

# ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 9

Term 3, August 2018

## Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

After a long holiday in which we celebrated our Patron's Feast, Saint Charbel, we are back for the second semester of the school year. I would like to wish all of Saint Charbel's parents and community members a Happy Feast Day. May Saint Charbel continue to intercede for those who seek help from God through him.

Our Patron teaches us how to deal with challenges in our lives. From an educational perspective, we can see clearly how many challenges there are in our life as parents, teachers, students, etc. especially in this period of time. History shows that this is not going to change nor will it become less of a challenge. It is an ongoing struggle and that is why we should find a way to gain and replenish our strength every day in order to continue living a good Christian life and to fulfil our tasks and our mission as good citizens of this world and of Heaven. The key to reaching this goal is through the

biggest challenge which is an "attitude change." To change our attitudes, we should refer to what Jesus commissioned us for, when He said "you are the light of the world" and "you are the salt of the earth". It sounds like Jesus is saying to His Disciples and to us: "you are the best". The meaning of this is to always try to be our best by changing how we lead our lives so that it is fruitful. To be the light of the world and the salt of the earth means we should be different, we should be something shining in this world like diamonds which we can see from afar because of their splendour. Saint Paul says in his letter to the Philippians: "you will shine in the world like bright stars because you are offering it the word of life" (2: 15). Actually, if we are carrying the Light of Jesus Christ in our lives, like we confess in the Creed, then this Light should cover us and emanate from us. This is the meaning of Jesus and Paul's words.

If we realise that we are radiant people; if we really believe in Jesus' word, this brings change to our lives automatically and our attitude changes. It is clear that our attitude determines our future; our attitude determines our status in this life whether we are content or miserable people.

An anonymous quotation says: "... Attitude to me is more important than fact. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. We cannot change what comes to us externally because it is inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...; I am convinced that life is 10 per cent of what happens to me and 90 per cent of how I react to it. I am in charge of my attitude".

Dear readers, our attitude towards God, others and ourselves can determine our destiny in this life and in the eternal life.

To our school family, I wish you a blessed term under the protection of Our Lord and His Saints, especially our beloved Saint Charbel.



St. Charbel has amazed people from all over the world with his generosity in interceding on their behalf. We are proud to call him our Patron!

To celebrate this magnificent Saint, the whole College community gathered to celebrate our second Patron's Day.

And what a celebration it was, marked by prayer, food and play!

We give thanks that the monks of the LMO share in the vision of St Charbel in bringing people to a deep love of Christ.

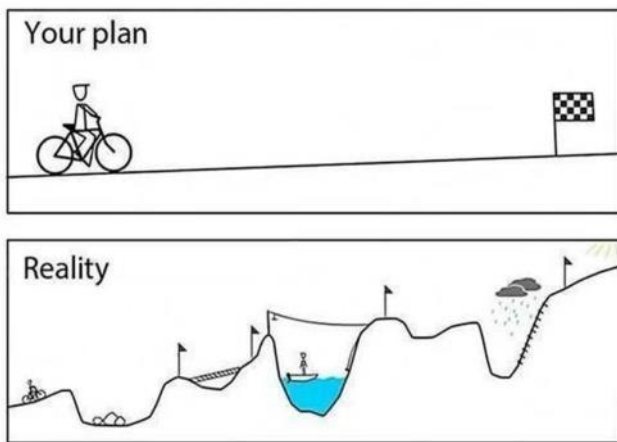


It was a joyful start to the term with a College Awards assembly to celebrate the Semester One achievements of our students.

**The St Mary MacKillop “Service” award** was presented to students who displayed the epitomy of serving *Christ through serving others*; within the College and the wider community. These students have lived the message of *“Never see a need without doing something about it.”*

**The St Rafqa “Perseverance” award** was presented to students who demonstrated passion for learning through; completing their work to their personal best standard, with great effort and perseverance in all learning experiences. We also celebrated the Semester achievements for each grade. Student representatives of each grade presented a speech about the joys of learning at St Charbel’s College.

