

ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 9

Term 3, Week 5, 2017

Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

The term so far has been extremely busy across the College. We have had many events take place which the students of the College have enjoyed thoroughly.

Recently, our Chinese visitors shared 5 enjoyable days with our students and staff. This being the first for our College, it was very warmly welcomed by all. It was truly an honour to see our College unite together as one and welcome such a program. Our students made the College very proud as they integrated well with our guests, reflecting the true Maronite ethos and traditions that is always taught firstly in the home. So thank you to our parents, staff and students for making this a memorable event.

In the Primary School we have begun the process of renewing all desks and chairs within the classrooms. Years 5 and 6 have currently received new furniture in their classrooms and they are extremely happy. We are anticipating that in the coming months the entire Primary School will have their desks and chairs replaced. This has been a costly project that is very much deserved for our students.

Our *Before & After School Care* program has been warmly welcomed by the College community. We continue to encourage all parents to use this service to assist in your needs as best as possible. *Kids @ Weldon* are always willing and ready to assist where possible. Additionally, we further anticipate improving the College to the best of our ability with the support and encouragement of our fine staff and loyal parents.

Tuesday, 15 August the Church celebrates the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady when according to our faith, the Holy Mother, "having completed her course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". Since Our Lady is the highest created expression of God, we should struggle to defend and strive to establish the highest possible expression of her spirit on earth. May the Blessed Virgin Mary protect & bless each and every one of you and your families on this blessed feast day!



UPCOMING EVENTS

August

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tues 15 | Feast of the Assumption |
| Fri 18 | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Year 2) |
| Sat 19 – 25 | Book Week – 'Escape to Everywhere' |
| Thurs 24 | Book Week Parade |
| Fri 25 | Account 3 Fees Payment Due |
| Wed 30 | Blessed Estephan Nehme's Feast Day |

September

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Fri 1 | Father's Day Mass & Morning Tea |
| Mon 11 – 22 | Year 11 Yearly Examinations |
| Tues 19 | Year 12 Graduation Mass & Ceremony |
| Fri 22 | Last Day of Term 3 |
| October | |
| Mon 9 | Staff Professional Development |
| Tues 10 | Term 4 Commences |

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 www.facebook.com/StCharbelCollege



We are currently working on updating our risk assessment of the Kiss 'n' Go system. If parents wish to send any concerns about the safety of the system, please feel free to send an email and mark it as KISS 'N' GO. The risk assessment reflects our implementation of all required safety features and we are pleased to accept parent views.

Parent views are important and we are also evaluating our homework policy. A questionnaire has been sent via email to all parents of students in Years 7 to 12. It will only take a short time to complete but parent feedback will be very valuable. Many thanks for your assistance with this.

This term we say goodbye to Mrs Hitti who awaits the birth of her baby. We wish her well in the exciting time ahead and we thank her for all her wonderful work with her year group. Mrs Pantelli will be taking over as Year Coordinator for Year 11 as they move in to Year 12. We welcome her to the pastoral team and we look forward to working with her. We are currently finalising SRC positions for 2018. Students have submitted a letter of application, presented a speech to the cohort and attended interviews with the leadership team. The votes from teachers and students are now in and decisions will be made known very soon. We thank all students who have committed to the process – well done!

THE KISS 'N' GO SYSTEM

The Kiss 'n Go system is designed to provide parents/guardians with a safe and convenient haven for setting – down and picking – up children. It aims to accommodate as many parents/guardians as possible during the periods before and after school. It is a short term stopping area which will enable your child to walk between your car and the school, using the safety of the footpath.

Operating time is controlled by the regulatory street signs indicating NO PARKING in the set-down or pick-up zone during the hours of 8:00 – 8.30am and 3:10– 3.30pm during school days. The system is monitored by the local council and notices will be issued for misuse of the zone.

