



# STELLA MARIS NEWSLETTER

Term 1  
Issue 08  
22 March, 2019

www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au | administration@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

*from the Principal*



### Prayer for the Victims of the New Zealand Mosque Shooting (Rabbi Naomi Levy)

*Our hearts are breaking, God, over the innocent souls who came to their mosques to worship in peace. In your eyes, God, all people are equally loved, equally precious.*

*Today, we pray as one people, brothers and sisters of all faiths, We pray for the power to build a world without hatred.*

*We pray for the strength to overcome prejudice and intolerance. We pray for safety and protection for all.*

*We pray for healing. We pray for peace.... Turn our helplessness into action. Teach us to believe that we can rise up from this tragedy*

*And banish the hate that is tearing our world apart. Innocent blood calls out to us! Let our fears give way to hope.*

*God of the broken-hearted, God of the living, God of the dead, Gather the souls of the victims into Your eternal shelter.*

*Let them find peace in Your presence, God. Their lives have ended but their lights can never be extinguished.*

*May they shine on us always and illuminate our way. Amen.*

### Dear Stella Community,

#### The Effects of All-Girls Education in the Transition to University

A longitudinal research study from California started in 2009 has found that graduates of all-girls schools are more likely to show higher levels of science self-confidence, consider themselves critical thinkers, score higher on measures of academic habits of mind, and demonstrate stronger study habits (Riggers-Piehl, Lim & King, 2018, p. 6).

The effects of all-girls education in the transition to university (Riggers-Piehl et al., 2018) [CLICK HERE](#)

The study authors conclude that their findings "reveal a consistent portrait of girls' school graduates who are more engaged academically and socially than their coeducated peers, findings which align with the profile outlined by Dr Sax and her colleagues in 2009". While some of the findings appear modest, they write, they are "statistically significant results in areas of critical importance in the twenty-first century for women as they enter university and beyond, thus emphasizing the contribution of all-girls schooling for women's success" (p.7).

In the 2018 HSC, of the top twenty ranking schools in NSW, 50% were all-girls schools. This statistic is significant when you consider that all girls schools account for only 10% of high schools in NSW. There must be something that girls' schools are doing well that helps girls achieve.

#### Harmony Day 21 March

This week in pastoral classes, students reflected on the significance of Harmony Day (21 March) which follows the recent National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (15 March) and calls on us to be inclusive of others. In the light of recent events we acknowledged that all individuals should feel included in our College community. Students in pastoral classes were invited to make an Anti-Bullying Pledge to show their commitment to the community.

#### Stella Star shines

One of the most prestigious rowing events in the Sydney calendar is the Head of the River Competition which was held last weekend at the Sydney International Regatta Centre. Grace Burke achieved a silver medal in the Schoolgirl Year 9 Single Scull. We congratulate Grace on her tremendous effort against talented opposition.

This is what Grace told me about the day, *'There were two heats and I needed to get in the top 4 to go through to the final. In the heat I came second which meant I go start through to the final. When it came to the final I was very nervous and was giving myself a pep talk about what I needed to do to go well. It was a very good race and in the final I ended up coming second and got the silver medal.'*



**Elizabeth Carnegie, Principal**

*We have all been shocked and saddened by Friday's tragedy in New Zealand. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to those immediately impacted and to their communities. We stand in solidarity against violence.*

*inclusive innovative inspiring*



1-3 Apr	Year 7 Camp
9 Apr	Student Learning Conference No.1
12 Apr	Term 1 Concludes
29 Apr	Staff Day
30 Apr	Term 2 Starts

## Conditions of use – Student Opal Card

It is a condition of use that students tap on at the start and tap off at the end of each trip with their Student Opal Card. This is important to ensure accurate patronage data is recorded. This data is used to plan school special and regular route bus services and assists State Transit in ensuring adequate capacity is provided, so students can travel to and from school safely.

Current statistics indicate that many students have failed to tap on or off the Opal readers when travelling. If students do not tap on and off then the school bus services may appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To assist with future service planning students are reminded of this important condition of use so State Transit can continue to provide effective bus services in the future.

