

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Issue 14 Term 4, November 2019

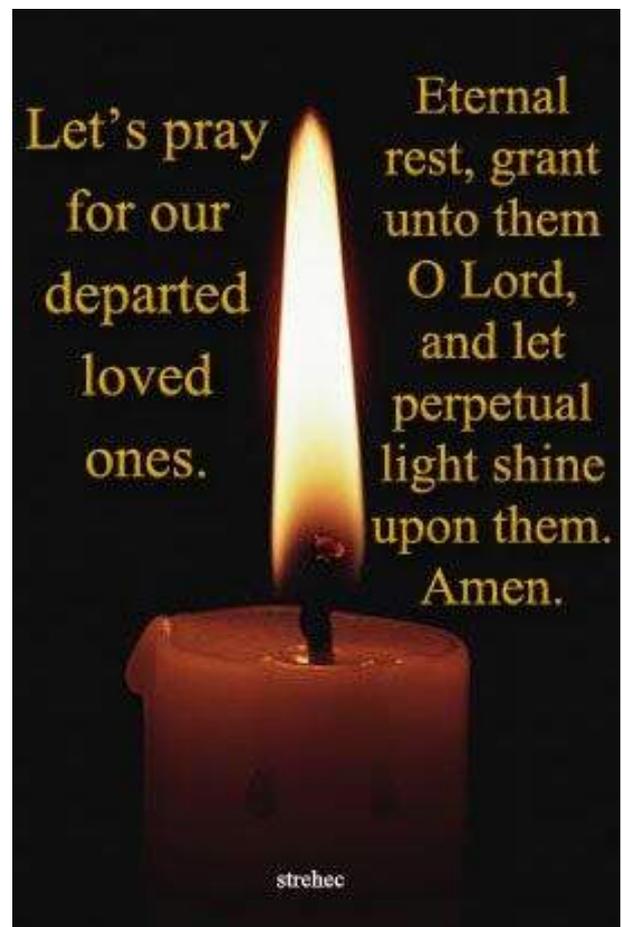
During the first week of November, we celebrated two important feast days within the Catholic Church. All Saint's Day which honours all saints known and unknown of the church who have attained heaven. We pray for their intercession and offer up our prayers to them. We also celebrated the Feast of All Souls, celebrating the life of others, especially those who have gone before us and who have now entered eternal life with Our Lord.

The conception of "Holy Souls" is easier to understand as a human than that of "Sainthood," for we have all experienced the heartbreak of losing those dear to us whom we have loved. We continue to pray for them after they have passed and hope that they are with God enjoying the perfection of eternal life. It is our duty as Christians to pray for our deceased and all the Holy Souls in purgatory.

As parents you have the magnificent role of encouraging your children to "sainthood" by allowing them to develop their qualities to the highest degree.

This weekend our Year 3 students will be receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion, being one step closer to God as they receive Jesus, in His holy body for the first time. This is a special time for our candidates and their families as they have been preparing with their teachers and classmates for some time. We ask for you to keep them in your prayers and pray that Jesus will forever remain in their hearts always.

**Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.**



# Director of Pastoral Care

Happy Teacher's Day, everyday...In celebration of World Teacher's Day, with a generous and joyful spirit, our 2020 Year 12 Prefects prepared a delicious lunch for the teachers. We are blessed that the teachers in our College have a deep love of teaching and learning, and always strive towards developing positive relationships with students.



***"The life of a teacher, as I know from personal experience, is very challenging and demanding, but it is also profoundly satisfying..." Saint John Paul the Great.***

# Director of Primary

The Primary students all enjoyed pizzas for lunch last week, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the P&F. The Primary School is very grateful to the P&F for all their hard work in organising this great initiative!

The week finished with the school celebrating All Saints Day. The students all dressed up as their favourite saint, or wore a shirt or token in honour of their favourite saint. They all looked wonderful and after attending Mass, learned about the saints and completed activities in their classrooms.

This weekend the Year 3 students will be celebrating their First Holy Communion. Mrs Alam, Mrs Bell and the Year 3 staff have been working very hard, in class and at rehearsals, to ensure the students are prepared for their big day. Mrs Bayeh, the Choir and the Year 3 students have also been working hard in preparation for the Mass.