The K'N'G system has been commended for the way it operates but we do need to remind parents of some key safety requirements.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The following will ensure safe use of the K'N'G ZONE:

DO

- accept that if you arrive early you will be required to **KEEP MOVING** so that there is a flow of traffic until the zone opens.
- use your indicator to advise when moving into or out of the KNG zone.
- place school bags **INSIDE** the car and **NOT** in the boot – children standing on the road at any point are extremely vulnerable to cars behind and in addition the zone is on a slope!
- set down children as near as possible to the main gate
- pick up children as near as possible to the main gate
- continue moving forward while in zone
- make sure children get into and out of the car on footpath side **ONLY**
- organise the car so that children have ease of access when getting in and out – this avoids delays and assists the smooth running of the system
- arrange with the office if someone other than the registered car is picking-up or dropping-off children in the zone.
- please remember that the system only operates because of the wonderful volunteers who give up their time freely to assist on a regular basis.
- Alert your child's teacher if you will not be picking up from the K 'N' Go area or if someone else will be picking up your child. Provide clear details.

DON'T

- use the zone as a parking area.
- get out of your car at any point during drop off or pick up.
- put car seats on the left hand side of the back seat-this obstructs students getting in and out of the car and if a child raises their hand –they can trap fingers in the door.
- park in driveways of neighbouring houses – if we keep the flow of traffic we have an extremely efficient system and you will pass through the zone with minimal delays.
- pick - up children from the K 'N' Go area if you are not using the system.

1-2-3 Magic

Effective Discipline for Children 2 -12

The pastoral team would like to take this opportunity to let you know about the new discipline program that has been introduced across the primary school this term. Dr Thomas Phelan, a clinical psychologist, developed this program, called **1-2-3 Magic: Effective Discipline for Children 2-12**. It is a program that incorporates specific, gentle techniques to stop undesirable behaviour as well as to encourage good behaviour.

The number one priority each day is to focus on learning and we aim to ensure that every child achieves their personal best. We know that this program offers a clear, warm and demanding discipline technique that has already proven to be highly successful in the classroom. The fact that we are all committed to the program also means that there is consistency across classrooms and year groups. Children need consistency and with this in mind we would like to invite you to attend a 1-2-3 Magic session where we explain the concepts behind the system.

In addition to the 1-2-3 Magic system we have been trialling some techniques to engage children and to avoid low level disruption through non-verbal cues.

We will be available to present the system to you at the following times:

- ⇒ **Friday 18th August at 8:45am**
- ⇒ **Monday 21st August at 8:45am**
- ⇒ **Wednesday August 23rd at 2:00pm**

The sessions will take place in Mary MacKillop and should take an hour. You only need to attend one session. We are offering several dates so that you can choose the one that best suits you. If you are available to join us, please send a short note to your class teacher to let us know that you will be in attendance. Please mark the note with your child's name and your preferred date.

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

Third 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 in order to
allocate these payments to the correct families.
Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink

Maronite Diocesan Assembly Survey

After more than 150 years of Maronite presence in Australia, the first Maronite Diocesan Assembly will be held from **Friday 24 to Sunday 26 November 2017**, in Sydney. To help prepare for this Assembly, under the theme: **"Strong in Faith, Growing in Love"**, all Maronites are invited to complete a short survey. The survey can be accessed online through **maronite.org.au** or you can collect a copy from your church. Please return the completed survey to any parish office by **15 September 2017**.

إستطلاع الرأي للمجمع الأبرشي الماروني

بعد مرور أكثر من ١٥٠ سنة على وجود الموارنة في أستراليا، سوف يعقد ولأول مرة المجمع الأبرشي الماروني من الجمعة ٢٤ إلى الأحد ٢٦ تشرين الثاني ٢٠١٧ في سيدني. ولأجل إنجاح هذا المجمع، تحت عنوان: "نزداد في الإيمان... ننمو في المحبة"، نرجو من جميع أبناء وبنات الكنيسة المارونية الإجابة على إستطلاع الرأي (survey) الموجود على مداخل الكنيسة أو المتوفر عبر الانترنت على **maronite.org.au** وإعادته إلى مكتب الرعية قبل ١٥ أيلول ٢٠١٧، وشكراً .

