
- Mumps is usually a more severe illness in people infected after puberty.
- Complications from the mumps are uncommon and can include inflammation of the brain (encephalitis), the lining of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis), the testicles (orchitis), the ovaries (oophoritis), breasts (mastitis), spontaneous abortion and hearing loss. Sterility (inability to have children) in males is extremely rare.

How is it spread?

- Mumps is spread when a person breathes in the mumps virus that has been coughed or sneezed into the air by an infectious person. The mumps virus can also spread from person to person via direct contact with infected saliva.
- People with mumps can be infectious up to seven days before and nine days after swelling of the salivary glands begins. Maximum infectiousness occurs between 2 days before to 4 days after the onset of symptoms.
- The time from being exposed to the virus and becoming sick can range from 12 to 25 days but is most commonly 16 to 18 days.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who comes into contact with infectious mumps can get mumps, unless they have been infected in the past or have been immunised.

How is it prevented?

- People with mumps should stay at home for nine days after the onset of swelling of the salivary glands to help stop spreading the virus to others.
- MMR vaccine protects against mumps, measles and rubella, while MMRV protects against these and varicella, and both are part of the standard vaccination schedule. MMR vaccine should be given to children at age 12 months and MMRV at 18 months of age.
PARENTS PLEASE NOTE

- People born after 1965 should ensure they have received two doses of mumps containing vaccine.

How is it diagnosed?

The doctor will usually diagnose mumps based on the person’s symptoms and signs alone. A blood test or sample from the throat, urine or spinal cord fluid can confirm the diagnosis.

How is it treated?

There is no specific treatment for mumps. Simple analgesics like paracetamol may reduce pain and fever. Warm or cold packs to the swollen glands may provide relief.

What is the public health response?

- Laboratories, school principals and directors of childcare centres must report all cases of mumps to their local public health unit. These reports provide statistics to help understand trends in the incidence of mumps in the community.
- People with mumps should stay away from childcare, school and work for nine days after the onset of the swelling of the salivary glands.

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au
# Recommended minimum exclusion periods