For more information and to apply for a School Opal card call 131500 or apply online at <https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students>

Yours sincerely

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## International Women's Day Breakfast 8 March

*On Friday, 8 March, I had the pleasure of attending the International Women's Day Breakfast with seven other girls as well as Ms Ferguson and Mrs Boyde. I am in awe of the incredibly inspiring and powerful women we have surrounding us in our community. It is incredible to know that each of us is so strongly supported and believed in. Guest speaker, Tracey Spicer AM, was absolutely amazing to listen to and I feel so privileged to have been able to listen to her share her stories and have such high hopes for the future generations of both boys and girls!*

**Isabella Murace Yr 11**



*On Friday, 8 March, myself and a few other girls from Year 11 and Year 12 attended the Northern Beaches Council International Women's Day breakfast. Although the breakfast was delicious, my focus centred on the guest speaker, Tracey Spicer. Her speech was so much more than inspirational and content. She helped me gain a perspective that through women's hardship, we in today's society have come so much further than our ancestors could have believed. In addition, we should use our opportunity of freedom to encourage women to strive for their best and not degrade the male population but build each other up together towards a greater good.*

**Isabel Mitchell Yr 11**



A massive THANK YOU for your generosity on Friday!

We raised \$1500 for Mater Dei.



Thank you to our MAD Social Justice club and our senior leaders who ran the gelato stall.

## Raising money for MATER DEI!





Inclusion for all

Mater Dei is our Good Samaritan sister school in Camden- a school that provides opportunities & dignity for students with additional needs.

### Harmony Day and The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

In March, Stella Maris College annually acknowledges these important national days. In light of the pain and suffering of our New Zealand neighbours, the need for acceptance, understanding and inclusion is magnified.



On Tuesday, our Pastoral Care classes made a pledge to nurture and protect our culture of inclusion:

#### PC Anti-Bullying Pledge

*At Stella Maris College we believe that we should treat everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of their appearance, status or beliefs. We believe in a community where everyone feels safe, accepted and included.*

*With the example of selfless love found in Jesus which is summed up in the Parable of the Good Samaritan, we see what it means to really care for others.*

*We are part of a community that lives out Benedictine values, including hospitality which is anti-bullying. Hospitality is opening our doors and hearts to welcome all.*

*We believe that our words and actions matter because we can make a difference to another person's life and we never know what people are going through.*

*We believe that it is right to stand up for other people's rights to create justice and peace. With God's strength and by making good choices, I will try to be the best version of myself.*



#### Harmony Day Reflection: An international student's perspective

*Our lovely Ms Collins asked me to talk to you about our difficulty and what is like being an international student living abroad. With the satisfaction of my life at Stella, I answered before my brain could catch up. No! There are no difficulties.*

*However, then I thought, yes, there are definitely difficulties. I am thousands of km away from family and friends at home, I have moved to a new country full of strangers and with my very limited English: difficulties should beset me. But... I don't feel that way. I am not here by myself. The people here at Stella Maris have helped me improve my language skills and always recommend places to go for food I must try. They are helping me to have a life here, in Stella, not just be a spectator, but being involved in this community.*

*There is a difficulty, I admit. It takes courage to try and let myself be involved. Because we are different in our speaking habits, the way we hang out, the way we are crazy and have fun, there are so many reasons to stop me from trying to be involved and instead I often think it would be easier sit there and be quiet. However, the moment we talk, exchange ideas with others, explore the things I never thought about... well that is just the best feeling ever.*

*While our Chinese students seem so peaceful, sometimes we fight for the correct way to speak Mandarin, we look at the 30-degree difference in temperature of our cities on that day, we get free advice for food from our friend who grew up there. These diversities, even within the group of Chinese students who are together here, help us to bond together even stronger and bring us lots of fun.*

*There is so many conflicts in the world caused by lack of communication. It seems like an individual isn't enough to change the way the world works. However, luckily, the way we can all do it is by cross-cultured communication. We are all different as an individual. I am very grateful, for my friends and teachers in Stella being very patient and kind, keen to listen to some little voice from the other side of the world, with their heart and respond.*

.....Shiyun (Elsie) Li – Year 12



# PARENT – TEACHER ONLINE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE READ

Student Learning Conferences (Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews) are booked online through PTO.

To assist Parents, three dates are available for interviews and open for all students (Years 7 – 12):

**Tuesday 9 April (2:30pm – 7:00pm)**

**Wednesday 8 May (4:00pm – 8:00pm)**

**Wednesday 22 May (2:30pm – 7:00pm)**

PTO is an external provider, and as such you will need NEW login details for 2019. Please do not attempt to use login details from a previous year or your Portal login. Neither will work!

### Obtaining Login Details and Making Bookings

**Year 12 only**  
**Tuesday 26 March**

**Bookings open from 9AM**

(You cannot access the system prior to this time)

**Instructions** for obtaining login and making bookings will be emailed the day before

**Years 7 to 11**  
**Tuesday 2 April**

**Bookings open from 9AM**

(You cannot access the system prior to this time)

**Instructions** for obtaining login and making bookings will be emailed the day before

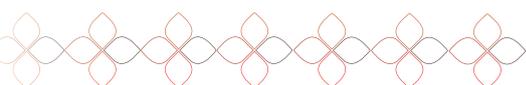
Both Parent/Carer emails have been set-up in PTO, but please only make one set of Interviews per daughter unless it is absolutely necessary that each carer attends separately.