REC Primary - Mrs Mary Wells

Our Grade 2 Students are nearing a very important event in their lives. They are ready to make their First Reconciliation. This great event will occur on Friday 18th August following the Mass of the Assumption. Please pray for the students, their teachers and their families. On Tuesday the 15th August, feast of the Assumption of Mary, there is another special event. The classes from Grades 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will join together to celebrate the Centennial of Fatima with a Rosary. This is a special feast day of Our Lady, so we are inviting parents to come to recite the Rosary with the students. There will be a 'Bowling' procession of an icon of Mary carried by some parents between the grades as we say the Glorious Decades. The holy picture of Mary will meet the holy picture of Jesus at the end where the pictures will bow to each other as a symbol of the Assumption. A note is being sent out regarding this.



Dear Parents,

It has already come up to half way through the term and the children have had a range of activities and events which they have been taking part in apart from their learning in the classroom. Last week St. Charbel's College was extremely fortunate in having the opportunity to host international students from China. The children's kind, generous spirit towards our visitors was so heartwarming. Our students showed the beauty of multiculturalism transcending all boundaries; they embraced the experience and truly enjoyed it. In the next few weeks we have quite a few events scheduled. On Tuesday 15th August we will be celebrating the Assumption of Our Lady. The children will be coming down to the playground just before Recess to pray the Rosary each year group at a time. We would like our parents to join us on this most beautiful feast day and share the praying of the Rosary with the children. Additionally, this term the children will be participating in a whole range of activities in regards to Book Week. Some of the classes will be visiting local libraries and of course we look forward to our Book Week Parade which is scheduled for Thursday 24th August. Please make sure to check all notes going home letting you know about the events planned over the next few weeks.

Recently, some of our classrooms have had new tables and chairs replace the old furniture for the children. Many thanks to Father Maroun's vision and persistence and we are slowly changing the tables and chairs in each classroom so that all classrooms get a fresh new look. We have so far changed the furniture for classrooms for Years 5 and 6 with other grades getting a change in the coming weeks.

I wish to remind our parents that if you have a query or concern about your child it is important that you make time to talk about it with their teacher. It is always best to speak with the teacher first because each situation will always have many contexts and it is vital that your child's teacher is fully aware of any apprehensions you may have. If you need to pursue a conversation further then it is best to speak with the Stage Coordinator for your child's grade. Our Stage Coordinators are:

- ⇒ Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) Coordinator: Ms Attard
- ⇒ Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) Coordinator: Mrs Labban (Zeitouni)
- ⇒ Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) Coordinator: Ms Durham
- ⇒ Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) Coordinator: Mrs Leas

I am also available to assist you however, it is best to ensure that you are following the above procedure first so that all areas of any concerns raised have been fully investigated. On another note, I wish to bring to your attention that no parent is to approach any child on the playground. If your child is experiencing issues with another student or students then you need to bring this to the attention of your child's teacher. Just as you would not appreciate your child being spoken to by a stranger, it is reciprocated with other children too. Please be mindful that this behavior is unacceptable and can possibly be interpreted as a child protection issue. I thank you all kindly for following these procedures for the best interest of your child.

God bless,

Director of Curriculum (7-12) - Mrs Karen Jubb

August 12 – 20th is National Science week – and this year's theme is Future Earth. During this week schools will focus on Australia's sustainability science and highlight those issues that are unique to Australia and our region. We thank the Science faculty and Year 9 students for their enthusiasm in setting up displays around the topic of Sustainability! The Science laboratories will be open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during lunch for students to visit the displays and learn more about how we can ensure the future of the earth and its resources.

Week 5 sees the end of the HSC trial examinations for Year 12 – and we congratulate them for their perseverance and commitment over the last two weeks. Teachers have been marking student responses and preparing feedback to ensure that students know the areas they need to improve on in preparation for the HSC examinations in October. It is important to remind Year 12 students that they need to be ready to enter the examination room fifteen minutes before the exam starting time and to depart quietly at the end so as not to disturb other students and staff.

The 2017 NAPLAN results are released this week, and parents of Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 will receive the results by the end of the week. If your child does not bring their NAPLAN report home, please contact the College and we will endeavour to assist you. From 2020, all Year 12 students in NSW must reach the minimum standard of numeracy and literacy to receive an HSC. This means students undertaking Year 9 in 2017 will be the first students expected to meet the minimum standard. More information on the minimum standards are available on the NSW Education Standards Authority website.