ADAPTED FROM STAYING HEALTHY | 5TH EDITION | 2013

**Condition** | **Exclusion of case** | **Exclusion of contacts**
--- | --- | ---
Campylobacter infection | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Candidiasis (thrush) | Not excluded | Not excluded
Corynebacterium (CMV) infection | Not excluded | Not excluded
Conjunctivitis | Exclude until discharge from the eyes has stopped, unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis | Not excluded
Cryptosporidium | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Diphtheria | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Droplet (no organism identified) | Exclude until the day after starting appropriate antifungal treatment | Not excluded
Fungal infections of the skin or nails (e.g., ringworm, tinea) | Exclude until the day after starting appropriate antifungal treatment | Not excluded
Gardnerella | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Glandular fever (mononucleosis, Epstein–Barr virus (EBV) infection) | Not excluded | Not excluded
Hand, foot and mouth disease | Exclude until all blisters have dried | Not excluded
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) | Exclude until the person has received appropriate antibiotic treatment for at least 4 days | Not excluded. Contact a public health unit for specialist advice
Head lice (pediculosis) | Not excluded if effective treatment begins before the next day at the education and care service. The child does not need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected | Not excluded
Hepatitis A | Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received and until at least 7 days after the onset of jaundice | Not excluded. Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about vaccinating or treating children in the same room or group
Hepatitis B | Not excluded | Not excluded
Hepatitis C | Not excluded | Not excluded
Hepatitis E | Not excluded | Not excluded
Herpes simplex (cold sores, fever blisters) | Not excluded if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimize the risk of transmission. If the person cannot comply with these practices (e.g., they are too young, they should be excluded until the sores are dry. Sores should be covered with a dressing, where possible | Not excluded
Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) | Not excluded. If the person is severely immune compromised, they will be vulnerable to other people's illnesses | Not excluded
Human parvovirus B19 (9th disease, erythema infectiosum, slapped cheek syndrome) | Not excluded | Not excluded
Hysteritis | Not excluded | Not excluded
Impetigo | Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has started. Any sores on exposed skin should be covered with a water-tight dressing | Not excluded
Influenza and influenza-like illnesses | Exclude until person is well | Not excluded
Lice | Not excluded | Not excluded
Measles | Exclude for 4 days after the onset of rash | Immunized and immune contacts are not excluded. For non-immunized contacts, contact a public health unit for specialist advice. All immunocompromised children should be excluded until 14 days after the appearance of the rash in the last case
Meningitis (viral) | Exclude until person is well | Not excluded
Meningococcal infection | Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed | Not excluded. Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about antibiotics and/or vaccination for people who were in the same room as the case
Molluscum contagiosum | Not excluded | Not excluded
Mumps | Exclude for 9 days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner) | Not excluded
Norovirus | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 48 hours | Not excluded
Pneumococcal disease | Exclude until person is well | Not excluded
Pseudepidemic | Not excluded | Not excluded
Rash | Not excluded | Not excluded
Rheumatic fever | Not excluded | Not excluded
Retinovirus infection | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Rubella (German measles) | Exclude until fully recovered or for at least 4 days after the onset of rash | Not excluded
Salmonellosis | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Scarlet fever | Exclude until the day after starting appropriate treatment | Not excluded
Shigellosis | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Streptococcal sore throat (including scarlet fever) | Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well | Not excluded
Toxoplasmosis | Not excluded | Not excluded
Tuberculosis (TB) | Exclude until medical certificate is produced from the appropriate health authority | Not excluded. Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about screening, vaccination or specialist TB clinics
Varicella (chickenpox) | Exclude until all blisters have dried—this is usually at least 5 days after the rash first appeared in non-immunized children, and less in immunized children | Not excluded. Contact a public health unit for specialist advice about screening, vaccination or specialist TB clinics
Viral gastroenteritis (norovirus) | Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours* | Not excluded
Worms | Not excluded | Not excluded

* The definition of "contacts" will vary according to the disease—refer to the specific fact sheet for more information

**Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services | 5th Edition | Printed June 2013 | NHMRC Ref: CH56a**
Girls Only Schools – What the Research Tells Us

With this being my first contribution to our newsletter this year I take this opportunity to welcome back all parents and students for 2015.

At our recent Year 7 Welcome Dinner, I spoke with many new parents to the College. During these conversations I had numerous discussions about why parents chose Stella for their daughter. The reasons parents gave were many and varied but at the same time my response was continually one of ‘congratulations’ – great choice! I responded in this manner not only because Stella is a great school, but also to do with the fact that we are obviously a girls only school. Why is this significant?

Whilst there has been much anecdotal discussion for many years on the merits of single sex versus co-educational schools there is a growing body of research showing that girl’s only schools provide a far better learning environment for girls.

In fact, Professor Alison Booth, Public Policy Fellow at the ANU wrote in the Sydney Morning Herald, late last year, “the evidence is gathering” that girls benefit “significantly” in all-female classes (Booth, 2014). Girls assigned to single-sex classes are not only more likely to pass their courses, but also obtain higher scores, even after they are no longer taking single-sex classes (Booth, Cardona-Sosa & Nolen, 2013, p. 3). A variety of studies now suggest that single-sex environments influence girls to be more competitive and less risk-averse than girls in co-ed environments. It would appear, therefore, that “the evidence is gathering” that girls attending girls’ schools are not only more competitive than their co-ed counterparts, but that they are also empowered by the single-sex nature of girls’ schools to compete equally with boys”.

The Alliance of Girls Schools reported in 2014 “annual school leaver results demonstrate, year after year, that girls from single-sex schools are over-represented in university enrolments, particularly in high-status university courses such as medicine and law”.