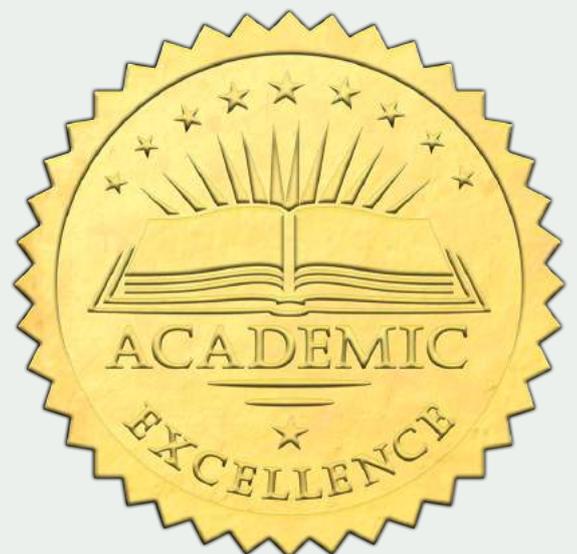
There will be an End of Year awards assembly on Wednesday 11 December. A few awards will be handed out to Yrs K-5 students who have performed outstandingly this year. (Year 6 will receive their awards at their graduation ceremony) Each grade will also be performing at the assembly and parents will be welcome to attend. Invitations to the end of year assembly and Year 6 graduation, will be sent home soon.

Three students from each class will be given an award at the assembly, following the criteria below:

**Academic Excellence:** this award acknowledges excellence in all the subjects taught this year, with the exception of Arabic. Students will be nominated by their classroom teachers according to the results achieved in their school work and in assessments.

**Academic Excellence in Arabic:** this award also acknowledges excellence in school work and assessments, but this time focusses on the study of Arabic. Nominations will be put forward by the students' Arabic teachers.

**The St Rafqa award for Academic Perseverance:** this award acknowledges the students who have striven to do their best and displayed tenacity and dedication to their studies, in all subjects including Arabic.



# Coordinator of RE - Primary

On the 1st of November, the Primary school celebrated All Saints Day in a very special way. The day began with a Mass offered for Lebanon, the community and personal intentions. To celebrate this significant day, students were invited to come to school dressed in a Saints outfit or brought in an item associated with the Saint. They were also asked to research their chosen Saint and to share their findings with their peers. May we all look at the Saints with inspiration and imitate their lives so that one day we may merit eternal life with God. Happy All Saints Day.



My favourite saint is Saint Cecilia because she taught me how to praise God through music, and helped me to be more devoted to doing piano. Olivia Hassarati - Year 4



My favourite Saint is Saint Aquilina because she taught me to have faith in everything. Aquilina Azzi - year 4.



Saint Francis Xavier because he travelled many countries and preached about God.



Saint Cecilia because she inspires me to do more kind things in my life.

# Coordinator of RE - Primary



Eliana Azzi 4G

I chose Saint Therese the little flower because Therese is my middle name and she is the patron saint of missionaries, aids, sufferers, florists and the sick. She is a doctor of the church, she sends books about research writing and studies she is known as the little flower because she was the simple flower in the forest. All these facts about her make me love her so much. There are so much more facts about her. That is the reason she is my favourite saint.



Normie Abboud 4G

I chose Saint Patrick because he is born on the same day I was. And he is very caring to others.



# Coordinator of RE - Primary



# Student Success

Congratulations to Jad Boutros of Year 12 for receiving the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute School Science Award. Jad is a deserving recipient of this award which is given to a student who excels in their science courses at school and has a keen interest in pursuing Science as part of their tertiary education.



# The Voice of Sport Excursion

Girls from Years 7, 8 and 9 were fortunate enough to attend The Voice of Sport, Girls Get Active Day at the Morris Iemma Indoor Sports Complex on Tuesday the 29th of October. The girls were invited to attend a presentation and interview panel involving elite Australian female athletes from sports such as basketball, cricket, AFL, NRL and netball. Following the presentation, the girls participated in various sporting activities, along with girls from other schools in the Bankstown area, to learn skills and have fun while staying active.



# Year 11 Spirituality Day

On Friday the 25th of October, Year 11 had the privilege of attending their spirituality day, held in Mount Schoenstatt, Mulgoa. We were thrilled to have had a guest speaker, David Kobler, who gave us a talk around the concept of relationships and the positive choices that we should make. This was definitely a great eye opener as it allowed us to understand the negative impacts of making the wrong decisions and the consequences that arise from it. We were fortunate enough to have been given this opportunity to hear this important talk, as the topic of relationships is a major issue for teenagers in today's society.