OPERATION ART 2017

Our school is exhibiting in Operation Art. Come and see it on display at the Armory Gallery, Jamieson Street, Sydney Olympic Park

9 September - 29 October, open daily 10am-4pm, Free Entry





Term 3 is well underway and is shaping up to be an exciting, productive term. We have already reached the half way mark of the year and are looking forward to our upcoming visit to Campsie Library on the 23rd of August, and our excursion to Golden Ridge Farm on the 13th of September (permission notes to come home soon).

Kindergarten is to be commended on how hard they have been working and the progress that has been made so far this year. The children are familiar with the routines, have gotten to know each other well and are now extending and exploring experiences in greater depth and purpose.

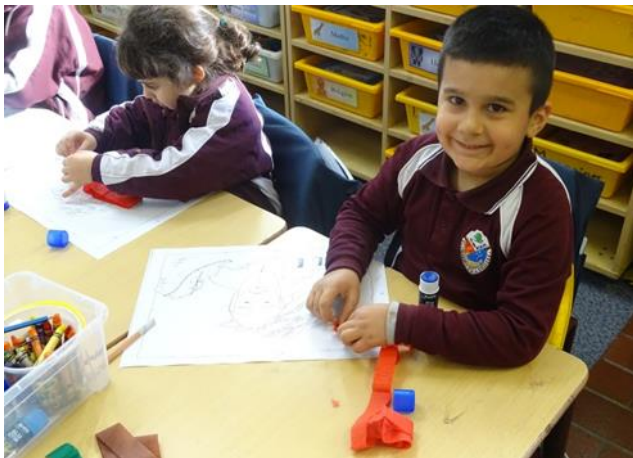
We have started our Kindy home reading program using books that follow a predictable pattern. These are called decodable readers. We ask that you give your child a chance to read their decodable reader every day so that they get excited when they can read it fluently. A note will be coming home soon to outline further information about the home reading program.

Stage 1 Coordinator - Mrs Jessica Zeitouni

The beginning of Term 3 has been extremely busy for Stage One. Lots of things have been happening as you can see below:

St. Charbel's Feast Day

This event was a great success as the students were able to appreciate and learn more about our Patron Saint, Saint Charbel. We all know what an amazing person he was both when he was alive on Earth and also after he had died. He is not called the "Miracle Worker" for no reason. I pray that Saint Charbel will be an example and a guiding light for all your families.



Term 3 Sport – Gymnastics

In Term 3 Stage One will be doing Gymnastics as their weekly sport on a Tuesday. Already there has been some great feedback from the students about how much they enjoy their Gymnastics session. The company that is coaching the students for Gymnastics is called "Activated Group". Their School Gymnastics programs aren't just great - **they are amazing!** They are specifically designed to meet the PDHPE outcomes, they are delivered by experienced coaches and run using their custom built equipment. Their programs keep the students active the whole session, while supporting them to master extensive gymnastics skills and gaining valuable fitness. The students do not even know that they are exercising!



Term 3 is a very busy term and lots of learning takes place which is educational as well as fun! Year 4 have been very busy both in and out of the classrooms and following are a few examples of what has been going on.

From 4A A recount of an excursion by Jessica Taouk:

Year 4's visit to The Botanical Gardens was a very joyful day. We learnt a lot of information about plants and indigenous people.

When we got there we had to walk to the Learning Centre where we put are bags and were partnered with another class. We were separated and put with Mary and Terry. First 4A went with Mary where we learned about making things that aboriginals built and shelters they made. Then we stopped at a gate and 4A went with Terry who showed us symbols and different tools Aboriginals used to hunt, etc. After a break we walked around the park reading the writing on the walls that had lots of interesting information. Then we went for a walk to the Opera House where we spent about half an hour. We took lots of pictures and headed back. When we got back we saw a gorgeous white owl, so cute!!!!

The classes (4A ,4J) had one more break reading more information then it was time to wait for the buses.

We exited The Botanical Gardens and waited outside the Art Gallery of NSW. After about 10 minutes the buses finally came and we headed for home.



