



# STELLA MARIS NEWSLETTER

[www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stellamaris.nsw.edu.au) | [administration@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:administration@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au)

Term 1 Issue 01, 31 January 2020



*from the Principal*



## **Prayer for those suffering with drought and bushfire**

*Each day during summer across our nation, we pray for the gift of life-giving rain, for those threatened this day by a dry land, high temperatures, strong winds, breathing difficulties and extreme fire alerts.*

*Wherever we are and whatever we do today, we pray for our sisters and brothers who have died tragically during the bushfires. We pray for their families and friends and community members, and for those who have lost their houses and properties.*

*We turn to you, our God, as we reach out to support each other.*

*We are a family.*

*We pray for the many dedicated people fighting fires, and those providing emergency assistance.*

*We pray for those who continue to struggle with the ongoing drought and its devastation.*

*We pray for them and their communities.*

*We pray for the land and its healing.*

*We pray for life-giving rain.*

*We pray as a family that we work together.*

*We turn to you, our God, in this hour of need for members of our human family and for our common home.*

Amen

<https://www.delasalle.org.au/blog/prayer-during-fire---drought>

## **Dear Stella Community**

### **Welcome to Stella**

I welcome both our returning students and our new students, Year 7 and our new starters in Years 8 to 10, to Stella Maris College. We are a positive and inclusive community and I know that the girls are proud of their school.

Over the holiday break I realise that the girls have had some downtime from study and routines are often lost. Could I invite families to take the opportunity to get back to routines at home? Ensure your daughter has good night time habits, preparing her bag for the following day and ensuring she disconnects from her computer and phone when going to bed. I encourage you all to have a charging station in a common area to avoid messaging distractions (and lost sleep).

I also invite families to consider the advantages of your daughter accessing the Stella Tutors who assist students with their learning in the Library after school. These tutors are Stella graduates who are currently studying at university but are skilled in assisting the girls from Years 7 to 12 with homework, assignments or study skills.

### **HSC Congratulations**

Congratulations to the 2019 HSC students and to the staff who have worked with them over the past six years. Not only did Stella produce some great individual results with Riona Chapman and Natalie Taylor included on the HSC All Rounder List, but many girls also achieved good results in a number of their courses and are now planning post-school careers, many commencing tertiary studies.

Some of the outstanding course results included 92% of Chemistry students achieving a Band 5 or 6 and 100% Japanese Beginner students achieving Band 5 or 6. Our College was ranked 77th in the state and of Catholic girls secondary schools ranked 13th - possibly our best result ever!

### **Welcome to new staff**

We welcome 11 new staff to the Stella community. I know they will bring energy and passion to their work here with the girls. We welcome Alex Mascarenhas, Alex Saros, Dharshi Sellathurai, Grace Devaney, Isabella Rudolph, Jess Rolfe, Julie Long, Nicholas de Bressac, Penny Lineham, Philip Wood and Leah Thomas. Also, welcome to Paul Notholt who has joined the Science staff on a temporary contract.

### **Stella Maris Parents and Friends**

I encourage you to read the P&F section in the newsletter which will appear each week from next week. The P&F are always looking for committee members to assist with organising some 'friend raising' and fundraising activities during the year. The AGM is set for Wednesday February 19 in the Old Library.

The first event is Comedy for a Cause on Saturday 21 March. This was a great social event last year and I encourage all of you to come along and meet your fellow parents/carers.

The P&F committee want to form a group (separate from the P&F) to assist with the organisation of social events for fathers and mothers with their daughters. A Father/Daughter Dinner has been proposed to be held in mid-June 2020 and the hope is to canvass support for this as soon as possible. If you are interested in being a part of the organising group, please contact the P&F so that a committee can be formed.

**Please respond via the P&F email at [pandf@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:pandf@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au).**

### **Donating to the Bushfire Appeal**

St Vincent De Paul Society have opened an appeal to raise money for those affected by the recent bushfires. If you would like to donate, I invite you to give online at [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au) or call 131812.



*inclusive innovative inspiring*

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...From Principal continued

### Youth Mass at St Mary's Manly Church

Every first and third Sunday a Youth Mass is being celebrated at 6pm. Many of the young people who attended the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in December 2019 are attending.

### Opening Staff Mass

Thank you to Father David Taylor who celebrated Mass on Tuesday for the four Freshwater/Manly Catholic schools- St Mary's, St John the Baptist, Stella Maris and St Paul's. Father David spoke of the challenges we face in our role as teachers and encouraged us to reflect on our significant role in young people's lives. I hope that we can all use our gifts this year to support the girls and each other.

### Overseas Students

Could I ask you too to keep our overseas students and their families in your prayers? Most girls have returned from China and are in quarantine (at their homestay or guardian's home) waiting out the 14 days exclusion. The girls are all well but are understandably concerned about their families in China and Hong Kong. We hope that the authorities are able to deal swiftly with the virus that is in Wuhan and other cities and bring it under control.

Elizabeth Carnegie, Principal

## Upcoming Events and Important Information

### SAILING NEWS

Stella Sailing commences next Wednesday, 5 February, Week 2.

Students from Year 7 to Year 12 are invited to join the 8-week Stella Sailing Program conducted at Middle Harbour Yacht Club on Wednesday afternoons 4pm – 6.30pm during Term 1. This accredited sporting syllabus caters for students who are beginners and are interested in learning to sail and also for those students who would like to develop their sailing skills, perhaps becoming instructors in the future, racing or crewing on yachts.

The Stella Sailing Program allows students to build self-confidence, leadership and teamwork skills while developing their sailing ability. The instructors are fully qualified and very experienced. All boats and safety equipment are provided.

Currently there are girls across all Years who enjoy sailing together each Wednesday afternoon. Students are welcome to join in on the first sail obligation free. Parents are always welcome. If you have any questions please email:

[ann\\_obrien@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ann_obrien@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au)

Ann O'Brien, Sailing Coordinator



## Canteen Roster

### 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 3 Feb	Tues 4 Feb	Wed 5 Feb	Thurs 6 Feb	Fri 7 Feb
Megan Connell Sonia Hatvany Nicole Reber Kristin Laird Sue Whyte	Ainsley Johnstone Jane Dal Bianco Stephanie Jones Belinda Vumbaca Karen Joseph	Francine Scali Janine Silva Libby Beaumont Donna Cronje	Vanessa McCullum Lisa McGregor Justine McKee Sheralee Hogan Julie Harrison	Lisa Thorpe Apps Sue di Candia Kathryn McDonald Malesh Wall



## SPORT REPORT

Welcome back to a new year of Stella Sport! It will be a busy start to the year as we have a number of sports starting up next week. Students have been emailed permission notes for the sports that will commence in the next week. Please note the following important dates over the next few weeks in sport:

SPORT	YEAR GROUP	NOTES DUE	TRIAL DATE	START DATE
Basketball	All years	Tues 4 February	Year 7: 4 February Year 8: 5 February Year 9: 7 February Year 10: 6 February	Week commencing 17 February
Water polo	Year 7	Mon 3 February		
Pilates	All years	Tues 4 February	No trials	Thurs 6 February
Tennis lessons	All years	Wed 5 February	No trials	Mon 10 February
Sprint training	All years	Fri 7 Feb	No trials	Thurs 13 Feb

Other sports that will commence in the coming weeks include AFL, Triathlon and Touch Football. Details of these will be emailed to students and will be in next weeks newsletter. Permission notes will be available on the sports page of the portal.

**Jenny Wickham, Sport Coordinator**





# TERM 4 & TERM 1 SAILING TUITION BY QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS

START SAILING 1, START SAILING 2 & BETTER SAILING

All abilities and fitness levels (Years 7 - 12) - **Session Times: 16:00 - 18:30**

**TERM 4 2019** - Wednesdays,  
16th October to 4th December  
(8 weeks)

**TERM 1 2020** - Wednesdays,  
5th February to 25th March  
(8 weeks)



**Middle Harbour Yacht Club, Lower, Parriwi Rd, Mosman 2088**

[www.mhyc.com.au/sailing/learn-to-sail](http://www.mhyc.com.au/sailing/learn-to-sail) | [discoversailing@mhyc.com.au](mailto:discoversailing@mhyc.com.au) | (02) 8969 3116



# Comedy for a Cause

SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2020

Doors: 7pm / Show: 8pm / 18+

Featuring comedians from  
**Sydney & Melbourne  
International  
Comedy Festivals**

BOOK NOW!  
**\$35**

[comedyforacause.net/SMC](http://comedyforacause.net/SMC)



**Star of the Sea Theatre**  
Stella Maris College  
Collingwood St and Iluka Ave, Manly



In Support of:

**Stella Maris College**