Bradley, in her American PhD dissertation investigating single-sex education and its impact on academic achievement, concluded that “[t]he single-sex environment provides females with the best opportunity for academic achievement” (Bradley, 2009, p. 119).


The research in 2015 is quite profound and is growing significantly in this field. Additionally it provides considerable data to demonstrate that the decision for parents to send their daughters to Stella Maris College is indeed a prudent one and one that gives the girls the best possible chance for success in school.

**Academic Afternoons 2015**

In Term 4, 2014 the College trialled a new initiative called Academic Afternoons for Year 11 only. In 2015 this initiative is school wide and involve all students from Years 7-12. They run each Wednesday at 3.30pm in the Sister Colette Egan Information Centre (Library) and are fully supervised.

Academic Afternoons are designed to ensure all students are performing to the best of their ability and both completing and submitting work which is reflective of their best effort.

It is not a punitive measure and it is not suggesting that the College expects all students to achieve A’s or Band 6’s. It is a clear statement however that what we do expect is that the girls produce work on a daily basis that is reflective of their true capability in all academic endeavours.

Students are required to attend an Academic Afternoon if either they do not complete or if they submit, classwork, homework or assessment tasks that are not a reflection of their true ability.

However, as previously stated, this is not about punishment, rather about learning. Therefore, if the student hands in the completed work to an acceptable standard before the Wednesday afternoon in question they are no longer required to attend.

Should your daughter be required to attend an academic afternoon you will be notified by email about this and the reasons why. If this presents any concerns please contact the teacher concerned by responding that that email.

If you require any further clarification please contact me at the College.

Brett Foster
Director of Innovative Learning
PARKING RESTRICTIONS
Please note parking time limitations:
- 2 hours around the school
- 5 hours (9.30-2.30) in the bus zone
- 4 hours at Keirle Park
- Unrestricted (Warringah Council):
  * Over the bridge, off Pittwater Rd behind Queenscliff Health Centre
  * Up the steps near Queenscliff Beach near SPLAT coffee shop

MY STUDENT ACCOUNT
- Students are not to lend their card to other students. The card owner must be in attendance if students want to buy for others.
- Each student should have only ONE card. Old cards will not be served.
- Replacement cards cost $5. Defaced cards will need to be replaced.
- Please check your daughter’s My Student Account to ensure she has sufficient funds to purchase items.

SAFETY NOTICE
For students safety, the Canteen will only provide boiling water for noodles to students who either buy the Fantastic Noodles from the Canteen or bring from home the 70g ‘Fantastic Noodles’ or ‘Simplex’ (available from ALDI). These containers are more sturdy than others, can withstand the boiling water and are not too flimsy to hold.

HEALTHY OPTIONS CAMPAIGN
Students receive points on their My Student Account for purchasing healthier foods, e.g. water, salad rolls and any roll on multigrain/wholemeal. Prizes are awarded at the end of the year for one girl in each year group (the Year 12 prize is one formal ticket paid for) so think about what you’d like to order and get those points accumulating.

Bernie McGrath & Cheryl Young, Canteen Supervisors
t: 9976 1826

CANTENE ROSTER
Hours are approximately 9.30am-2.30pm. Contact Bernie to arrange a replacement on 0414 519 108.

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UNIFORM SHOP

Hours (During Terms): 8:00am-4:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

Pay by: Cash, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, EFTPOS, cheque (made out to ‘Stella Maris College’) and Student Card.

Check the College website for:
- Uniform Regulations
- Second Hand Uniform Policy
- College Shoe Policy
- Uniform & Stationery Price Lists

SECONDHAND UNIFORMS
Due to changes in the uniform we are now only accepting limited items. Please email us prior to bringing items in to check if we are accepting them.

VOLUNTEERS ROSTER
| Tues | 17 Feb        | Beverly Diaz, Dee Paul |
| Wed | 18 Feb        | Sandra Marshall |
| Thurs | 19 Feb    | Gee Sun |

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Stella Maris Swim Carnival is on Wednesday 4 March. Girls are to wear a one piece swimming costume. Any one piece costume they own is acceptable. Colour House Swim Caps (all eight of them) are available from the Uniform Shop for $3.