"We used the ipads to research about cool lands and tropical places". Joseph Hanna



"We used the ipads to see the different climates." Angel Jaajaa



"We used the ipads to research about different climates." Elias M

Library News - Ms Christine Golz & Mrs Simone Cullinan

Dear Parents,

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 interests to create postcards, book marks, and travel brochures to celebrate the world of imagination in books. 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. As well as many library and in-class Book Week activities, Kindergarten will be visiting Campsie Library for an interactive story telling session surrounding the "Escape to Everywhere" theme.



New Furniture

Term 3 has been a very exciting Term for Stage 3. We now have new tables and chairs for all the students in Years 5 and 6. Our students have commented on how comfortable, colourful and wonderful they are.

Chess Classes

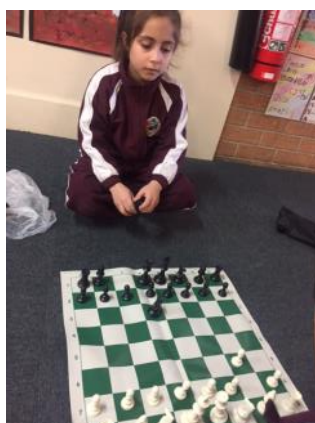
Chess classes for students from Years 1-6 have been a huge success. Sydney Chess Academy has been running chess classes at our school every Friday at lunch times. The students have loved learning strategies and challenging themselves. During each class there is a tuition session followed by practical application of skills through playing with an opponent. We have quite a few budding young chess experts! If you are interested in enrolling your child for next term speak to the office or ask your child to come and see me for more information.

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

This year our Stage 3 students have been involved in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The students need to finalise their Reading Logs and hand them in to their class teachers.

International Students

We have been so fortunate to have the opportunity to host four Chinese students in Stage 3. Our students were exceptionally welcoming and hospitable and our visitors felt very much at home and a part of our school. They were busy engaging in Aussie barbecues and a Lebanese feast, Arabic lessons and AFL classes. Our visitors participated wholeheartedly with the encouragement and support of their new friends in Years 5 and 6. Thank you to the buddies who accompanied our visitors and made them feel at home and a big thank you to all of the Stage 3 students who were welcoming, hospitable and supportive. We are very proud of you! We are looking forward to a productive and busy Term 3. Thank you for your ongoing support.



في أواخر الفصل الثاني قام طلاب اللغة العربية في الصف السابع بزيارة Sydney Aquarium و wild Animal Life في مدينة سيدني للتعرف على بعض أنواع الأسماك والحيوانات والتكلم عنها باللغة العربية، وهذا ما يُنمي عندهم مهارة التّكلم ومعرفة أسماء هذه الحيوانات بالعربيّة. كما أننا سررنا بعودة التلامذة في الفصل الثالث إلى نشاطاتهم المدرسيّة بعد عطلة دامت ثلاثة أسابيع.

وقد سررنا أيضاً بزيارة بعض الطلاب الصينيين لمعهد مار شربل لصفوف السابع والثامن والتاسع، إذ اندمجوا مع طلابنا وتعلّموا بعض العبارات العربيّة وشيئاً من التراث اللبناني كرقصة الدبكة. وبالمقابل تعلّم منهم تلاميذنا بعض العبارات باللغة الصينيّة. كانت تجربة فريدة ومفيدة بالتعرّف إلى الآخر وتقبّله.

أمّا صف الحادي عشر فسينهي السنّة الأولى من الشهادة الثانوية العليا بامتحانات تبدأ في أوائل الأسبوعين الأخيرين من الفصل الثالث والتي نتمنى أن تكون نتائجها مشرّفة كنتائج السنوات الماضية. وبالنسبة لصفوف الثامن والعاشر فإنهم يتحضّرون لإختيار المواد التي سيدرسونها في السنوات القادمة. وبالمناسبة أذكر الأهالي الكرام بأن تعليم اللغة العربيّة لم يعد إجبارياً في الصف التاسع وما فوق، فمن أراد أن يكمل دراسته في هذه اللغة عليه أن يختارها بنفسه. لذلك ننصح الأهل والطلاب أن يتناقشوا في هذا الأمر لما فيه مصلحتهم أولاً وأنتم تعلمون جيّداً ما أهميّة اللغات في عصرنا الحاضر! هذا عدا الأهميّة التاريخيّة والثقافيّة التي تربطنا بهذه اللغة. ولمزيد من المعلومات أرجو أن تتصلوا بي أو بأحد أساتذة اللغة العربيّة في القسم الثانوي. نتمنى لكم التوفيق وطلابنا أفضل الإختيارات والنتائج.