At the conclusion of the Awards Assembly, students were invited to explore what this image means to them in their learning journey. You are invited to discuss this powerful and thought-provoking image with your child.



### Year 7

**Briana Chidiac & Joseph Tarabay** shared the highlights of Year 7 Semester One – their first semester in High school!

*“During our PC sessions we have learnt to reflect on our faith, we have become better organisers and learnt to prioritise, but most importantly we have learned to see JOY in all that we do.”*

#### **St Mary McKillop Service award recipients:**

Mary Moussa 7E  
Mary Hanna 7M  
Elize Kairouz 7R  
Briana Chidiac 7S

#### **St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients:**

Gabriella Nemer  
Angelina Taouk  
Alyssa Achi  
Grace Azzi  
Mary Hanna  
Ramza Boutros  
Mary Tannouri  
Myriam Harb  
Joseph Tarabay



## **YEAR 8**

Erika Ghanem & Giovanni Farah presented a creative poem that described Year 8 Semester One.

*"We were lucky to partake, in some pretty fun events including Spirituality Day where we learned about our Patron Saints.*

*We also learned the value of Perseverance, Appreciation, Service and Stewardship. The virtues make PASS, an acronym that will last."*

### **St Mary McKillop Service award recipients:**

Claudette Harb 8E  
Taylor Farah 8M  
Elias Bejjani 8R  
Salim Chidiac 8S



### **St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients:**

Josie Jaajaa  
Christina Ters  
Maria Zouein  
Marie Rose Abboud  
Trinity Chalita  
Elias Bejjani  
Tiana Saad  
Dia Zakhem  
Victoria-Marie Abou Khater  
Luna Esber  
Daniella Khalil



## **YEAR 9**

The Year 9 Semester One review was presented by Celine Najem & Jennifer Sayde

*"Year 9, Semester 1 was definitely informative, stimulating and spiritually fulfilling. We were blessed to be involved in many programs and projects. The highlights include:*

- \* Caritas' Project Compassion where the college raised almost \$8000 in donations!*
- \* The Youth Mission Team gave year 9 a spiritually insightful understanding on their religious choices through a one-day incursion."*

### **St Mary McKillop Service award recipients:**

Anthony Aoun 9E  
Michaela Naouss 9M  
Rochelle Ghajar 9R  
Charbel Abdo 9S



**St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients:**

Anthony Aoun  
Celine Najem  
Sabina Nowfal  
Ellie Abouharb  
Rebecca Achmar  
Michaela Naouss  
Charbel Badr  
Celina Mahfoud  
Jerome Azzi  
Charlize Mansour



**YEAR 10**

**Anabelle Saad & Roudi Mendelek** presented the highlights for Year 10.

*“Our Spirituality Day was particularly memorable, as we had the opportunity to empathise with the less fortunate, do our bit to help those in need, and take some genuine time out to be with God during Adoration and truly be grateful for all the blessings we have.”*

**St Mary McKillop Service award recipients:**

Alannah Mourad 10E  
Charbel Alam 10R  
Sarah El-Zakhem 10R  
Angelina Antoun 10S



**St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients:**

Allanah Mourad  
Bradley Moussa  
Joe Ters  
Monica Abouharb  
Angela Aaraj  
Ricardo Alkazzi  
Jad Boutros  
Christina Elazzi  
Heba Mattar  
Antonia Chahine  
Christina Ayoub  
Angelina Antoun  
Jascinta Saad



## Year 11

**Monica Webb & Tony Saidi** shared the achievements of Year 11.

*“Year 11 have had a challenging yet enjoyable start to our senior studies. We are continuously working together in our mission to grow in faith, in our studies and in serving others.”*

