

ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 6

Term 2, May 2019

Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

It was with great pride that together with our staff and students we remembered our beloved Patriarch Mar Nasrallah Boutros Cardinal Sfeir, 76th Patriarch of Antioch who only two days short of his 99th birthday died on Sunday, 12 May 2019. A College assembly was held in memory of our Beloved Patriarch who in July 2008 visited St Charbel's Church and College. A moment's silence and a short history of our Patriarch was viewed by staff and students. On this day and every day we honour a very wise and humble Shepherd who wholeheartedly led the Maronite church across the world. The Lebanese people around the world loved Patriarch Sfeir because they knew Patriarch Sfeir loved them, this was true to the very end.

With his passing, our College community saluted our greatest Shepherd, St Charbel's College gives thanks for the life of our Patriarch who was a true leader of freedom and peace, who worked tirelessly to bring the Maronite community together with every other religious community around the world. His humbleness and true love for Lebanon and its people near and far will forever be instilled in the hearts of us all as we pray for his continual guidance over our Church and for his eternal rest with our Lord.

Most recently we also celebrated the 15th year anniversary of Saint Nehemtallah Al-Hardini who was canonised on 16th May 2004. A true and humble teacher to us all but in particular to St Charbel. As a monk, Father Nehemtallah spent his entire life in prayer and the service of his Order which coincides with our Shepherd Patriarch Sfeir who served our Church until his very last breath.

We also celebrated the feast of St Rita on 22 May, who is the Saint of all things impossible. She too endured hardship and struggles and we no doubt know that our Patriarch through his trials of trying to bring peace to endeavouring turmoil in the Middle East amongst leaders would have been met with much difficulty, but through his trust in Christ all things were made possible and he led our Church as a devout and humble man. We pray that our Church will continue to be blessed with good and holy leaders, like Patriarch Sfeir, Patriarch Rai and our blessed Saints, that will influence and guide our future generations. May the soul of Patriarch Sfeir and all the faithfully departed rest in the peace of Our Lord.



Dear Parents

Year 3 and Year 5 students sat for the NAPLAN exams last week. I would like to thank parents for their support by ensuring their children were at school on time. The students coped well with the exams and results will be sent to parents in September.

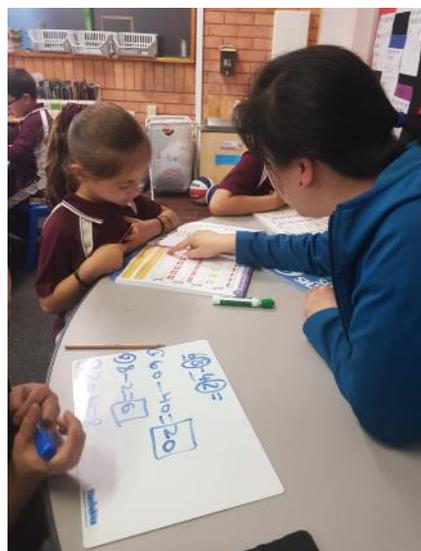
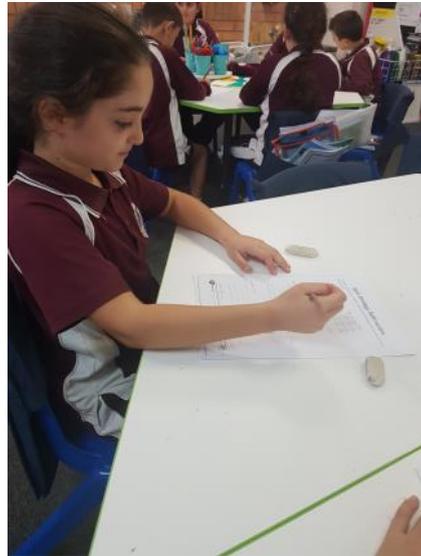
There will be a public speaking competition for Years K-6 students this term. Public Speaking is a crucial skill that is often overlooked, it can give children confidence and influence how they view themselves. Students will write a speech on a topic that they are passionate about. A note with further details and information will go home soon.

Lego update: Lego has been purchased for all the Year 1 and Year 2 students to use at lunchtime. A Lego Wall in the playground is still to come for students in Years 3-6. Any lego donations would be appreciated.

There will be an Awards assembly at the end of Term 2; as with last year the awards have been scaled back. This is because research has shown that 'best practice' in assessing student progress is no longer about formal exams, instead a more accurate assessment of students' progress in school is gauged by regular informal assessments. This is done by strategies such as teacher observation, strategic questioning and a range of other means. Assessment has also moved away from formal tests because often the traditional end of term exams actually test memory, rather than skills learned, and don't indicate whether a student can transfer what they have learned to real life.