2015 STATIONERY LISTS
The girls were emailed stationery requirements for 2015 last term. All stationery items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop and should be purchased by Week 3 of Term 1.

TEXT BOOKS
These texts books are available from the Uniform Shop, Year 10 Spanish $13, Year 11 PDHPE $70.

UNIFORM PRICE LIST
- Junior/Senior Summer Dress $80.00
- Jumper (cotton & wool blend) $65.00
- Sport Shorts $26.00
- Sport Polo $30.00
- Socks $7.50

Colour House Swimming Cap $3.00
Senior Black Bag $45.00
Black Dance Leggings $17.00
Black Dance T-Shirt $8.00

STATIONERY PRICE LIST
- Grid Books $2.50
- 128 page exercise book $2.00
- Mathaid 4 template $18.50
- Loose Leaf Binder paper $2.50
- New padlock $17.00

New Sports Bag (compulsory for Yr 7, optional for Yrs 8-11) $15.00

Gail Hickey & Maree Sewell, Uniform/Book Shop Supervisors
uniform_books@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au t: 9976 1819
Stella Raffle

The Stella Raffle is back in 2015! Due to overwhelming demand, we have decided to run another $50 PER TICKET Raffle, only 200 tickets will be sold!

Prize: $7,000 towards your School Fees

How can you purchase your tickets?
2. Complete the raffle form below, make payment using cash or credit card, and return it to the Stella Maris Finance Office.

This raffle will help us raise some money for the school. Please note, once all the tickets are sold, the raffle drawing date will be published in the Newsletter. Best of luck!

Stella Maris P&F Committee

Stella School Fees Raffle 2015

Win one year of school fees to the value of $7000

The P&F are holding a raffle with the opportunity for you to win $7000 towards your daughter’s school fees.

Only 200 tickets available!* $50 each

First in, first served so be quick! Limited opportunity to participate.
These are very good odds!

Complete the order form below with the number of tickets that you would like to purchase* and take the payment slip to the Finance Office (open Monday-Friday 8am-4pm). Payments can be made by cash or credit card.

* Limit of 10 tickets per family. Please note that if not all 200 tickets are sold then a full refund will be given for tickets purchased.

Stella School Fees Raffle 2015

Name ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………… Amount $ …………………...
Student Name(s) ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Payment Type □ MASTERCARD □ VISA □ AMEX □ CASH
Credit Card Number __ __ __ __ / __ __ __ __ / __ __ __ __ / __ __ __ __
Expiry Date __ / ___       CCV __ __ Signature ……………………………………………………………………….
Phone …………………………………………. Activity No 1030A93 Ticket No …………………….

Stella Maris P&F Committee
**BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH INFORMATION NIGHT**

All parents of Year 9 Students whose daughter’s are interested in participating in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award are invited to an information evening on Monday the 9th of March in the theatre from 6.45 pm—7.15 pm. If you are unable to attend but would like to receive some information please email andrea_mezger@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

Andrea Mezger, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

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**LANGUAGES**

**LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

Italian students in Years 8 to 12 enjoyed cannoli this week as part of A Taste of Italy Program.

Jennifer Murray, Head of Languages

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**SPORT**

**TOUCH FOOTBALL:**

Good luck to the intermediate and open touch football teams who will be playing at the BBSSSA touch football championships at Nolan’s Reserve on Monday. All players should arrive at the field at 7.45am.

**BASKETBALL:**

It was a great start for all of our basketball teams playing in the Manly Warringah Basketball Competition this week. We had some good results in the Years 7/8 competition with 2 of our 3 teams having big wins!