*“Every Year 11 student has been allocated a teacher-mentor of their choice. These teachers are volunteers who are willingly giving up their time to guide us over the last two years of our secondary schooling, a commitment which we humbly recognise as evidence of the faith and care that our teachers have for us all.”*

**The St Mary McKillop Service awards are presented to:**

Eliane Chidiac 11E  
Tony Saidi 11M  
Amanda Sallak 11R  
Connor Darwich 11S

**The Year 11 St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients are:**

Eliana Ayoub  
Charlie Azzi  
Eliane Chidiac  
Daniella El-Azzi  
Maryanne Abouharb  
Elena Alagha  
Monica Azzi  
Christopher Ters  
James Harb  
Monica Webb  
Mary Lyn Alagha  
Connor Darwich  
Jennifer Harb



## Year 12

**Rebecca Moubarak** presented the highlights for Year 12.

*“We have decorated our ever-shortening senior journey with several memorable events that have spread an abundance of joy these past three terms. From brave blood donations at the Red Cross Blood Service to endless hampers for the less fortunate and song at Nursing homes, year twelve showed great enthusiasm from the very start of the year.”*

*“Most recently, our enduring recycling committee as well as our entire contribution and involvement amidst the Maronite on Mission team has brought a renewed perspective to both staff and students during a time where our focus gets tangled in study, which will surely remain ingrained within us throughout the year and in our post-graduate endeavours.”*

### **The St Mary McKillop Service award recipients:**

Jennifer Boutros from 12 E  
Micha Chaghoury from 12 M  
Vanessa Tamer from 12 R  
Sandra Khalife from 12 S



### **St Rafqa Perseverance award recipients:**

Riccardo Akkari  
Tedros Akkari  
Georgia Antoun  
Charbel M Azzi  
Paloma Darjani  
Andrew Darwich  
Brooke Demian  
Antonio El-Kazzi  
Angela Rassy  
Vanessa Tamer  
Trevor Tannous  
Maram Kanaan  
Pamela Kazzi  
Tatiana Kazzi  
Rebecca Moubarak



There has been a lot happening in the Primary School. The K-2 classrooms all received new desks over the holidays. New interactive whiteboards were installed in the Primary classrooms, with lots of features that will support staff in their teaching. Bag hooks have been installed outside the Primary classrooms in the main building to keep bags off the ground and make the verandahs safer.

A Suggestion Box for students has been made available at lunch time. The students have left many suggestions for the school to consider including: a school vegetable garden, more playground equipment, mufti days, more trees planted (including fruit trees), a lunch time Charity club and more.

Internet Safe Education visited the school on Tuesday and held sessions for the students in Years 5 and 6, as well as an evening session for parents. The speaker, Brett Lee, is an expert in the field and gave staff, students and parents valuable information regarding how to stay safe using the internet.

Two quotes relating to Internet safety:

‘If you wouldn’t say it in the real world, don’t say it on the Internet.’

‘The Internet is as safe as a public notice board.’

Thursday was a big day for the Primary School: selected students took part in a soccer Gala Day and Kindergarten students celebrated 100 days of school. To commemorate the day they all dressed up as if they were 100 years old and participated in several activities featuring ‘100’ throughout the day.





Welcome back to Semester 2! Kindergarten has done an amazing job settling straight back into a busy term. We have participated in activities for Patron's Day, started our new gymnastics program and celebrated our first ever 100 days of school!

Students did a fantastic job dressing up and parading around the playground to celebrate being 100 days brighter!

Coming up in Week 5 we will participate in Book Week (theme: Find your Treasure) and in Week 6 we will go on our very first excursion to Golden Ridge Farm. A volunteer note will be coming home for any parent that may be interested in accompanying us. We will only be able to select two parent helpers from each class – all names will go in o a hat and be randomly chosen.



### 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 this 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 more and to read more widely. The students need to finalise their Reading Logs and hand them in to their class teachers immediately.

