

ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 16

Term 4, December 2018

Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

As the school year draws to an end there are many things that, as the Principal of St Charbel's College, I am very thankful for. Firstly, we are extremely fortunate to have a committed and devoted staff at our school. They are consistent and thorough in their approach to teaching and learning and are champions of ensuring every child achieves their potential. On another note, I would like to thank the College Board for the support that they have offered me during the year. To our College parents, we are very fortunate to have your ongoing commitment and support. We are very thankful to the P&F and the many volunteers who have assisted in numerous programs and events around the school. I would like to thank you for your ongoing support and assistance which has been unconditionally given to our school community. Lastly, I would like to thank all the students of our fabulous College. I continue to be impressed by the way you behave and achieve academic progress. Your commitment towards the school and your perseverance is inspiring.

This week we offered all our gratitude and thanks with our end of year Thanksgiving Mass. We not only prayed for this year but for a successful & prosperous new scholastic year to come for all. It was a beautiful celebration with all the students participating with prayerful reverence. It was a brilliant way to finish the school year as a College community. I would also like to thank our College Chaplains, Fr Tony Moussa & Brother Hanna, Mrs Joanne Mansour and her dedicated team the Secondary & Primary RE Department for the excellent job in preparing for the Mass. Many hours were spent in preparation and it was a superb and very prayerful event.



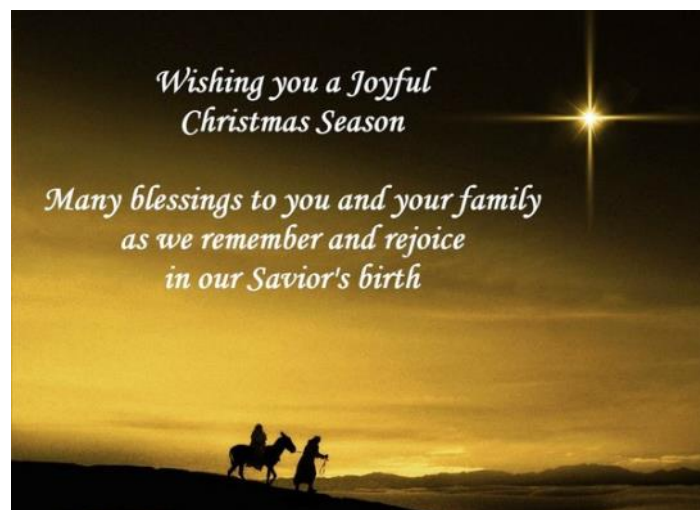
Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

Together with St Charbel's Monastery, the College is currently preparing for a most magnificent occasion with the ordination of 2 of our ex-students, Anthony El-Kazzi and Michael Sandrussi. This is a marvellous event for both St Charbel's College and Monastery as we come together as one community to recognise and celebrate this great achievement. We are truly blessed to bear witness to this magnificent event where we rejoice in the triumph of the successes of these fine young men.

Last Sunday on our Maronite Liturgical Calendar we began the season of Advent and the announcement of the birth of our Lord. With every season in the church we are blessed to be offered a special grace with different events and in the season of Advent we prepare for Christmas and await the birth of Jesus into our lives again.

During the weeks leading up to Christmas, it is a good time for us to reassess our direction in life and to await with expectation the special grace that God promises to offer us at Christmas. We are encouraged to be people of hope, compassion and tolerance especially for those whose needs are greater than our own especially during this festive season.

On a final note, I wish to extend to the College community the best of Christmas wishes and greetings. I pray that your spirit is lit with hope, your heart is filled with joy and your holiday is blessed with the Glory of God. May His love bring you peace at Christmas and as you celebrate the miracle of this special season, may your heart be filled with joy and peace.



Farewell and Thank You

Farewell & Good luck..

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye and good luck to members of our staff.

St Charbel's has been very fortunate to work with valued staff members in a short period of time and over many years. We are very grateful for each staff member's contribution and devotion to the College and its students.