Students are also being regularly acknowledged throughout the semester via the school's awards systems and the teachers' own award systems. Thus at the end of the term, one student from each class will be given a Certificate of Excellence. This will be awarded to the student who has tried very hard and had an excellent attitude all semester, **and** done exemplary work in every KLA, including Religion and Arabic. It is difficult to select one student, but regardless of how many awards are given, there will always be

deserving students who miss out. Class teachers will consult with specialist teachers in making their decision.



PRIMARY

Year 2 students visited Rouse Hill Museum on Wednesday 22nd May and were given the opportunity to explore the working areas of the former farm, and investigate what life would have been like for children living there in the late 1800s.

Students visited the old milking shed and explored the beautiful stables that the Rouse family built for their horses. They learnt about the vital role of horses at the time, as an essential means of transport and for getting work done around the farm.

As chores would have been part of daily life for children living on the farm in the late 1800s, students had the chance to experience some of these for themselves; feeding the chooks, hanging the washing up and pumping water. Students also had the opportunity to learn first hand about what school life was like in the late 19th century.

They dressed in period costume – straw hats, plus cotton pinafores for the girls and sailor collars or coats for the boys – and then met their schoolmistress or master to begin the school day. After saluting the British flag, the class was marched into the 1880s schoolroom, where they sang the national anthem God Save the Queen and prepared to start the first lesson. Hands-on activities included practising writing on slates, completing a science lesson, a sewing lesson and an outdoor maypole dancing in the yard, enabling students to make vivid comparisons between schooling then and now.

All students, teachers and parent helpers enjoyed their time at Rouse Hill Museum!



Year 6 will soon be undertaking an educational tour of the nation's capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. This will support our History Unit, *Australia as a Nation*.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Year 6 are very excited about the overnight excursion to Canberra on 20 and 21 June. Our Stage 3 students are the seniors of our primary school and we have very high expectations of their appearance and their behaviour. We ask that you check in with your children daily and discuss with them their conduct at school and your expectations for them. The school diary is a good reference if you are unsure of school expectations and norms relating to uniforms, haircuts and behaviour. It is important our children know that we are in partnership, both at home and at school, working for them to grow to their fullest potential.

It takes a village to raise a child.



On Wednesday the 15th of May, the Year 4 students went on an excursion to the Royal Botanic Gardens as part their History unit. The Year 4 students have been learning about Indigenous Australian culture and the First Settlers to come to Australia.

While at the Gardens, the students participated in a few different activities. In the morning, we visited the Carnivorous plants exhibition in the Calyx. The students were fascinated by these meat-eating plants and learnt about how they are a vital part of our eco-system.

After some games and lunch in the sun, we were introduced to three of the Indigenous leaders of the Royal Botanic Gardens. One of the leaders took us on a tour of the Gardens, teaching us about the different native plants, which ones we can eat and what some plants are traditionally used for. Another leader played the didgeridoo and explained some of the ways that Indigenous peoples make music for their celebrations. The last leader treated the students to some traditional ochre face painting and explained the daily jobs of Indigenous women, such as weaving, cooking and making clothes.

While we may have come home a bit tired from the sun and all the walking, we came away with lots of new knowledge and a new appreciation for our Indigenous Australian cultures. If you have a Year 4 student at home, make sure you ask them about what they learnt! I'm sure they have a lot to tell you.



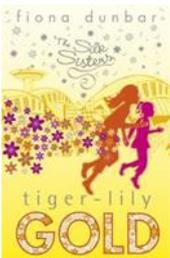


Dear Parents,

Recently we have bought around 50 new books for the primary and infants' library borrowing including titles from popular series such Weirido by Anh Do, World's Worst Children by David Wallace and Pippa Morgan's Diary by Annie Kelsey and Kate Larsen. The books have been carefully selected to encourage students to explore reading for enjoyment whilst challenging and improving reading levels. To ensure your children can borrow these new resources ensure your child brings their library card every day to school to enable them to borrow books and also to print and photocopy. Encourage your child/children to return their books promptly so as to allow everyone fair access to our resources.

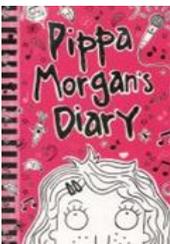
Below are a selection of interesting reads from the new books we have been lucky enough to buy for the library.