### Robotics Classes

Last term we started a robotics class with a small group of Year 6 boys. The classes ran once a week and were conducted by Mr Love. Our boys had a wonderful experience learning to program a variety of robots to perform simple and complex tasks. Robotics classes will run again this term for a small group of Year 6 girls.

### Internet Safe Education



Our Year 5 and 6 students attended a speech this week by Internet Safety expert Brett Lee. He spoke to them about:

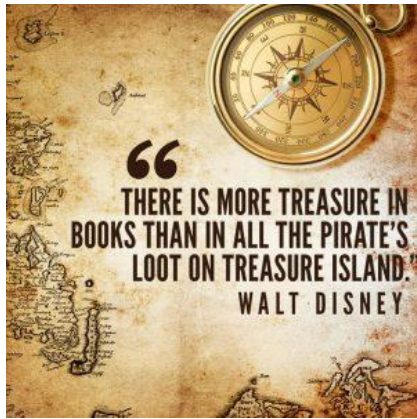
- Cyber bullying
- Discerning between strangers and friends online
- Where to go for help with online concerns
- What happens to content posted online (it is permanent)
- The truth about internet privacy (there is no privacy)
- Protecting online identity
- The importance of password protection
- Online rights and responsibilities

Rules for technology.

We encourage you to chat with your children about social media and online safety. There is a wealth of information and tool on the website to help empower parents to control internet usage within the home and on each child's devices.

<https://www.internetsafeeducation.com/>





**Book Week August 18-24**

**Theme: Find your Treasure**

**Book Week Parade on**

**Thursday the 24th of August**

**at 2.00 pm**

Dear Parents,

You are cordially invited to our Book Week Parade on Thursday the 23rd of August at 2.00 pm - students are asked to dress up for the Book Week Theme 'Find your Treasure'. Remember creativity is the idea, not spending a lot of money hiring costumes. You will be amazed at how creative your children can be when given a little help and encouragement to express the treasures they have found in books in a costume. During 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's activities include Book Week competitions which requires students to use their imagination, creativity and personal opinions to create treasure maps, picture books, and book reviews to celebrate the world of treasure that can be found 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 21st of August.

This year's Children's Book Week theme "Find your Treasure" involves students in imaginative and creative thinking, sparking lots of ideas encouraging children to express what they imagine and believe to be "treasures" they have found when reading. Find your treasure is a perfect description of the search to discover your next great book. An incredible story can feel like treasure when it speaks to you and understands the way you think and feel. But not every book is perfect for everyone. Children should never give up the hunt for a great read. The theme also captures why many people read – to escape, to dream, to reflect – to live inside someone else's mind for a while and to see and feel what they do. That's why they say reading makes you more compassionate and empathetic.







There are many opportunities for students to develop communication skills within the theme of "treasures found", particularly if we introduce storytelling as part of it. "The treasure I found was ....." or "My treasure would be ....." From Kindergarten onwards, we want our children to be listening to and responding orally to others explaining their ideas and reflecting upon the meaning of different texts and, most importantly, interacting with others, to analyse, evaluate, and create. Children's Book Week offers a wonderful opportunity for all of these!

I would like to thank St Charbel's College staff for all the time spent organizing these activities and of course all our students and parents for their cooperation, efforts and enthusiasm in making our community stronger by participating in Book Week 2018.









### THE BOOK OF THE YEAR: OLDER READERS

Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers in their secondary years of schooling. Ages 13-18 years (NB: These books are for mature readers)

 <p><b>MALLEE BOYS</b> Archbold, Charlie Valefield Press ISBN: 9781743555037</p>	 <p><b>IN THE DARK SPACES</b> Black, Cally Harle Grant Egmont ISBN: 9781761128647</p>	 <p><b>TAKE THREE GIRLS</b> Crowley, Cath &amp; Wood, Fiona &amp; Howell, Simone Pan MacMillan Australia ISBN: 9781742612744</p>
 <p><b>BECAUSE OF YOU</b> Harry, Pip University of Queensland Press ISBN: 9780702259777</p>	 <p><b>THE SECRET SCIENCE OF MAGIC</b> Keil, Melissa Harle Grant Egmont ISBN: 9781761127765</p>	 <p><b>BALLAD FOR A MAD GIRL</b> Wakafield, Vicki Text Publishing ISBN: 9781925255291</p>

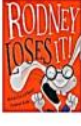





### THE BOOK OF THE YEAR: YOUNGER READERS

Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers from the middle to upper primary years. Ages 8-12 years.