A personal note of thanks to Mr Peter Collins, College Business Manager, Mrs Vicki Taylor & Mrs Melissa Goaley who have served over 16 years in the College and to Mrs Tina Harb who has worked tirelessly as Director of Primary, Head of School, LOTE Coordinator and as Coordinator of Administration, Marketing & Events. Mrs Tina Harb has been an integral member of the College as an Executive team member and working closely with teaching & non teaching staff, parents and friends and College students.

On behalf of St Charbel's College, past principals and the Lebanese Maronite Order, thank you Mrs Harb for all you have contributed to our College and community. All our best wishes and prayers go forth with you on your new journey.

I have the pleasure of serving as the Year 8 Pastoral Care Coordinator for two terms while Mrs. Panteli steps in for Mrs. Chedid who is on maternity leave. Year 8 has experienced a year of growth in many areas. In Term 4 during our Pastoral Care sessions, we continued to build social skills and self-reflection. Our sessions this term covered topics such as Cyberbullying, identifying character strengths, and developing strategies to deal with heightened emotions. In Mass, we are celebrating the Advent Season and await the celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Students have modelled themselves on the virtues of our four House Patron Saints and congratulations go to four students from each homeroom who were recognised for demonstrating one of these virtues. The students have also had an opportunity to continue Christ's mission of charity through donating caps for our Christmas Hamper Appeal. Don't forget to encourage your children to keep reading over the summer! Canterbury Bankstown Council Libraries run Summer Book clubs so students can develop literacy skills in a community learning environment, and you can visit the Council website (<https://www.cbccity.nsw.gov.au/community/library-knowledge-centres/programs-events-calendar/summer-reading-club>) for more details. I wish all our Year 8 families a wonderful and blessed Christmas Season, and safe summer holidays.



Thank you to the Year 12 students for bringing the Christmas spirit to the College! The students have had their opportunities to make a Christmas wish as we approach the festive season.



Nursing Home Visit—Mrs Joanna Zidros

Mrs Zidros, along with some of our students, visited the nursing home a couple weeks ago. They brightened the day for the elderly by sharing some stories, singing and handing out personalised Christmas cards. It showed them to value everything they have, and taught them to be humble and selfless. It was described to be "emotional, and allowed us to have an insight into their lives and their past experiences." Another student described the experience as "an unforgettable experience. It really gave me some insight into the lives of people who live quite differently to the very privileged ways that we do and I'm really glad we had this opportunity to enlighten their mood and see some smiles in that nursing home today!"



It has been a very busy time for Careers at St Charbel's College with many students venturing out of St Charbel's College and into the world of study and work. Some of the main activities included the Interactive Law Workshops at the University of Technology, The University of Wollongong: Energise: Believe, Lead and Succeed Program, Make Up Workshops at The Make Up Artist Academy as well as The Barista Course at Di Pacci Coffee Company. It has been an absolute joy organising the activities and providing our students with the opportunities to gain training and valuable skills.

Here is a summary of the November highlights:

Year 11s with an interest in law took part in the UTS Faculty of Law Day which featured workshops and hands-on practical activities, including the popular Mock Trial activity. UTS students, academics and professionals sharing their experiences in all facets of law. Information about UTS undergraduate courses and career opportunities in law and a mini interactive lecture in popular areas of the law. Most importantly, students had the opportunity to find out about law, what it's like to study and career opportunities in this field. They met students from other schools and worked as a team to complete various hands-on activities. It was a unique experience for our aspiring students.

