

# ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 8

Term 3, Week 2, 2017

## Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

Welcome to Term 3. I hope that you all enjoyed the holiday period and have kept well during this winter season.

At the end of Term 2, our teachers participated in 4 days of professional development which was very successful and will be implemented daily in your child's learning. The strength of professional development is to improve the quality and consistency of teaching so that the student learning is improved. It allows teachers to see, practise and gauge the effects of new strategies and to familiarise students to new ways of learning.

During the holiday period we also celebrated our patron saint, Saint Charbel's feast day. St Charbel reflects the true meaning of being a Maronite. He is not only our patron saint but a friend, a father and guidance to our students as well as to each and every one of us. In the past, Saint Charbel's feast day has not been highlighted and celebrated as a whole school event and fortunately this year we recognised him as Patron's Day by celebrating a whole school mass, activities & a sausage sizzle gratefully organised by our staff and P & F Committee. Thank you to all who made this day special and we look forward to honouring our Patron every year.

This term we started with a new project, our first ever Before & After School Care program. This has been an ongoing request by parents that we found would be both beneficial to our community and to our College. The project will be taking place in the Multi-Purpose Hall.

This term, Monday 31 July – Friday, 4 August we will be welcoming 24 overseas students from China. This is a first for the College and I am very pleased to associate and integrate their community into our own. The purpose of this visit is very important to allow our students to integrate with students other than from the normal Lebanese culture as well as to be able to accept, diversify and form a relationship with other nationalities and to view education at a different level. I hope that if this visit is successful we can pursue further visits. I ask that you encourage all our students to respectfully integrate these students in a Maronite Christian manner.

Over the coming weeks our Year 12 students will sit their Trial HSC exams in preparation for their final HSC exams in October. We keep them in our prayers to focus and perform to their best of their ability.

May our Patron Saint, Saint Charbel intercede and watch over each and every one of you and your families.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### July

Mon 31

HSC Trial Examinations (until Mon Aug 14)

Year 10 Work Experience (until Fri Aug 4)

### August

Tues 8

St Mary of the Cross

Tues 15

MacKillop's Feast Day

Fri 18

Feast of the Assumption

Sat 19 – 25

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Year 2)

Thurs 24

Book Week – 'Escape to Everywhere'

Fri 25

Book Week Parade

Wed 30

Account 3 Fees Payment Due

Blessed Estephan Nehme's Feast Day

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Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you all had a good break and are rejuvenated. Whilst students were on holidays, teachers were busy at school attending various professional development sessions that are in line with our strategic plan. In particular, teachers took time to study the Visible Learning research and focussed on a number of criterion that through evidence-based research can impact student learning. These included collective teacher efficacy, student-teacher relationships, teacher clarity, feedback that moves the learning forward and homework. We are working as a staff to focus on what the research tells us is best practice when it comes to this criterion in order to improve learning outcomes for students.

### Enrichment Classes

We are pleased to announce that we are beginning to offer enrichment classes. We are currently starting in Kindergarten and the program will be extended across the school as the program develops. These classes are devised to provide a suitable learning environment for those students who demonstrate the characteristics of a bright learner in the academic domain. **It is important to note that at this stage we are offering enrichment classes for bright learners.** Extension classes may be offered to those who, through evidence and data, demonstrate the capability of a gifted learner.

A comprehensive identification process, comprising a balance of subjective and objective strategies, has been developed to aid in the selection of the most appropriate students for inclusion in these classes. This identification process includes from class/stage assessments and observations and may include specific off-level testing of a target group, ending with final selection of students for enrichment or extension classes. It assesses both actual achievement and potential to achieve.

Once the identification process is complete, the most appropriate placement option for each identified student is determined. Inclusion in an enrichment class is fluid and is dependent on performance throughout the year in daily class tasks as well as the assessment data collected. The identification process enables us to place all students in the learning situation that best meets their academic, social and emotional needs.

### Selection Criteria for Students

Students will be ranked and final selection based on the following data:

- In-class observation and recommendation by teacher
- In-class observations of a psychologist
- Informal and on-going in-class assessment
- Formal assessments tasks
- Off-level testing
- Attendance and behaviour data

If your child is selected for enrichment, parents will be notified and asked to complete a permission slip that allows for their extraction from the mainstream classroom in order to participate in the program.

Below is a simplistic table that may assist you in furthering your understanding of the differences between a bright learner and a gifted learner.