 <p><b>THE ELEPHANT</b> Carnavas, Peter u3g ISBN: 9780702259816</p>	 <p><b>HOW TO BEE</b> Macdibble, Bren Allen &amp; Unwin ISBN: 9781760294335</p>	 <p><b>HENRIETTA AND THE PERFECT NIGHT</b> Murray, Martine Allen &amp; Unwin ISBN: 9781760292045</p>
 <p><b>MARSH AND ME</b> Murray, Martine Text Publishing ISBN: 9781925498011</p>	 <p><b>THE SHOP AT HOOPERS BEND</b> Rodda, Emily HarperCollins Publishers ISBN: 9781460752668</p>	 <p><b>THE GRAND GENIUS SUMMER OF HENRY HOOBLER</b> Shanahan, Lisa Allen &amp; Unwin ISBN: 9781760292017</p>







### THE BOOK OF THE YEAR: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for children who are at pre-reading or early stages of reading. Ages 0-7 years

 <p><b>RODNEY LOSES IT</b> Sauer, Michael Gerard Iust: Krebs, Christie Omnibus Books ISBN: 9781742991900</p>	 <p><b>BOY</b> Cummings, Phil Iust: DeVries, Shane Scholastic Australia ISBN: 9781760277055</p>	 <p><b>I'M AUSTRALIAN TOO</b> Fox, Mem Iust: Ghosh, Ronojoy Omnibus Books ISBN: 9781760276218</p>
 <p><b>THE SECOND SKY</b> Guest, Patrick Iust: Bentley, Jonathan Little Hare ISBN: 9781761227905</p>	 <p><b>THE VERY NOISY BABY</b> Lester, Alison Affirm Press ISBN: 9781925475826</p>	 <p><b>HARK, IT'S ME, RUBY LEE!</b> Shanahan, Lisa Iust: Binn Hachette Australia ISBN: 9780734416551</p>

### THE EVE POWNALL AWARD FOR INFORMATION BOOKS


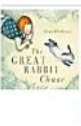




Entries in this category should be books which have the prime intention of documenting factual material with consideration given to imaginative presentation, interpretation and variation of style. Ages 0-18 years

 <p><b>DO NOT LICK THIS BOOK</b> Ben-Barak, Idan Iust: Frost, Julian Allen &amp; Unwin ISBN: 9781760290055</p>	 <p><b>M IS FOR MUTINY! HISTORY BY ALPHABET</b> Dickon, John Iust: Emmerichs, Bern Bersey Publishing ISBN: 9780994304159</p>	 <p><b>LEFT &amp; RIGHT</b> Hendry, Lorna Wild Dog Books ISBN: 9781742034430</p>
 <p><b>THE BIG BOOK OF ANTARCTICA</b> Hope, Charles Wild Dog Books ISBN: 9781742034130</p>	 <p><b>AMAZING AUSTRALIANS IN THEIR FLYING MACHINES</b> Mason, Prue &amp; Mason, Kerry Iust: Jellatt, Tom Walker Books Australia ISBN: 9781922446435</p>	 <p><b>KOALA</b> Saxby, Claire Iust: Vivas, Julie Walker Books Australia ISBN: 9781925126366</p>

### THE PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR

Entries in this category should be outstanding books of the Picture Book genre in which the author and illustrator achieve artistic and literary unity or, in wordless picture books, where the story, theme or concept is unified through illustrations. Ages 0-18 years (NB: Some of these books may be for mature readers).