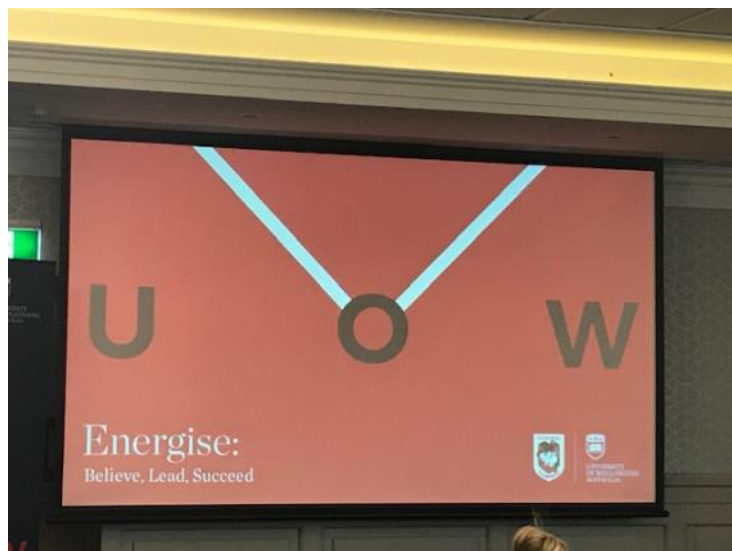


The Energise: Believe, Lead, Succeed program was aimed at students aspiring to study at University. Thus, the opportunity was given to our Year 10 students that are high achievers. This program encouraged students to achieve their full leadership potential through inspiring role models who shared their own personal stories, study skills and goal setting workshops that identified personal strengths and career ambitions as well as self-belief and resilience workshops. It was an amazing day out for all participants and our students were active participants.

The Make Up Workshops and Barista courses were a success with the Year 11 students who have an interest in Beauty or Coffee as a career or as part time employment. Students loved learning about the latest make up trends as well as making a variety of coffees. St Charbel's students received certificates from both courses and are able to add these to their resumes.

Finally, many students have decided to transition to TAFE and have found apprenticeships in Carpentry, Plumbing and Child Care. I would like to thank them for their maturity during this time and wish them the best of luck in the world of work. I look forward to an exciting 2019 with St Charbel's organising its own Careers Day with over 1000 visitors entering our school to explore career and study options.

Have a blessed Christmas!



Bankstown Council Christmas Tree Lighting

In the spirit and joy of this season of Advent, our Saint Charbel's Vocal Group performed last night at the Bankstown Library Christmas tree lighting.

Thank you to Mrs Therese Jackson for putting enormous effort to prepare and support the girls.

They sang beautifully in the presence of Bankstown Council's Mayor, Khal Asfour and other members of Bankstown Council.



Last Friday afternoon the College had the pleasure of being part of the Creative arts/TAS exhibition Performances or Expo. Students from years 7 to 12 performed so beautifully. It is always wonderful to witness the courage, enthusiasm and talent of our students. The event's MC was Tony Saidi from Year 11. He added a special element of suave to the stage, by opening the event with his performance fit for Broadway, of the song Sway by Michael Buble. Young George Ghadieh of year 7 "beatboxed" like a professional and had the crowd roaring for more. Chris Chayna strummed his bass with cool shades and our female Year 11 vocalists sung so beautifully. Our students shone in every performance, closing the show with year 11 performing Flashlight and then our fashionistas walking to the beat of the Drum and Bass guitar strutting their Textiles creations.

The Creative Arts TAS exhibition was hung with love and care by the teachers and students. Walking around the work felt like a walk through one of the world's Art galleries. St Charbel's College is blessed with talented teachers and students. The photography, sculptures, paintings, drawings, fashion, textile arts, timber pieces, etchings and lino prints are amazing. Each year the exhibition is bigger and even more colourful.

This Tuesday afternoon saw year 10 and 11 Music students witness one of our former students in his final assessment performance at the Australian Institute of music, John Saidi. He performed a set of about seven songs that highlighted his ownership for the stage and the versatility of his voice and performance styles. It was an amazing show that had the students and teachers in awe. Teachers in the Creative Arts/TAS department strive to educate their students that our subjects can lead to amazing careers. Witnessing one of our former students embarking on this journey makes what we teach reality.

It has been a fantastic year for our creative teachers and students. Thank you to my wonderful Creative Arts/TAS team who put so much love into their work. Wishing all the St Charbel's College parents and students a Merry Christmas and Happy and Safe New Year. May God bless you.