Note the Difference	
Source: Janice Szabos, Challenge Magazine Tennessee Association for the Gifted: <a href="http://www.tag-tenn.org">http://www.tag-tenn.org</a>	
A Bright Child:	A Gifted Learner:
Knows the answers	Asks the questions
Is interested	Is highly curious
Is attentive	Is mentally and physically involved
Has good ideas	Has wild, silly ideas
Works hard	Plays around, yet tests well
Answers the questions	Discusses in detail, elaborates
Top group	Beyond the group
Listens with interest	Shows strong feeling and opinions
Learns with ease	Already knows
6-8 repetitions for mastery	1-2 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas	Constructs abstractions
Enjoys peers	Prefers adults
Grasps the meaning	Draws inferences
Completes assignments	Initiates projects
Is receptive	Is intense
Copies accurately	Creates a new design
Enjoys school	Enjoys learning
Absorbs information	Manipulates information
Technician	Inventor
Good memorizer	Good guesser
Enjoys sequential presentation	Thrives on complexity
Is alert	Is keenly observant
Is pleased with own learning	Is highly self-critical

We have a wonderful website resource which is just for parents. Please access it to discover the great range of articles which give some information regarding the pastoral curriculum **You Can Do It**. Hopefully you received the parent booklets sent out at the end of last term with reports.

## YOU CAN DO IT WEBSITE FOR PARENTS

### ANNOUNCEMENT AND LOGIN STEPS

*This is a reminder to all parents that you now have access to the website:*

You Can Do It! Parents



[www.youcandoitparents.com.au](http://www.youcandoitparents.com.au)

To access these valuable resources, please Login at: [www.youcandoitparents.com.au](http://www.youcandoitparents.com.au)

**Login Username:** stcharbels (all lowercase)

**Password:** Stcharbels#750 (case sensitive)

The resources can be found by clicking the **Resources** tab in the header.

You can also visit You Can Do It Parents Face Book page (<https://www.facebook.com/YouCanDoItParents>) by clicking the link on



the home page;

#### A new **HOMEWORK CLUB** in **MATHEMATICS**



will be running every **Tuesday & Thursday** mornings  
*Come along to these sessions if you wish to get some  
extra assistance with your homework*

*All students of all years are welcome to attend.*

**Where:** N108

**Time:** 8am-8:25am

*Mrs Zidros and Mr Wong*

**Second instalment for school fees is now due**  
Payments may be paid in cash, cheque, EFTPOS,  
credit card or directly into our bank account.

For all parents who are using the direct payment  
method into the school bank account to pay their  
school fees and charges, please ensure in completing  
your online payment, that the recipient field  
description is filled with your Family code/account No.  
in order to allocate these payments to the correct  
families.

Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink



## Patron's Day

On Friday 21 July, St. Charbel's College celebrated our first Patron's Day, reflecting on the wonderful example of our hermit monk from the mountains.

A whole school Mass (K-12), principally celebrated by Fr. Louis Ferkh, joined by the monks, was held. Following Mass, the Parents & Friends Association put on a wonderful Sausage Sizzle.

An array of activities entertained and engaged our students to the close of day.

A great day enjoyed by all!



## Staff Spirituality Day: Gratitude and Being in the Moment

On Thursday the 29 June, the Staff of St. Charbel's College came together after an intense Semester One to reflect and give thanks.

After Mass, the staff moved off to various workshops: *Lection Divina* (Divine reading); Rosary Making; and Christian Art.

These workshops were thoroughly enjoyed by all, and made even more complete with a beautiful luncheon.

Thank you to all the talented staff that shared their experience and took the time in running the workshops.





Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 3. We have had a very busy start with the children engaged with quite a few events and of course the curriculum. I would like to inform you that we have had a few staff changes this term. Mr David Lewis of class 4L left the College for a school closer to home and we are happy to announce and welcome Ms Maxine Bell who is the 4L class teacher up until the end of the year.

We also farewelled Mrs Eleena Andreou (6J) at the end of last term. A full time teacher will be teaching class 6J up until the end of the year starting within the next few weeks.

Over next few weeks new classroom furniture is being delivered to the College. The children of Year 6 recently acquired new chairs and desks for their classrooms. Other grades will also have their desks and chairs replaced over the coming weeks.