It is highly recommended that you leave at least a 5-minute gap between interviews (do not make them back-to-back).

Students should attend interviews with their parents to discuss their learning. We look forward to meeting with you and your daughter(s).

Please direct all enquiries to our Operations Coordinator Mr Andrew Latham: [andrew.latham@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:andrew.latham@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au)

**Jennifer Molloy , Director of Administration, Risk and Compliance**





## **NCCD - Nationally Consistent Collection of Data**

### **What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?**

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a process that all schools must complete on an annual basis. It is designed to count the number of students who receive additional adjustments or 'help' at school because of a disability. This national data collection helps federal and state governments plan for the needs of students with disability. It is also the way that schools seek and receive funding to support the learning needs of their students.

### **Who is included in the data collection?**

To include a student in the NCCD data collection, schools must consider some key questions:

1. Is the student receiving adjustments to assist them with their ability to participate in schooling on the same basis as their peers?
2. Does the student meet the NCCD's broad definition of disability?
3. Has the school discussed the adjustments (help) with the student and/or parent/carer/guardian?
4. Does the school have documentation (assessments, medical reports or other paperwork) about the student's functional needs, the adjustments (help) that they provided and how the student progressed over time?

Where the school decides that the four steps above are in place (i.e. the student meets the NCCD criteria), the school then decides the best disability category for how much help (adjustment level) that student is provided with.

### **What is the broad definition of disability?**

The NCCD definition of disability is based on the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and there are four categories: sensory (e.g. vision/ hearing impairment), cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

The definition of disability is very broad and many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. Students with learning disorders e.g. specific learning disability or reading impairment (sometimes referred to as dyslexia), ADHD or auditory processing disorder, chronic health conditions (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/ hearing impairment and social-emotional disorders (e.g. selective mutism, anxiety disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorder) may be included in the data count.

A formal diagnosis by a specialist may be very helpful for the school but is not needed in the NCCD. The NCCD count is based on professional teacher judgement. Schools can consider school based and external documents to decide if a student can be counted.

### **What are examples of adjustments?**

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes (minor adjustments) but other students need a lot of help nearly all the time (extensive adjustments). The type of help and support that a school provides is also very different depending on the needs of the student. The adjustments can include physical changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or special equipment), extra teacher support

in classes, special learning programs, changes to the way the curriculum is presented and delivered, or extra adult assistance.



### **How will the data collection be different in 2019?**

All schools have been completing the NCCD count since 2015. The NCCD data that schools collect will now be used by the government as part of the funding to schools.

### **What information is needed about my child?**

Schools work together with parents/guardians/carers to understand the needs of each child. Your knowledge of your child's development and learning needs is important and valuable in this process. It will be very helpful to provide your child's teacher with a copy of any relevant past reports (e.g. from a psychologist, speech pathologist, doctor, paediatrician, OT etc.). These reports will be used with information from your child's teacher, such as information about your child's reading progress or a Personalised Learning Plan, to build a picture of your child's needs and the help that a school is providing.

### **How is information collected?**

The data collection process involves input from teachers, principals, and other school staff working together to consider the data for students with disability in their school, the category of disability and the level of adjustment that best reflects each student's needs.

As a first step, teachers consult with the student and their parent/guardian/carer, to discuss the student's strengths and the areas where the student needs extra support. The support for their learning, behaviour support, support for medical needs, participation, or other areas where the student needs extra help. Information is collected about the type of adjustments the school is making so that they can participate in the learning on the same basis as other students. Documentation, such as diagnostic reports, school reports, parent-teacher interviews, Collaborative Planning Meetings and Personalised Learning Plans, will help to provide evidence of the type of support that the school is providing.

### **What happens to the data? Is it confidential?**

All schools must complete the NCCD. Each school principal is required to verify and submit data about students with disability in their school during August of each year. The privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is respected and handled as per the school's Privacy Policy and Collection Notice. Please refer to your school's policies for further information.

### **Do schools require active consent from parents to include students in NCCD?**

Amendments were made to the Australian Education Act 2013 and subsequent regulations. As such, school do not require parents/carers/guardians to provide active consent for students to be included in the NCCD, nor is there an option for parents/carers/guardians to request their child not be included (opt-out option).