Tiger-Lily Gold



Summary: Rorie and Elsie's parents are missing, and time is running out. The mission to rescue them will take the girls on a dangerous journey, deep into the nerve centre of the corporate machine that is robbing people of their identities. Can the Silk sisters reach their mum and dad before it's too late

Pippa Morgan's diary



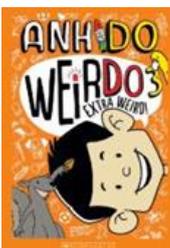
Summary: Life is not going at all well for ten-year-old Pippa Morgan. Her best friend has moved away and her parents have decided to get divorced. Then she accidentally signs up to the school talent show in an attempt to impress the coolest girl in school. The only problem is Pippa's singing sounds like a cat being strangled.

The world's worst children. 3



Summary: Ten more stories about a brand new gang of hilariously horrible kids from everyone's favourite children's author, illustrated in glorious full colour by Tony Ross. If you thought you had read about the World's Worst Children already, you're in for a rather nasty shock. The beastly boys and gruesome girls in this book are even ruder, even more disgusting and WORSE than you could ever imagine!

Isle of fright



Summary: Pippa has a new hobby... Ghost Hunting! Luckily, the school trip proves the perfect opportunity to hunt some out. Will Pippa come face-to-face with a ghost? Read her super-spooky (ish) diary to find out..

Weirido 3: Extra Weirid

Summary: Weir's back and extra weird! Dad's working on his cool dance moves for the local talent quest, while Weir's trying out for the school soccer team! Will Weir score a spot or fall flat? It won't be easy... but it will be funny!



كُتِبَ تلامذة الصَّفِّ التَّاسِعِ فِي اللُّغَةِ العَرَبِيَّةِ مَا يَلِي :

" أُحِبُّ مِنَ النَّاسِ العَامِلِ... وَأُحِبُّ نَظْرَةَ الإِسْتِقْلَالِ وَالْحُرِّيَّةِ فِي عَيْنَيْهِ".

هِيَ جُمْلَةٌ مَأخُوذَةٌ مِنْ نَصِّ : " أُحِبُّ مِنَ النَّاسِ العَامِلِ..."، لِلأَدِيبِ جِبْرَانَ خَلِيلِ جِبْرَانَ، وَفِيهِ يَتَكَلَّمُ عَنِ حُبِّهِ لِلعَمَلِ وَعَنِ تَقْدِيرِهِ لِلعَمَالِ وَلِتَضَحِيَّاتِهِمْ وَعَطَائِهِمْ. وَلَكِي نَفْهَمُ النَّصَّ بِطَرِيقَةٍ أَفْضَلَ، ذَهَبْنَا إِلَى مَكْتَبَةِ المَدْرَسَةِ وَاسْتَعْمَلْنَا القَوَامِيسَ لِلبَحْثِ عَنِ مَعَانِي الكَلِمَاتِ الَّتِي لَا نَفْهَمُهَا.

إِخْتَرْنَا هَذَا النَّصَّ لِأَنَّهُ يُنَاسِبُ مَوْضُوعَ "العَمَلِ وَالوِظَائِفِ"، الَّذِي نَتَعَلَّمُ عَنْهُ فِي الفِصْلِ الحَالِيِّ مِنَ السَّنَةِ الدِّرَاسِيَّةِ.

تلامذة الصَّفِّ التَّاسِعِ فِي اللُّغَةِ العَرَبِيَّةِ

جيسيكا، ساشا، كارل، جايمس وكريس

أغاني أيام زمان للأطفال

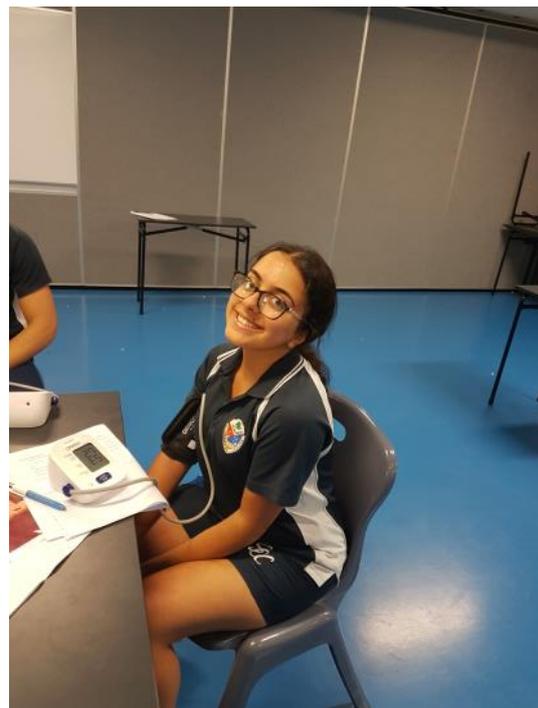
نتعلم الكثير من الأغاني في الصفوف الابتدائية. وجدنا أغان كثيرة على "YOUTUBE" قد أرجعنا إلى أيام زمان وهي الآن جزء من تراثنا، أتمنى عليكم أن تستمعوا إليها مع أولادكم. منها ألف بباء بوبايي، البطة بتعمل وغيرها وكلها من Lila TV.