Note: Picture Books are listed by the illustrator, followed by the author

 <p><b>TEN POUND POM</b> Anell, Liz text: Wilkinson, Carole Walker Books Australia ISBN: 9781925182234</p>	 <p><b>THE GREAT RABBIT CHASE</b> Blackwood, Freya Scholastic Australia ISBN: 9781742015441</p>	 <p><b>MOPOKE</b> Bunting, Philip Omnibus Books ISBN: 9781429746859</p>
 <p><b>A WALK IN THE BUSH</b> Perkins, Gwyn Affirm Press ISBN: 9781925475531</p>	 <p><b>SWAN LAKE</b> Spudvilas, Anne Allen &amp; Unwin ISBN: 9781742031846</p>	 <p><b>FLORETTE</b> Walker, Anna Penguin Random House Australia ISBN: 9780170079434</p>





St Charbel's P&F Committee would like to welcome you all back from the recent school holidays and we hope you had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends.

We haven't yet had the chance to thank those who attended our Mother's Day Morning Tea last term and as we are sure you would agree, it was a wonderful morning. Sometimes it's nice for us mothers to sit back amongst great company, enjoy a cup of coffee and have a bite to eat. To be able to bring our school community together for events like this is always a joy and we look forward to them year after year. There is always a great amount of effort and planning that goes into these events and whilst we appreciate everyone's relentless efforts behind the scenes, we would like to thank Laure Chahine for her management of this event. The presentation and overall atmosphere on the day was truly amazing Laure.



The students were also given the opportunity to purchase from our P&F Mother's Day stall again this year. There were some beautiful gifts available and we hope all the mothers enjoyed opening their gifts on Mother's Day! The children get so much enjoyment out of selecting these gifts and they honestly put a lot of thought into it. They leave the stall with their gift in a bag and a big smile on their faces feeling so proud of themselves for choosing the 'perfect' gift for their mum.



Our annual Father's Day Mass, Morning Tea and Stall is fast approaching this term and we would like to encourage all fathers to attend. We are really excited this year about bringing our fathers together on this special day and we look forward to seeing you there.

Our next P&F meeting will be held on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> August in the school library at 7.30pm. We encourage you all to attend and support our school through the P&F.



## REMINDER

**Please ensure the photography  
and  
video permission form is  
returned to the school ASAP!**

**facebook**

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 onto [info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au)

*All parents are invited to send any details or pictures of their children's exceptional honours in activities like: arts, music, sports, and so on!*

**Morning Supervision**

Access to the College grounds will be centralised through the 'Kiss and Go' and Monastery gate from 8am only. There will be **NO** supervision for any students prior to 8am, for their own safety and wellbeing. Also please be mindful that it is dangerous to use the driveways to U-turn.

**Ethnic School Classes**

Ethnic School Classes are available for students. Classes are held every Friday 4.30 – 6.30pm and enrolments are now open!

The final instalment for school fees is due by 31-August-2018. 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**August:**

Mon 6-20	HSC Trial Exams
Wed 8	St Mary of the Cross
Wed 15	Feast of the Assumption
	Years 4-12 Mass
Fri 17	Year 2 Reconciliation
Mon 20-Fri 24	Book Week
Tue 28	P&F Father's Day Mass & Morning Tea
Thurs 30	Blessed Estephan Nehme Feast Day
Fri 30	Father's Day Stall
	SCC Athletics Carnival
	Father & Son Evening

**September:**

Mon 3	CBSA Athletics Carnival
Fri 14	Years 5 & 6 Spirituality Day
Mon 10-Fri 21	Year 11 Exams
Tues 25	Year 12 Graduation Mass & Ceremony
Fri 28	<b>Last Day of Term 3</b>





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 (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](mailto:stcmcs@weldon.com.au)