Year 10 PASS students recently visited Auburn PCYC to try out Wheel Chair Rugby League. The students all enjoyed this unique experience!



Barista Coffee Course—Mrs Joanna Zidros

Last week, some of our Year 12 students undertook a Barista Basics coffee course. Students learned the tools of the trade and gained knowledge on how to use and maintain a commercial coffee machine and grinder. They learned how to prepare and serve quality coffee. Different types of coffee were made such as cappuccino, latte, macchiato, piccolo, mocha, flat white, long black, hot chocolate.

The students thoroughly enjoyed being baristas for the afternoon!



Dear Parents,

This term we have been celebrating the coming of the season of Advent. This is a very special time in the liturgical year and we have read many beautiful books which tell the story of Christmas. Our primary students have also been busy colouring in pictures of the Holy Family and making cards for their loved ones at home.

We have had a wonderful and busy year in the library, sharing books with our students and enriching their reading. We have also been actively involved in the research process, guiding our students to use the best and most reliable resources for their work. This is an ongoing and rewarding task in the age of 'information and technology.'

We thank God for the gift of reading and the joy it brings into our lives. We would like to encourage all of our students to continue reading over the Summer holidays. Consider giving your children a book for Christmas or join your local library and borrow some books to read on a hot day.

The public libraries in Canterbury-Bankstown encourage local children to continue reading over the Summer Holidays through their Summer Reading Club.

There are prizes for participating and certificates awarded upon completion. It's free to join and lots of fun. The theme for 2018 is Curious Creatures.

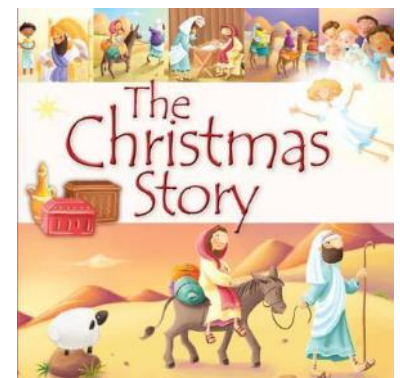
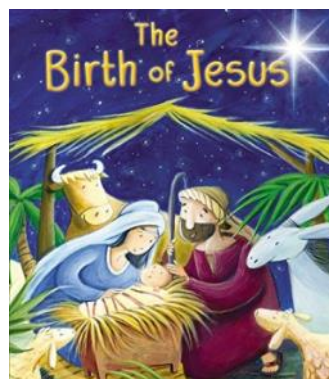
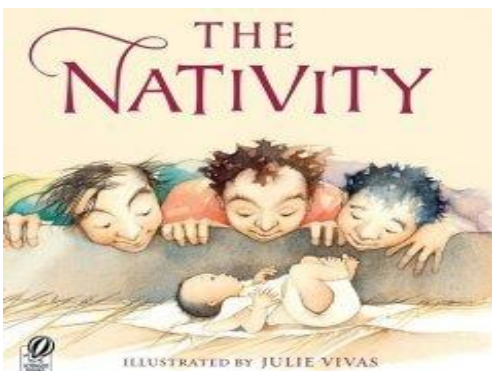
<https://www.cbccity.nsw.gov.au/community/library-knowledge-centres/programs-events-calendar/summer-reading-club>

Reminders:

- A representative of Yorke Educational Centre will be at the school on **Wednesday, the 30th of January 2019, from 8.30 until 12.00, selling textbooks, filling orders and taking payment for orders.**
- All year 12 students' books should be returned to the library to allow book bonds to be released
- Please ensure students return library books they have borrowed before the end of term

Many thanks go to the library staff - Mrs Wakim, Ms Susie Yammouni and Mrs Mounira Akkari for their work during the year.

Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday!



Year 6 parents were special guests at their children's Graduation Mass last Friday. The Mass was organised by Mrs Leas, Mrs Alam, Mrs Bayeh and the Year 6 staff. Years 3-6 students attended and it was a lovely opportunity to honour the Year 6 students. The whole school farewelled the Year 6 students at a Graduation ceremony in the multi-purpose hall. We wish the Year 6 students the best of luck as they move into High School in 2019.