### **Where can I access more information?**

Please contact Cath Douglas, Head of Inclusive Learning if you have further questions about the NCCD. Additionally, the following link to the national NCCD Portal may be helpful [www.nccd.edu.au](http://www.nccd.edu.au)

**Cath Douglas, Head of inclusive Learning**





## NAPLAN 2019

During May 2019, students at Stella Maris College in Years 7 and 9 will join with other students around Australia to sit the NAPLAN paper assessments. The schedule for tests is as follows:

Tuesday 14 May	Wednesday 15 May	Thursday 16 May
<b>Language Conventions test</b> (spelling, grammar and punctuation)	<b>Reading test</b>	<b>Numeracy</b>
<b>Writing test</b>		

**On Friday 17 May**, a 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test(s) Students may be exempt from the NAPLAN tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests.

Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are also available to meet the needs of individual students. Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the Head of Inclusive Learning, Ms Cath Douglas, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer after consultation with the College. To withdraw your child from NAPLAN, a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Please contact the Assistant Principal Learning and Teaching, Mrs Louise Yeates, if you need to discuss your daughter's participation in NAPLAN.

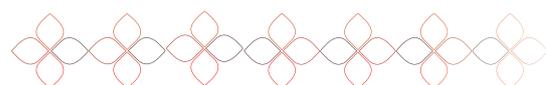
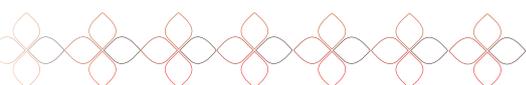
More information about NAPLAN can be found on the NESA website.

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/understanding-the-curriculum/naplan>

Results from NAPLAN paper tests are typically available in August. They arrive at the College in sealed envelopes addressed to Parents/ Carers and are distributed to students to bring home. During Term 4, statistical data is available to schools for analysis and publication.

We wish our Stella students well for the NAPLAN tests and remind them that they perform best when they are calm. NAPLAN provides one piece out of the many pieces of data collected and used to inform learning and teaching at the College.

**Louise Yeates, Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning**





## SPORT REPORT

### BBSSSA Swimming

The Stella Maris swim team competed at the BBSSSA Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park on Monday, 18 March. The level of competition is quite high at this event and the Stella girls did very well against the other schools, finishing in third place overall.

Congratulations to Rebecca Chant who had a very successful day, winning the 200m Freestyle and breaking the BBSSSA record! She was selected to represent BBSSSA at the NSWCCC carnival in the 50m freestyle, 200m freestyle, 400m freestyle and 4x50m freestyle!

Congratulations also goes to the Stella Open 4 x 50m freestyle team who won the open relay and have been selected to compete at the NSWCCC carnival on 5 April: Rebecca Chant, Nikita Newling, Sophie Wickham and Tamsyn Curley.

Congratulations too, to Tilda Brownlow who finished 2nd and 3rd in the Multiclass 50m Breaststroke and Freestyle. She will also compete at the NSWCCC carnival on 5 April.

Well done to the following students who finished in the top 3 places in their events: **Rebecca Chant, Bella Dunne, Sophia Thomas, Tamsyn Curley, Camille Hirose, Charley Porter, Nikita Newling, Sophie Wickham and Tilda Brownlow**

### NSWCCC Water Polo

Well done to Juliette Nankervis, Sophia Thomas, Hayley Economos and Charley Porter who played at the NSWCCC water polo trials on Monday, 18 March. It was a hard selection and all of the Stella girls played very well. Congratulations to Charley and Sophia who were selected into the NSWCCC team. They will now play against NSWCHS and NSWGIS in Term 2. Well done girls!

### Head of the River Rowing

Congratulations to Grace Burke Year 9 who competed at the Head of the River Rowing Regatta last weekend. Grace won the silver medal in the Year 9 single scull event! This is a fantastic achievement! Well done Grace.

### Tennis

Good luck to Alyssa Cameron who will represent NSWCCC at the NSW All Schools Tennis Championships in Bathurst next week.

### AFL

Best of luck to our Year 7/8 AFL team who will play their first AFL game this Saturday at Abbotsleigh. This is our first ever AFL team! The girls have had a great time preparing for their first game.

### Cross Country

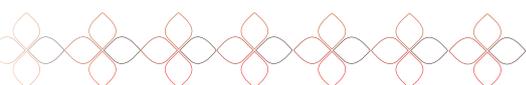
A reminder that the Stella cross country carnival will be on next Thursday, 28 March (lunch and p5) at Queenscliff lagoon and Manly beachfront. All girls who would like to take part should sign up on Moodle by Monday, 25 March. Details of the carnival will be sent out to those students who register.