I would like to remind our parents of the importance of ensuring that children are not being dropped off at school too early in the morning and are picked up no later than 3:30pm in the afternoon, especially during these months of winter as it is bitterly cold in the morning and the afternoon. Additionally, supervision of your children is limited so please, I ask that children are delivered to school not before 8.00am and are picked up by 3.30pm in the afternoon. If you have difficulty due to work or family commitments in regards to these times I would encourage you to look into the Before and After School Care option that our College currently has operating. If you have any queries in regards to this please feel free to contact the College office during school hours.

God bless,

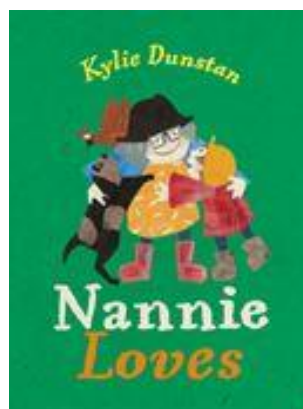
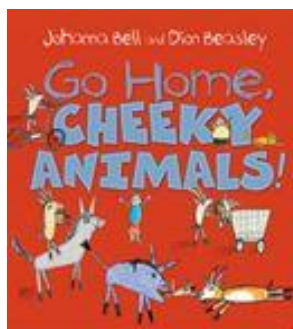


## Library News - Ms Christine Golz

### Dear Parents/Guardians,

You are cordially invited to our Book Week Parade on Thursday the 24th of August at 2.00 pm - students are asked to dress up for the Book Week Theme - "Escape to Everywhere". Remember you don't need to spend a lot of money hiring a costume as you will be surprised at how creative your children can be when given a little help and encouragement. At the completion of the parade awards will be handed out for the winning Book Week competition entries. Let's celebrate together the achievements of our students. If you have a chance please also come and visit the library during Book Week to see the students' Book Week work displays, Book Week books, class projects and student works in the library.

In celebrating Book Week classes will be involved in a variety of activities to encourage a love of reading and enhance student literacy. This year activities include Book Week competitions for every class. The competitions involve students using their imagination, creativity and personal stories to create picture books, book marks and pieces of writing to form a deeper understanding of the world of reading and the imagination. Book Week competition forms will be available to students from their classroom teachers. The competition entries should be returned to the classroom teachers by Tuesday the 22nd of August.





## **Why MaroniteCare?**

**Because we care.**

**If you or anyone you love is struggling in life and needs support,**

**We are HERE to HELP**

**Our team of counsellors is always ready to actively listen and offer professional advice and assistance in a non-judgmental, non-discriminative, confidential environment.**

**Everyone is welcome.**

**Together we make a difference**

**Take the first step and call us now!**

**For General Counselling:**

**Anthony 04 1121 7103 or Lina 04 3321 7063**

**Speech Therapy: Nisreen 04 2322 4449**

**Family & Marriage Support: Dr Dima Akik 04 0629 6698**

<https://www.facebook.com/maronitecare/>



Dr Dima will be presenting some sessions to parents.

Everyone is welcome, parents and youth. The course is free. There is no need for any registration. The sessions include practical advice, interactive exercises and role-play.

The coming sessions are as follows:

- **Session II: *The Power of Body Language* ( Wed 2 Aug 2017)**
- **Session III: *The Art of Winning Every Battle* ( Wed 30 Aug 2017)**
- **Session IV: *Why do Difficult People exist in Life?* (Tues 19 Sep 2017)**

For more details, please find attached the flyers for the next Arabic and English sessions.













Kids@Weldon



Kids@Weldon



Kids@Weldon



Kids@Weldon

Weldon Children's Services is offering a before and after school care program at St Charbel's College which commenced. Weldon has been operating before and after school programs and vacation care programs for families for more than 30 years. The St Charbel's program is running on-site from the Multi-Purpose Hall.

Information about our onsite program can be provided by contacting the Weldon Head Office at:

Telephone: 8741-0500

Email: [kids@weldon.com.au](mailto:kids@weldon.com.au)

The hours of operation will be as follows:

Before School Care: 6:30am until 8:20am

After School Care: 3pm until 6:30pm

Vacation Care: 6:30am until 6:30pm

Our programs offer a range of activities suitable for school aged children. We provide breakfast in the mornings and light nutritious snacks in the afternoons.

The school office have enrolment packages and information about our programs.

**Deborah Moran**

General Manager

Weldon Children's Services