As the year draws to a close, thoughts are turning to 2019. Staff are currently organising classes for 2019. The classes are mixed ability and are decided by the class teachers with input from the specialist staff and Stage Coordinators. Many factors are taken into account such as behaviour, gender etc. The teachers also look at past or potential personality clashes.

Given the many factors that go into forming classes, the school cannot accommodate requests for a change of class, as moving one student usually means a swap is required, which implicates another student and the moves can affect the whole class dynamic. Students will be told their classes and teachers at the beginning of next year.

I'd like to wish all families a Happy Christmas and safe travels over the coming holiday. Thank you for all your support this year.

God bless!



وبلمح البصر، انتهت سنة ٢٠١٨ الدراسية. كانت سنة مليئة بالنشاطات والأعمال في قسم اللغة العربية. كبرنا ولعبنا، بكينا وفرحنا مرحنا وتعلمنا. مررنا بلحظات سعيدة وبلحظات حزينة. حفرنا في قلوبنا تجارباً جديدة على أمل أن تنتهي هذه السنة والجميع في أحسن حال.

عرفنا أن عيد الميلاد قد وصل، فالقلوب البيضاء الصغيرة تغني ترانيل الميلاد في كل أنحاء المدرسة، والطلاب يتعلمون بشوق وحب قصة الميلاد، والمعنى الحقيقي لهذا العيد.

وسمعت أصوات الملائكة تقول:

" ها أنا أبتئزكم بخبرٍ عظيمٍ يفرحُ له جميعُ الشَّعبِ: وُلِدَ لَكُمْ اليومَ في مدينةِ داودَ مُخْلِصٌ هوَ المسيحُ الرَّبُّ".

بمناسبة عيد الميلاد، ومن قسم اللغة العربية، أتمنى للجميع ميلاداً مجيداً وعماماً سعيداً مليئاً بالخير والبركة على أمل أن نراكم بخير في السنة المقبلة.



أنا أستطيع! لأنك معي اليوم كانت أغنية الصف السادس في قداس التخرج. نتمنى لهم النجاح في المرحلة المقبلة.



أشلي نجيم تتلقى شهادة رولي مارون



تريزيا المتيني تتلقى شهادة روز أبو رجيلي الأغا



بعد عمل متواصل ومثابرة
خلال هذه السنة الدراسية،
أحب أن أهنيئ جميع تلاميذ
القسم الإبتدائي على
تتائجهم في آخر هذا
الفصل الدراسي.



تراتيل الميلاد من أصوات الأولاد.

Over the last couple of weeks, the Primary School have been preparing for their Christmas Liturgies. Students from each grade were given a verse from the Gospel around the Season of the Glorious Birth of the Lord. Each Class was taught the meaning of each verse and asked to present each Gospel at the annual Christmas Liturgies.

This term, we also participated in the Saint Vincent De Paul Initiative where we practised the virtue of Generosity. Students learned that Generosity is giving without counting the cost. We don't need to just buy gifts or give money; we can be generous with our tongue by using kind words, be generous with our time and use our talents to help others.

One Saint who showed the virtue of Generosity is Saint Nicholas. We celebrated his Feast Day this week on the 6th of December. Saint Nicholas was a Bishop just like our Maronite Bishop Antoine Charbel Tarabay. He was known for always giving to the poor and didn't expect anything in return. May we live our lives serving the poor and may we learn to imitate Saint Nicholas in everything we do.

What are you doing this Christmas to grow in Generosity?

‘Lord, help us to live the virtue of Generosity. To love without limits. **‘Pope Francis**
Christmas Blessings to all and a Happy New in the Lord.



Year 6 Graduation

Last Friday, 30th November, we celebrated the Year 6 Graduation. We also celebrated their achievements with a ceremony and morning tea on Monday 1st December. We wish them all the very best as they make their transition from Primary to Secondary School. Thank you to all the staff involved in the organisation of this event. God bless.