السيدة نوال قزوي تعلم حياكة الصوف لتلاميذ الصف السادس والخامس.



On Thursday the 16th of May, Year 11 PDHPE and SLR students conducted a range of tests concerning a variety of fitness components. Though being a day of exhaustion, the practical activities commenced were predominantly engaging and interactive, allowing for competition amongst students. Targeting health-related and skill-related components of physical fitness by the assortment of fitness training exercises including the push-up test, illinois agility test, long-jump, sprints and the beep-test (my personal favourite), the gathered results allowed for the evaluation of our own overall fitness and the impact of this on our overall health. Focusing on physical fitness, training and movement efficiency during theory, allowed for a change from continual textbook reading and research, to an active day filled with 'sore' complaints though exceptional fun, addressing the topic in a perceptibly alluring manner. Year 11 PDHPE & SLR students stately "enjoyed the day", in particular those unable to participate in physical activity regularly due to a lack of time. Overall, the practical display of the fitness components prompted a remarkable event. An immense thank you to the contributing teachers; Mrs Booth, Mr Nakhla and Mr Zalloua, for the preparation of the delightful incursion.



Jump Rope for Heart



The Jump Rope for Heart program will be taking place over the next few weeks.

The foundation is steering toward online fundraising this year.

Students have received a sponsorship form that has

instructions for online fundraising, they will also receive a note about the program.

Class charts have been placed in order to keep tabs on class donations, once again, there will be a prize for the class that donates the most money – an extra sport lesson.

We would love to match last years record of \$9000 or even beat it!

It is a fantastic program that not only encourages the

students to lead an active lifestyle and make healthy choices, but it also makes them aware of heart disease and that there are children who are not able to participate in some sport programs

because their heart isn't healthy enough for it. The money they raise can help pay for treatment, research and equipment used for heart patients and as a thank you for their donations they get prizes.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Heart Foundation

Jump Rope for Heart 2019

Welcome!

Thanks for taking action to help your child be physically active, healthy and learn some awesome skipping skills! At the same time, they'll be giving back to the community by raising money to help fight heart disease.

To make fundraising fun and easy, you can create your own secure webpage at jumprope.org.au

Sign up to share your child's progress and let the funds roll in. Your child can earn virtual badges along the way and your page will highlight the prizes up for grabs.

Happy skipping!

sign up at
jumprope.org.au

Important dates to remember:

Friday 7 June – Pupil Free Day

Monday 22 July - K-12 Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 23 July – Pupil Free Day

Term 3 Commences Wednesday 24 July

Please advise any changes to student or parent contact details and/or medical conditions etc to the Administration office or to info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au to ensure all student and parent data is correct.



SYDNEY
ACADEMY OF CHESS

Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134

Office: (02) 9745 1170

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Charbel's College (Punchbowl) is held on Fridays from 1:25pm to 2:05pm, starting on 3 May 2019.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

SCHOOL FEES

The second instalment for school fees is due on 24-May-2019. Payments may be paid in cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card or directly into the College's bank account.

For all parents who are using the direct payment method into the College account, please ensure when completing your online payment, that the recipient field description is filled with your **Family code** in order to allocate these payments to the correct families.

Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink.
Bank
account details are: BSB: 032-068; A/C 57-1383

Woolworths Earn & Learn

The Woolworths Earn & Learn is back for another year! Please collect stickers and return to the College or at Chullora & Bankstown Woolworths.

Happy Collecting!

UPCOMING 2019 EVENTS

May:

Fri 31 **Year 10 Spirituality Day**

June:

Mon 3-Fri 7 **Years 7-10 Exam Block**
Mon 3 **Year 10 Vaccinations**
Tues 4 **Year 10 Allwell Testing (Absences)**
Sun 9 **Pentecost Sunday**

Mon 10 **Queen's Birthday Public Holiday**

Fri 14 **High School Athletics Carnival**
Mon 17-Fri 21 **Year 10 Work Experience**
Tues 18 **Year 10 Allwell Internal Testing**
Thurs 20-21 **Year 6 Camp**
Tues 25 **Placement Test Year 6 Allwell**
Fri 28 **Last Day of Term 2**
Semester 1 Assembly K-6