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 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.

Career's News

I would like to welcome you to the first edition of "Career's News" for 2017. I will use this article to publish important information to Students of Years 9 - 12. It is important that each student is aware of the information published in this section as well as the weekly careers newsletter and use the resources available at the College for the betterment of their educational future.

Upcoming 'Careers Events'

Please see me if any of the following are of interest to you.

- **A Lab of one's own: Women in STEMM creating our future (FREE EVENT).** Thursday 17 August – 12pm, UTS Great Hall, UTS Building 1, 15 Broadway, Sydney. A series of short talks showcasing UTS's fantastic female students and early-career researchers in STEMM. Hear about their ideas, research, creativity and innovation, with dynamic hosting from ABC comedian Zoe Norton Lodge. <https://www.evensi.com/a-lab-of-ones-own-women-in-stemm-creating-our-future-uts/218391650>
- **UNSW Power of Engineering Day.** Tuesday 26 September, 9am – 4pm, UNSW Kensington Campus, High Street, Kensington, NSW. Interactive and hands-on workshops showcasing a variety of engineering disciplines for female students in Year 9 and 10. Inspirational and informative speakers from industry that the students can relate to and an opportunity to experience local engineering projects. <https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/all-events/power-of-engineering-day>
- **Find an Apprenticeship or Traineeship in NSW.** You can search for school based apprenticeships across a range of industries. <https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/rtow/vto/vtoEnquiry.do?command=goToVTOSearch>
- **Apprenticeship Support Australia.** This service supports those wanting an apprenticeship, and offers free Careers Advice, as well as school-based apprenticeship info <http://www.apprenticeshipsupport.com.au/Parents>
- **Career Tips for School Leavers.** <https://www.migas.com.au/news/expert-career-tips-for-school-leavers/>
- **Choosing a career path.** Some people are worrying about getting into their dream course, but others don't even know what their dream is! This article has some tips for working out what you should do when you leave school. <http://this.deakin.edu.au/careers/how-to-work-out-who-you-want-to-be-when-you-grow-up>

I look forward to working with you all.

Year 10 Report - Mrs Joanne Zidros

Make a Difference Day

"Make a Difference Day" was an informative and insightful day. Many Year 10 students from across Sydney gathered together to discuss and voice their opinions on certain topics. Some of the topics covered included Democracy, Gender Equality, Institutional Racism and Constitutional Rights. When partaking in these discussions, all students felt that they could articulate their views to a greater level and became more effective in proving their arguments through means of providing evidence and being logical. It was an exceptional experience which exposed us to the types of problems that will be faced in the future.

Jennifer Harb and Markos Abdallah - (Year 10)

Year 7 Report-Mr Charlie Shalala

Save lives together

A **heart**-felt thank you to the parents, students and staff who have **donated blood** so far – your **donation** is a very special and significant contribution to the lives of many fellow Australians. **Since 2014, we have made 86 donations, which has helped save 258 lives!**

Blood donations occur during Thursday sport, where a driver transports donors to the Liverpool Blood Donor Centre and back to school before 3:10pm.

"Thank you for allowing me to enjoy an amazing experience today. Knowing that I have saved 3 lives is incredible!" Mrs Dolly Zoghaib (parent)

Upcoming dates:

Thursday, 24 August at 12:00pm

Thursday, 31 August at 12:45pm

Thursday, 14 September at 12:45pm

Please contact Mr Shalala on 9740 0999 or cshalala@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au



Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

1005/17_27754

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>





Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

** Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.



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

- 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.

Kids @ Weldon:



Kids@Weldon

Before & After School Care Contact Details:

Centre co-ordinator: Vee Ibrahim

Centre Number: 0418 735 976

Email: stcmcs@weldon.com.au

Kids @ Weldon will also be conducting Vacation Care Programs these upcoming school holidays.