**WATER POLO:**

The Year 7 competition got off to a great start at Manly Pool last Friday night. The girls all played well in their first game. Water polo costumes have arrived at the uniform shop. The girls will need to remember to check the draw and emails regularly for any changes to game times.

**TRIATHLON:**

All notes should be in for team events for the NSW All Schools triathlon. Individual entries will be accepted on the NSWCCC website until Wednesday. Students will be notified of teams early next week.

**NSW REPRESENTATIVES:**

Congratulations to our newest NSW sporting representatives: Teigan O’Shannassy (Year 11) and Sophie Wickham (Year 8).

Teigan was selected in the NSW U17 netball team and will compete in the Australian Championships in April.

Sophie has been selected in the NSW Athletics team and will compete at the Australian Junior Championships in March.

Well done to both of these girls.

Jenny Wickham, Head of Sports
POSITIONS VACANT—McDONALD’S BROOKVALE

Want to be part of a team? Meet new people? AND get paid?

We are currently hiring crew for Monday to Friday night’s and all weekend day parts at Brookvale McDonalds restaurant. McDonalds is well known for their high level of training within the company which can result in recognised qualifications outside the company.

If you have any questions please email zoe.alexiou@au.stores.mcd.com if not please just apply online https://apply.mcdonalds.com.au/public/index.cfm

Courses for 2015

International Film School Sydney - 2 x Intakes per year (February & July) – 2015 applications still open. Campus tours available upon request, call us on 02 9281 2400 to speak with one of our friendly Student Recruitment Advisors, or come along to our next scheduled Open Day on Saturday 29th August 2015 for 2016 applicants – http://ifss.edu.au – start your filmmaking career here!

Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP)

Information Evening Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) Information Evening – Wednesday 18 March 6:00pm. Come along to ACAP’s Information night and find out more about our VET, Bachelor, Honours, Graduate Diploma and Masters programs. ACAP staff will be on hand to answer your questions. Level 5, 11 York St Sydney. RSVP at http://www.acap.edu.au/future-students/info-sessions/.

COURSES & WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS

Government subsidised courses in Aged Care Macquarie Community College is offering Cert III & Cert IV courses in Aged Care, starting in March at both Carlingford and Hawkesbury. The NSW government will subsidise up to 90% of the cost of the course. Additional assistance available for those who need additional help with literacy or numeracy basics or who are disadvantaged. Call today 02 8845 8888 or email info@macquarie.nsw.edu.au


Travel the world as Cabin Crew Aviation Australia’s (AVI20208) Certificate II in Aviation (Flight Safety) a course designed to equip students with the skills and essential knowledge for a career in Flight Safety! Course are available in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane with Open Days available soon. For more information visit http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/ or email laura.mcquilkin@aviationaustralia.aero.

OPEN DAYS

Sydney Design School, The Interior Design Specialists, Info Session 26th March 2015 6pm Find out more about our range of Interior Design & Decoration courses at our Information Session on Thursday 26th March at 6pm in our St Leonards campus. See samples of our student's great work, take a tour of the campus and find out more about the wonderful world of interior design. Sydney Design School, Level 2, 40 Oxley Street, St Leonards. Register at www.sydneydesignschool.com.au.

Lattitude Global Volunteering

2016 applications now open

Applications are now for our gap year placements overseas in 2016. If any students are interested in immersing within a new culture next year, and assisting local communities in meaningful ways, we have a wide range of placements available. Lattitude is the original gap year organisation, having supporting young Australians on worthwhile and challenging gap years for over 40 years.

Our website runs through all the details and includes an Application Form for students to download here.

Our priority application deadline is Friday 5 June, and students are encouraged to apply by this date to secure their placement preference.

Lattitude Scholarships

We recognise that funding may be a barrier for many young Australians interested in volunteering overseas during a gap year. As a youth development charity, our aim is to enable as many young people as possible to benefit from these experiences, and to assist with this we have scholarships available to help with the placement fee.