Christmas Carols at Bankstown Hospital

Our very talented choir students together with Mrs Ahmar Bayeh attended Bankstown Hospital and performed Christmas Carols to bring the message of Joy, Hope & Faith to the sick. May the Christmas spirit of Emmanuel be with you all.



The year has ended! It has been a great year for primary sport! It is unfortunate that the weather stopped us from having our swimming carnival, but I will commend the student's enthusiasm in the lead up to it!

We recently had celebrated the efforts and sporting achievements of the students by handing out sports awards for excellence last week. All students have done an amazing job this year and it was a pleasure to teach them all!



To finish off 2018, 4P embarked on a Christmas Quest. Relying on all of the problem solving and group work skills they have learnt this year, the class set out in groups to find their treasure. On their travels they had to solve clues that led them to 10 different destinations and sent them on a wild adventure around the school. The students were led by some very helpful Year 8 students, but in most circumstances our older and wiser group leaders struggled to keep up with the determined Year 4s. In the end, all groups found their treasure and had an amazing time on the journey!



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z		

The following flyer is about the Soccer Kikoff program—there is a holiday program in January. The Kikoff team are also holding a Drop and Shop program over 2 days in December for parents who want to get their last minute Christmas shopping done!



KIKOFF est. 2008

Holiday Camps

\$50 VOUCHER
*PER CHILD
USE THIS CODE: **STCHAR50**

December Drop and Shop
20th & 21st December 9am-3pm
\$60 a day or \$100 for two day

January Summer Camp
21st-24th January 9am-3pm
\$60 a day or \$200 for four days

KIKOFF Soccer Schools www.kikoff.com.au 02 9119 3676 canterbury@kikoff.com.au



OUR SCHOOL PARTICIPATED IN



SHOE LACE TYING LESSONS

Ascent Footwear works closely with the Podiatry community and The Athlete's Foot to ensure they are meeting the needs of Australian school kids feet. Part of this commitment is educating students about a range of foot health issues from learning how to tie shoe laces to basic foot biomechanics. The lessons are totally free and the kids take home their own lace tying certificate and 9 step guide so they can keep practising at home

 **The Athlete's Foot**
SCHOOL REWARDS PROGRAM

\$5 IS DONATED BACK
TO YOUR SCHOOL
FROM EVERY PAIR
OF SHOES PURCHASED

*See theathletesfoot.com.au/school-rewards for more details

ascent 

SPORTS SHOES IN DISGUISE



ADELA



SCHOLAR



SUSTAIN

ascentfootwear.com.au



SCHOOL

Exclusive to



The Athlete's Foot

The College is ensuring that many events and messages are being advertised through our Facebook page. Please take the time to check us out. Additionally, there are times pictures of students are used. If you do not wish for your child's picture to be used please inform the College by emailing your request to info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au

SCHOOL FEES

Please ensure all overdue and final school fees are finalised ASAP.

UPCOMING 2018/2019 EVENTS

December:

Tue 25 Christmas Day

January:

Sat 26 Australia Day
 Mon 28 Australia Day Public Holiday
 Tue 29 Staff Professional Development
 Wed 30 Staff Professional Development
 Thur 31 Years 7 & 12 Commence

February:

Fri 1 Years 1-6 & Years 8-11 Commence
 Mon 4 Kindergarten Commence (Half Day)
 Tue 5 Kindergarten (Half Day)
 Fri 8 Whole School Mass
 Sat 9 St Maroun's Feast Day
 Tues 12 High School Swimming Carnival
 Wed 13 K-6 Meet & Greet Information Evening
 Fri 15 High Achievers Ceremony
 Mon 18 High School Photo Day
 Tues 19 K-6 Photo Day
 Wed 20 Years 7-12 Information Evening



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 (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays)
- After School Care: 3pm until 6:30pm
- Vacation Care: 7am until 6pm

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:](#)



Before & After School Care Contact Details:

Centre co-ordinator: Mary Azzi

Centre Number: 0418 735 976

Email: stcmcs@weldon.com.au