### Stella Snowsports Team

Stella will again be entering teams in the Northern NSW interschools snow sports championships. These will be held at Perisher from 9 – 13 July (during school holidays). Students who wish to compete in this event travel to the snow and stay with their own families. Information regarding this event will be sent out early in Term 2. Anyone who would like to compete may want to consider organising their accommodation for this time.



Jenny Wickham, Sports Coordinator





CANTEEN ROSTER: Hours are 9.30am - 2.30pm.

If you are unable to attend on your rostered day PLEASE call Bernie to arrange a replacement on 9976 1826.

Mon 25 Mar	Tues 26 Mar	Wed 27 Mar	Thurs 28 Mar	Fri 29 Mar
Sascha Shahwan Harris Bernadette Hickey Heidi Horne Ranjit Kaur	Rose Giardina Kathryn Low Margie Mort Karen Joseph Rowena Macrae	Adele Jelly Leoni Graham Jennifer Wood	Kate Caraccio Leshia Evans Michelle Malouf Amanda Whitehead	Sam Economos Bee Carty Mandy Fitzgerald Kerrie-Ann Foresto Colleen Dopper Lu Ortega Maria Dunn

## UNIFORM SHOP

### Opening Times

During School Terms: 8.00am-4.30pm Tues/Wed/Thurs. Entry via Scholastica building on Eurobin Ave.

### Second Hand Uniforms

The Uniform Shop is now accepting selected winter uniforms. Please wait until the end of Term 3 to bring in summer dresses. Please contact us before bringing in any uniforms.

### Changeover to winter uniform

For the remainder of term there is only a small range of new and second hand dresses available for sale. The remainder have been packed away to make space for winter stock. All sport is available all year.

### Winter uniform selling

The Uniform Shop is now selling the winter uniform. The blazer order has now been placed with our supplier. The blazers can be collected and paid for in early Term 2.

Latecomers will have to be fitted from remaining blazer stock. Skirts and blouses will be able to be paid for and taken on the day of fitting.

Year 7 – purchase full junior winter uniform

Year 10 – purchase senior blazer and senior skirt (retain white blouse)

Year 11 – purchase pink blouse

### Uniform Prices

Senior blazer \$205

Junior blazer \$170

Black stockings \$9

Senior skirt \$120

Junior skirt \$70

Maroon scarf \$10

Senior blouse (pink) \$35

Junior blouse (white) \$35

Black gloves \$7

Summer dress \$80

Cream socks \$8

Sport shorts \$34

Sport Polo \$43

Trackpants \$45

Tracktop \$67

Basketball shorts \$28

Basketball singlet \$60

Waterpolo costume \$125

Wool and cotton jumpers \$72

Collapsible 'Stella' umbrellas \$15

Previous style water polo costume (can be used for water sport) \$65

### Full Uniform and Stationery Price lists

These are available on the website. Please refer to Enrolments>Our Uniform.

### Volunteers

Tuesday 26 March

Jackie Frawley

Thursday 28 March

Lisa Zwoa

Gail Hickey and Maree Sewell

Contact: 9976 1819 or [uniform\\_books@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:uniform_books@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au)





## Health Careers Forum

### Are you looking for:

- a rewarding lifelong career path
- a chance to help change and save lives
- an opportunity to investigate different health professions?

Doctor	Paramedic	Counsellor
Nurse	Dietitian	Physiotherapist
Psychologist	Practice Manager	Aboriginal Health Worker

### Save the date for this interactive forum!

- Hear from current health students and recent graduates with rural backgrounds about their journeys
- Speak with education providers and advocates of rural health

**When:** Wednesday 22 May

**Time:** 5pm

**Where:** Pymble Ladies' College, Avon Road, Pymble, NSW

### Talk to your Careers Advisor for more information

NSW Rural Doctors Network  
 W [www.nswrdn.com.au/students](http://www.nswrdn.com.au/students)  
 E [students@nswrdn.com.au](mailto:students@nswrdn.com.au)  
 T 02 8337 8100



Book now for Coder Academy's April School Holiday Workshops!  
 It's time to ignite your child's passion for **technology, coding, game development, robotics** and more with our fun and educational **April School Holiday workshops** in Sydney!

**Date:** 15th - 18th April 2019  
**Time:** 9am - 4pm, daily  
**Ages:** 8 - 17  
**Location:** Level 2, 7 Kelly Street, Ultimo NSW 2007

**CLICK HERE for more Careers Information**  
**Jeanette Ferguson, Careers Advisor**