Lattitude Scholarships provide discounts on the placement fee for volunteering in China, Vietnam, India and Vanuatu. We have a limited number of scholarships available of up to 50% of the placement fee, which is a maximum of $2100.

To apply, students will need to complete a separate form and submit this with their application to volunteer with us in 2016. Further information is included on our website.

Jeanette Ferguson,
Director of Staff Services and Careers Adviser
PERFORMING ARTS

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE MANLY & ST AUGUSTINE’S COLLEGE BROOKVALE PRESENT

OUR TOWN

by
Thornton Wilder

by arrangement with
Origin Theatrical
on behalf of
Samuel French Inc.

4 Shows Only

Wed 4th March - Sat 7th March

Star of the Sea Theatre
cnr Collingwood St & Iluka Av Manly

7.30 PM

Tickets
http://www.trybooking.com/GNBH

EMILY: "Does anyone ever realise life while they live it...every, every minute?"

STAGE MANAGER: "No. Saints and poets maybe...they do some."

Thornton Wilder, Our Town
LEARNING SUPPORT

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Information for Parents/Carers

Schools across Australia are taking part in a new national data collection on school students with disability. The data collection is being introduced in stages over three years, and started in 2013. From 2015, this information will be compiled in every school across Australia, every year.

All Australian governments have agreed to this.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

All Australian governments agree that every child in an Australian school should have a high quality education. It shouldn’t matter what the individual child’s circumstances are – every child should have the same opportunity to succeed at school.

The aim of this new data collection is to have better information about school students with disability in Australia.

Better information about school students with disability will help teachers, principals and education authorities to support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

There is nothing new about schools collecting information about students with disability – in fact, schools have had to do this by law for some time. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory.

With the new data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect this information – that is, a government school in Sydney (in NSW) will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through this new national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. It will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high-quality education as students without a disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO?

Every school in Australia is likely to have a student with disability at some point. Schools need to be able to support students with disability by removing any obstacles for them to participate in their education.

By law, schools are required to make reasonable adjustments where needed to assist students with disability. These responsibilities are outlined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. This means that schools need to talk to the student and/or their parent/carer about reasonable adjustments. These are things the school does now and this won’t change.

The new data collection will record students who have been identified by a school team as needing the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and provided with an adjustment.

WHAT IS AN ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability participate in education on the same basis as other students. Adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (like ramps into classrooms), in the classroom and at an individual student level (like extra tuition for a student with a learning difficulty).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Your child’s school will collect and report information every year about:

- the level of adjustment provided
- the number of students who receive each level of adjustment
- where known, the student’s broad type of disability
- some students who are not provided with an adjustment at the time of the collection will meet the definition of disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and will be eligible to be included in the data collection.

WHO WILL COLLECT MY CHILD’S INFORMATION?

Teachers and other school staff from your child’s school will collect the above information based on:

- consultation with parents/carers
- the school team’s observations and professional judgments
- any medical diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for making sure that the information collected about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all children and their families is very important. With the new data collection, this will be done in the following ways:

- Personal or confidential information will not be given to anyone not authorised to see it.
- When the information is sent by your child’s school to the local or federal education authority for combination with information from other schools, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.
- When the information is reported from 2016 onwards, it will be by school only – student names will not be recorded as part of the data collection.

WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE DATA BE AVAILABLE?

When all Australian schools are taking part in the new data collection, the information will be reported on the My School website from 2016 onwards. It will be by school only – no student names are recorded as part of the data collection.

CAN I DECIDE WHETHER MY CHILD’S INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

It’s your decision about whether you want your child’s information to be included in the national reporting or not.

Including every school child who is being provided with an adjustment because of disability in this new national data collection each year will help schools, education authorities and governments to better meet students’ needs.

Your school will tell you what you need to do if you don’t want to have your child’s information included in the national data collection.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, your school is still required to provide support to your child with disability and any adjustments that may be needed to help further their participation at school.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may affect your child.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability