



2023 Our Year of Stewardship

# Stella Newsletter

Term 1 | Issue 03 | 16 February 2023

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### 2023 Our Year of Stewardship

This week we celebrated our Opening Liturgy. Due to inclement weather, we had to livestream the event with Year 8 as our audience in the Star of the Sea Theatre. Father JoJo from St Kieran's spoke to the students about the fact that we are a gift from God, and we have a

responsibility to live a good life, offering our gifts to others and the community. In this our Year of Stewardship, I encourage everyone to consider ways in which they can be a gift to the Stella Maris community.

## **Canteen Request**

The Canteen is fortunate to have regular volunteers to help with food preparation and lunch orders each day. It is a great way to meet other parents/carers and to interact with the students and staff of the College. There is a need for some additional help on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursdays. If you are available, please contact Bernie McGrath.

#### **Stewardship Reflection**

St Benedict asks us to regard all the tools and goods of the monastery as the sacred items on the altar. This means we are to treat everything we own as blessed and show care and respect to all and everything in our care. Stewardship is the respectful engagement with people and everything we use, and a commonsense approach to the use of finite natural resources. It is about our relationship with the earth and our care for all of creation. We have a responsibility to the sustainable use of resources and their just distribution for the good of all.

Let us regard all utensils and goods as the sacred vessels of the altar, aware that nothing is to be neglected. RB 31:10.

Joan Chittister reminds us, in The Rule of Benedict: Insights for the Ages (2008) that 'A Benedictine cares for the earth and all things well. The Benedictine heart practiced ecology before it was a word." Let us find ways in which we can care for the earth and all things in our community.

Elizabeth Carnegie Elizabeth Carnegie Principal

# Opening Liturgy













**February** 

28

March

01

03

15

**Important Dates** 

Term 1

P&F Meeting

Year 7 Camp

Open Evening

**30 - 31** Year 10 Retreat

Swimming Carnival

27, 28 Year 7 Camp

Year 7 Welcome Event



#### **New Kiss and Drop Zone on Eurobin Avenue**

From next Monday 20 February, Northern Beaches Council will enact a new Kiss and Drop Zone in Eurobin Avenue outside the College. New signage will be erected from the main Eurobin Avenue entrance to the beginning of the bus zone to indicate a 'kiss and drop' zone between the hours of 8.00am and 9.30am and 2.30pm and 4.00pm. Please make note of parking signs around the College and help ensure our neighbours' driveways are free with unrestricted access.

#### Open Evening (Wednesday 15 March) - Early departure of students

Our annual Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 15 March from 4.00 - 7.00pm. To allow time to prepare for the evening, students will be dismissed at 1.30pm. Please make travel arrangements for your child on this day.

In the coming weeks we will be requesting assistance from our students (as tour guides, subject ambassadors and performers) and from parents who can assist on the barbecue. We look forward to showcasing our wonderful school community to prospective families.

#### State Surf Lifesaving Titles

Please be aware when planning travel to school that the NSW State Lifesaving Championships commence tomorrow 17 February and will run until 5 March at Queenscliff. Organisers anticipate up to 5,000 competitors, officials and spectators. Heavy traffic congestion is expected at the following times and locations:

Pittwater Rd at Kierle Park/Hinkler Park.

- 23 26 February 2023 between 5:30am 8:30am and 3:00 5:00pm
- 1 March 5 March 2023 between 5:30am 8:30am and 3:00 5:00pm

#### **Writing Club**

Writing Club stared in week 3, every day at lunch in the library - in S219.

- Enter writing competitions lots of prizes are available
- · Get help with essay writing
- Practice creative writing with a weekly topic

All welcome! Come along whenever you like. It's a fantastic opportunity to improve your writing skills and receive extra assistance from an English teacher.

#### 2023 Term Dates

### Term 1

Tuesday 31 January -Thursday 6 April

#### Term 2

Wednesday 26 April -Friday 23 June

#### Term 3

Tuesday 18 July -Friday 22 September

#### Term 4

Tuesday 10 October -Friday 1 December

# **P&F Update**

#### Wine and Cheese Information Night - this evening!!

Thursday 16 February - 7.00pm

We are looking to recruit our next P&F President/s. One of our outgoing presidents, Kate, will be hosting an information session (over wine and cheese) to outline what the role entails.

If you're interested to learn more, join the P&F committee, or would like to meet new parents, we'd love to see you on Thursday evening at 7.00pm in the Old Library. It's a great way to contribute to the Stella community in whatever capacity you are able.

Maybe you have a friend who would consider sharing the role? We'd especially like to welcome new Year 7 parents with previous P&F experience.

**2023 P&F Meetings** \* All meetings are held in the Old Library (above the canteen)

Term 1 - Thursday 23 February Term 2 - Thursday 18 May

Term 3 - Thursday 10 August Term 4 - Thursday 19 October



# NAPLAN 2023

Scott Mellis - Director of Innovative Learning

General Enquiries & Feedback

**Get in Touch** 

administration@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

9977-5144

Student Absences & Enquiries

studentservices@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

9976 1817 or 9976 1885

**Student Enrolments & Exits** 

registrar@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

Canteen Manager

Bernie\_McGrath@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

College Fee Enquiries

fees@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

**Uniform & Text Books** 

uniform\_books@stellamaris.nsw.edu.au

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point-in-time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All NSW schools will sit NAPLAN online in 2022.

Our College will be participating in NAPLAN between 15 - 20 March.

Click the following link to see the schedule **2023 SMC NAPLAN Schedule** 

In preparation for NAPLAN, our school will be conducting a practice test lesson in the week prior to testing on Thursday 9 March. The practice tests give students an opportunity to become familiar with the test format, functions, and tools of the online tests in a test environment. The practice tests are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked.

If your child is absent for one or more of the NAPLAN tests, we will be conducting catchup test sessions from 21 - 24 March.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not recommended. Students do not need to be able to touch type to complete NAPLAN as the tests are not about keyboard skills (just as the paper test is not about handwriting skills). Students can use the **public demonstration** site to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in NAPLAN.

Students who receive special provisions during examinations will also receive them for NAPLAN. Our Head of Inclusive Learning, Cath Douglas is organising these provisions and the inclusive learning team will be supervising those students.

Please follow the link to **Information for parents and carers - NAPLAN 2023** for further information.

A link to Information for students is also provided below: **NAPLAN 2023 Information for students** 

If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please email **Scott Mellis** our NAPLAN Coordinator.

If you choose to withdraw your child from NAPLAN testing please contact the NAPLAN Coordinator.

Additional resources:

Public demonstration site
NESA NAPLAN website
NAP parent/carer support page
Watch a video that explains tailored testing

We wish our Year 7 and 9 students well for the NAPLAN tests.

# Connect with Us!

A very warm invitation (especially to our new Year 7 families) to connect with us on social media. Click on the icons below to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.









Linda Silburn - Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

The Duke of Edinburgh Award began in the UK in 1958. The duke believed that young people should be helped to develop their individual interests and special talents in a real-world setting. The duke's idea was to provide young people with a challenging program of activities that encourages self-reliance, initiative and effort.

The philosophy of the award is that it is:

- within everyone's capacity
- noncompetitive
- flexible
- completed in the students' own time not school time

The award has three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold of which the students can enter at age 14, 15 and 16 respectively. <a href="https://dukeofed.com.au/">https://dukeofed.com.au/</a>

Each award has four components:

**Service** – Students give service to other people in the local community.

Skills - Developing interests and learning practical skills.

Physical Recreation – Developing skills in a sport or physical activity.

Adventurous Journey - Students learn to be self-reliant in a hiking and camping setting.

Residential - (GOLD only) reside in a new setting working towards a common goal.

At Stella Maris College, there are well over 200 students currently working towards their bronze, silver, or gold award. Most expeditions are held around our local National Parks, including Brisbane Waters, Kurringai, and Lane Cove National Park. Expeditions are offered to participants to hike in the spectacular South Island of New Zealand, Tasmania, the NSW Snowy Mountains, and other various locations locally, where students enjoy the challenge of hiking in an alpine area. Paddle options are also available where students either kayak or canoe, camping overnight in various NSW lakes and rivers.

Gold students are offered the opportunity to complete their residential component of the award helping in a community school in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and completing a cultural tour of Cambodia.

#### Year 9 Important dates 2023

Information notes were sent home on Monday this week with the students in Year 9 outlining the Bronze award. Please read carefully and discuss the requirements of the award before signing up.

- Monday 13 March, 3.30 6.00pm in the Old Library: award information, award planning, and equipment information
- Pack and Paddle Bronze Practise Journey: 16-17 June
- Beaches Qualifying Hike (inclusive of the 2021 Beach to Beach Charity Fun/Walk):
   26-27 August

#### Year 10 - 12 Important Notice

Please complete the award plan and survey emailed to you earlier this week to sign up for the 2023 hikes. Places are very limited on each hike.

#### The Three Capes Gold Hike Tasmania 2022

Congratulations to the 13 girls and three staff who completed the Three Capes Walk in Tasmania in December last year. What an amazing experience to have shared.











Jessica Maker - Head of Performing Arts

Official signup for Performing Art's Extra Curricular has now closed. If you are still interested in joining any of our Music, Drama or Dance ensembles or have any questions, please email **Mrs Leanne Haines** or **Mrs Jessica Maker**.

#### **Drama Ensembles**

Drama Ensembles are now up and running with the wonderful Paul Caesar.

- Year 7/8 Drama Monday morning 7.30am in the Drama Studio
- Year 9 12 Drama Tuesday morning 7.30am in the Drama Studio
- Year 7/8 Drama Friday morning 7.30am in the Drama Studio
- Rehearsals for the Play Wednesday and Friday 3.30pm-5.30pm

#### Performance Band and Jazz Band

Our Performance Band and Jazz Band and rehearsals are underway. We would like to welcome all our new members. We are looking forward to our first performance for the College Open Evening on March 15.

We are also looking for a piano player, a drummer and more trumpet players to join the Jazz Band. We rehearse on Wednesday at lunch in G217 (Music Room). Please email Mrs Maker if you're interested.

#### **Vocal Ensemble**

The Vocal Ensemble is rehearsing on a Tuesday lunch in the Music room. All singers welcome! Our first performance will be for the College Open Evening on March 15.

All Elective Music Students, Performance Band and Vocal Ensemble will be performing for the College Open Evening on March15. Students will remain at the College for a sound check from 1.30pm. Performances will be between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. Please save the date! A more detailed timetable will be published shortly.

#### **Dance Ensembles**

Auditions for the Dance groups are now closed except for Contemporary and Commercial Jazz. Everyone who auditioned will receive an email on Friday with their results.

If you missed attending an audition, please email **Miss Jones** to arrange another time. Please note that some groups may already be full.

All Dance classes will begin next week. Please check your emails on Friday for your results and class times and let Miss Jones know if you did not receive an email.

Let's get moving! - Miss Jones

# **Uniform Shop**

#### **Trading Hours**

The Uniform Shop is open 8am – 4.30pm Tuesdays to Thursdays.

#### **Student Cards**

Please ensure your child's student card has sufficient funds on it for purchases.

#### Online Order Collections

Current parents can now find the Online Store on the 'Welcome to SEQTA Engage' page.

Orders can be collected from Recess after the order has been placed. Reminders are not sent out.

Please use your child's name on the order.

# Year 9 - 11 Design and Technology Tubs

Please purchase this week online by **clicking here**.

#### **Dresses**

Families requiring extra dresses are asked to purchased by next week before they are packed away for winter.

#### Swimming caps

The Stella Swimming Carnival is on March 3. All swimmers are to wear a colour house swim cap so your house knows to cheer you on. These are to be purchased **online** for \$5.

#### **Second Hand Uniforms**

The Uniform Shop does not accept second hand uniforms. Please go to the **P&F's Facebook** page to buy and sell uniforms.

# **Job of the Week**

Lisa Walsh - Careers and Pathways Adviser

e lisa\_walsh@stellamaris.edu.au

#### **Stock Trader**

#### What do Stock Traders do?

Stock Traders (also known as Equity Traders and

Stockbrokers), buy or sell stocks, shares, or other securities on the stock exchange on behalf of their clients. Traders use all the information available and speculate the optimal time to buy or sell a share.

If you could sell ice to an Eskimo, have a good grip on economics and finances, can stay calm and focused at times of stress and in a busy environment, and if you could see yourself confidently making decisions with someone else's money and don't mind working long hours, you could be a Stock Trader in the making.

#### How do you become a Stock Trader?

**Click here** to learn more about this job and pathways to get there.

Visit our very own Stella Careers Website for all your career needs. PLUS, our regular weekly careers







# **Sports News**

Jenny Wickham - Sports Coordinator and Teacher of PDHPE

## **Stella Maris College Swimming Carnival**

Date: Friday 3 March

Venue: Manly Andrew Boy Charlton Swim Centre

#### This is a compulsory school day and all Stella students will attend the carnival.

**Time:** All students should be at school by 8.40am for PC. Students will walk to the pool in PC groups. All students are required to walk back to Stella at the conclusion of the carnival and will be dismissed from school at 3.20pm.

#### What to wear.

Students should arrive to school in house colours. The dress up theme is: "What are you even wearing?" The Year 12 leaders will speak to students to give more details on what to wear in their house colours!

All students will need a one-piece swimming costume and house coloured swimming cap. You may purchase these from the Uniform Shop.

No singlet tops or inappropriate length shorts.

### Other important information:

- Bring a hat and plenty of suncream
- No coloured hair spray, feathers or coloured streamers allowed at the pool
- Students must remain in their seating areas when they are not competing.
   The indoor pools and children's pools are out of bounds.
- Normal school rules apply for the day.
- Parents will receive an email to give permission on Consent2Go.

#### The Events:

There will be two divisions of races: Championship and Non-Championship.

To be considered for age champion or the Stella swimming team, you must compete in the Championship event for that stroke. All students have been sent the link to register for Championship events.

Entries for Championship events will close on Thursday 23 February.

Students who do not want to enter championship events will be able to enter non-championship races on the day. Ribbons will be awarded in both championship and non-championship events. You do not need to pre register for non-championship events.

#### It is expected that all students will participate.

You can only swim each stroke and distance once. For example you cannot do 50m championship freestyle and 50m non-championship freestyle. However, you may do 50m championship breaststroke and 50 non-championship freestyle.

We encourage all students to participate! It is a fun day and we look forward to the Stella girls swimming, cheering and being involved in this great event!

More details will be available in next week's newsletter.



# **Canteen Roster**

## Monday 20 February

Jacki Reimer Lindie McKay Dani Clark Sarah Reynolds

#### Tuesday 21 February

Theresa Buchanan Louise Stedman Amy Keary Sarah Olofinsky Rachel Bijl

#### Wednesday 22 February

Peta Alpen Jude Furniss Hollie Seibold Cathy Shanahan

#### **Thursday 23 February**

Janet Cameron Rosetta Papallo Lisa Hung Melanie Crea Jo Bright

#### Friday 24 February

Alison Kelly Louise Moore Rachel Winter Elle Weeden Nicki Mealor Fiona Pogson Kylie Church



#### **Broken Bay Open Touch Champions**

Congratulations to the Stella Open Touch team who competed at the Broken Bay Touch Championships at Doyalson on Tuesday 14 February. The Stella team was outstanding

all day, winning all pool games and progressing through to the grand final against St Joseph's. It was a great grand final, with a very high level of touch football being played. Well done to the Stella team who won the game 5-3, taking out the title of Broken Bay Open Touch Champions for 2023.

Well done to the students who have been selected into the Broken Bay Open Touch team: Bella B, Holly W, Grace F, Sophie B and Mia S, with Jemma K named as shadow. These students will now play at the NSWCCC Championships at Wagga on April 3 and 4. Well done!

Congratulations to all members of the team:

Bella B, Grace S, Holly W, Grace F, Jemma K, Sophie B, Mia S, Ashton R, Zoe B, Charley H, Zoe F and Tara N.

Good luck to the U15 Stella team who will be playing at the Broken Bay U15 Touch Championships next Tuesday 21 February at Nolan Reserve.

Trials for our U13 team will be held next Wednesday at lunch time at Keirle Park.

#### **AFL**

The AFL Independent School Girls Competition kicked off last Saturday. Stella has a team in the Junior (Year 7/8) and Intermediate (Year 9/10) divisions.

Both Stella teams had a great start to the season, with the Juniors winning 57-1 against Pymble Ladies College, and the Inters were leading 37 - 0 against Loreto Normanhurst when the game was cancelled at half time due to the heat.

Congratulations to both teams on a great start to the season!

#### **Water Polo**

Well done to the Year 7 water polo teams who played their first water polo games in the Northern Beaches Water Polo Academy competition last Friday. All three of the Stella teams played very well, with two of the teams winning their games!

#### **Basketball**

The Manly Warringah Basketball competition kicked off this week. Stella has 13 teams playing in this competition this year. All the teams are training and playing well and are looking forward to a great season!

#### **Run Club**

Run Club is up and running for the year! We have a great group of students coming to have some fun running on Monday mornings. Any student is welcome to join this group. It is a great way to get fit for sport, or to prepare for the upcoming cross country season!

#### Rugby 7s

Training has commenced for our Rugby 7s teams. Stella will be entering the Peninsula Cup Gala Day in early April. Anyone who would like to play in the Stella teams will need to attend training in preparation for the Gala Aay, to ensure all students are safe to participate in this tackling sport.

#### Triathlon

Good luck to the three students who will be competing in the NSW All Schools individual triathlon next Thursday 23 February: Mia S, Pip Q and Eve K.

Stella will also have six teams in the teams event on Friday 24 February. Best of luck to all students involved.









# Community News