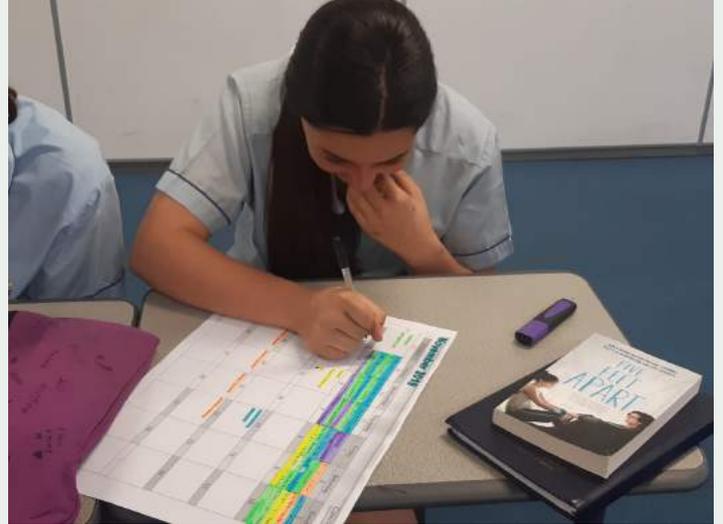


I found the spirituality day very beneficial for not only building a closer relationship with God but also building closer relationships with my peers. The speaker addressed several key issues facing today's youth regarding relationships and society. From the three part powerpoint and talks about love and relationships, a lot was taken out of the day and we all learnt how to truly love our future spouses imitating the love of Jesus. The speaker's moving personal story captivated our attention. The grade was brought closer together through the preparation of the food and spending time enjoying nature with the large outdoor space provided. Even the hour long drive to and from Mulgoa had everyone speaking with each other, contributing to a greater sense of community. Overall, I found the spirituality day valuable and memorable. (Joseph Boutros)



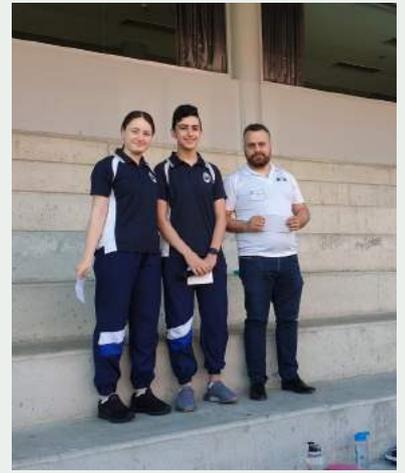
# Year 8 PC

During their PC session, the Year 8 students worked on their monthly planner to organise their daily work in preparation for their upcoming end of year exams. We wish all our students the best of luck.



# Fundraising Success

During High School Assembly, Salim Chidiac and Josie Jaajaa presented a cheque of \$8500 to Charbel Azzi from Maronites on Mission. This cheque was the total profit made by our two Year 9 Commerce classes from running Market Day. All students and staff were thanked for their contributions made on Market Day. Charbel addressed the assembly in regards to the wonderful work that Maronites on Mission does for those in need in both Sydney and in the Philippines.



# Year 11 Excursion

As part of the Year 11 Biology outcomes, students took part in a field study at Georges River National Park. They had to measure the abiotic and biotic factors within this ecosystem. They also looked at the distribution, abundance, adaptations of species and the preservation strategies that are put in place to maintain the survival of the species...



# Announcement

ICT Bootcamp is offered for any student who wishes to improve their ICT skills on Wednesdays at 8am in the Learning Hub.

Also, English homework club is now running in the Library on Thursday after sport from 2:30 to 3:10 pm.

# Primary Arabic

صفوف القسم الابتدائي عامر بالموسيقى والأغاني والتراتيل.  
هذه بعض الصور المعبرة عن نشاطات الطلاب:



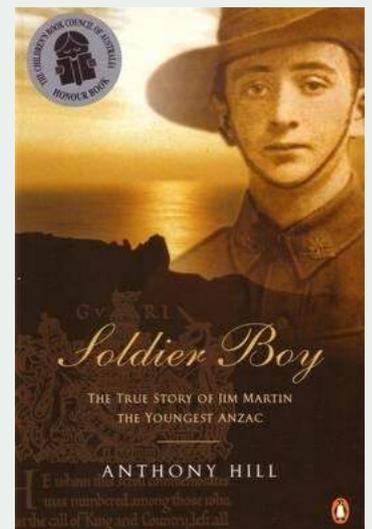
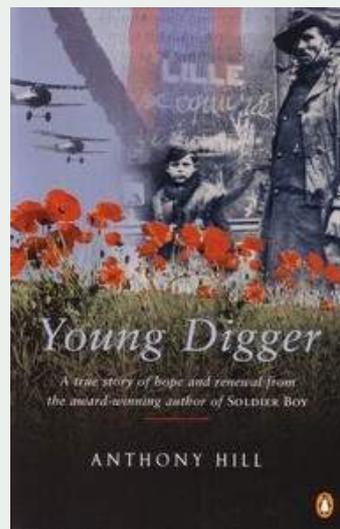
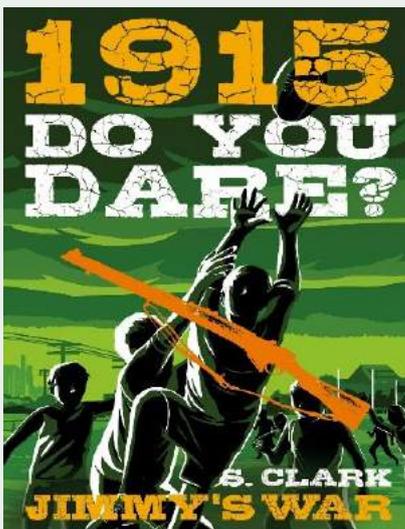
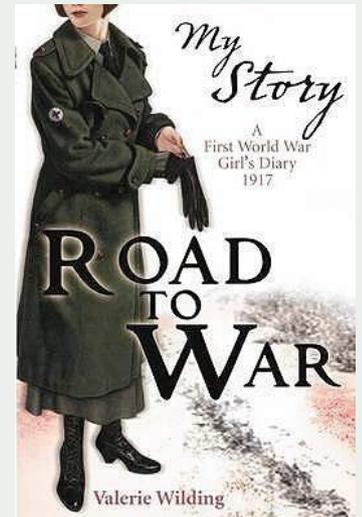
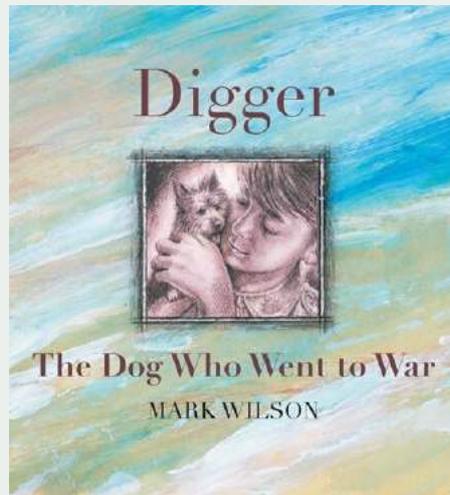
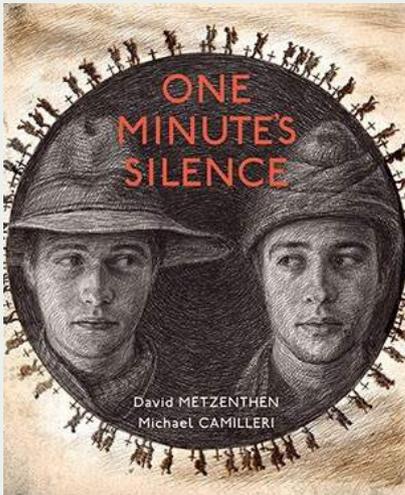
صفوف الروضة – ترتيلة روحوا بكل الأرض



قدم تلاميذ الصف الثاني أغنية "من عشيبي" من وحي ما تعلموه في الصف، عن موضوع جسم الإنسان.

# Library News

This month the Library has a special display about Remembrance Day. Each year on the 11th November we remember those who have died in war by pausing for two minutes of silence at 11am. In 1918 an armistice was signed between the Allies of World War One and Germany. This took place on the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month." We often see poppies being worn on Remembrance Day. Poppies were one of the first plants to grow on the battlefields of France and Belgium. In 1921 the first silk poppies were sold to raise money for Australian soldiers who had returned from war. This is a tradition which continues today. To learn more about Australia's involvement in the First World War have a look at these wonderful books from our Library Collection.



## Reminders

- Please ensure you have your Student ID Card with you when you come to the library to borrow or photocopy.
- Junior Primary students please remember your library bag on borrowing days. Help us keep our books beautiful!
- Bankstown and Campsie Libraries are holding free information sessions in November for parents and students. Demonstrations will cover how to use online catalogues, data bases, research skills and eBooks. For more information visit: <https://www.cbcity.nsw.gov.au/events/find-stuff-@-your-library-for-parents>



**Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134**

Office: (02) 9745 1170

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## **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 18 October 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](mailto:enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au) for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

# *Learn Music on Keyboard at School*

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Cool music knowledge!*



- Convenient at-school venue
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- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially

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# Important Announcements

## REMINDERS

- Students must arrive to school no later than 8:25am
- Students are not to leave school before 3:10pm and early leave must be with permission granted by Year or Stage Coordinators. Exceptional circumstances require a note from parents.
- Ensure correct uniforms are worn
- Boys to have regulation haircuts
- No coloured bands to be worn around necks or on wrists
- Years 3-12 students to have their diaries signed when required
- Parents to make appointments to speak to teachers.
- Playground supervision starts 8am and ends 3:30pm.
- If your son/daughter must leave early, you must write a note in their diary, which is to be signed by their relevant teachers/coordinators, and they are to present themselves to the front office at the time needed.

# Upcoming Events

**Sat 9** Year 3 Holy Communion

**Tue 19** Kindy 2020 Information  
Evening

**Mon 18-Fri 22** Primary Swimming Program

**Wed 20** Year 12 Formal

**Wed 20-Tue 26** Years 7-10 Exams

**Fri 22** Lebanese Independence Day

**Tue 26** Kindy 2020 Orientation  
Year 7 2020 Orientation