

Delany News



Term 4 Issue 1

20 October 2016

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Events in October

Thursday 13th
To Thursday 3rd Nov
HSC

Friday 21st
Arabic Excursion

Fast Forward Program
Western Sydney Uni

Wednesday 26th
HSC 2017
Parent/Student
Information Evening
6pm-7pm

Events in November

Wednesday 9th
Creative & Performing
Arts Performance Evening

Dear Delany community,

Research shows that parents have a major influence on a child's achievement. According to a handout prepared by the US National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), when parents are involved, regardless of income or background, children are more likely to succeed academically, attend school regularly, have better social skills, show improved behaviour and go on to post-secondary education.

Essential to achieving meaningful parental engagement is the parent-school community partnership. Delany College is committed to working with parents on their involvement by developing strategies that welcome all families, promote effective communication, support student success and create community events.

Most often, a result of strong parent-school-community partnership is increased parent involvement at home.

Two particular key practices are:

1. Modeling the value of learning.
2. Expressing high but realistic expectations for achievement.

Furthermore, here are some specific ways parents can support their children at home:

1. Set an example by reading at home.
2. Play games together than require planning ahead and problem solving (e.g. Scrabble).
3. Communicate openly.
4. Encourage your child to work hard in school.
5. Regularly discuss education and careers.
6. Ensure your child attends school everyday.
7. Regularly affirm your child's personal worth through positive messages

God bless

Mr Robert Muscat
Principal



Delany College in the tradition and spirit of the Patrician Brothers
"Pride, Persistence, Passion!"

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

A very warm welcome back to our Delany community. I hope the term break was restful and peaceful. Now we begin the acceleration towards the end of the 2016 school year.

THE DELANY COMMUNITY

At the conclusion of term 3 Delany College inducted our newest team of student leaders who will lead the school into 2017. You will find the names and photos of these students on a following page. I believe there are two angles from which to consider the job ahead: *leadership and legacy*.

The team is challenged to *lead* the students at Delany. We know who good and bad leaders are, but what does a person do that demonstrates good leadership? Certainly it means to be in front, so the challenge begins with little things including attitude and application in class, wearing the uniform with pride and initiating activities in the school that build a stronger community.

If all these things are successful then the HSC class of 2017 will leave a *legacy* - a contribution, either physical or spiritual, by which staff and students remember these students even though they leave this place for bigger and better things.

Congratulations to all the students who have accepted the challenge of student leadership for 2017. Now the work begins!

THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

The Higher School Certificate examinations are already a week old. The Year 12 students have been attending their exams without displaying too much stress - I trust this is a sign of confidence in content well prepared. It is good to see many of the students using the senior study space to work together prior to their exams.

This of course means that our Year 11 students are now the HSC candidates of 2017 and will be beginning their HSC coursework any moment now. On Wednesday 26 October (6 - 7pm) we are holding a HSC Information evening that all students and their parents are required attend. There is important information to distribute, and in particular we will be speaking of the commitment that is expected of these students.

THE PATRICIAN COMMUNITY

During the school holidays four of our Patrician schools sent 20 students and six staff to Townsville for an immersion into all things Far North Queensland. Highlights of the trip included swimming in a beautiful waterhole, learning about the local Aboriginal culture and visiting the Cowboys football stadium and club. Our travellers - Jasmine, Myrella and Sheza - will provide a reflection of their experience in our next newsletter.

In two weeks' time our newly appointed student leaders will be attending a three day conference hosted by the Patrician community. During this time the leaders of all of the Patrician schools will learn about leadership and spend time building a vision of what focus each school will have in 2017.

ATTENDANCE IS CRITICAL

Attendance at school is a legislative requirement in New South Wales. More importantly, every day that is missed is one that is difficult to catch up, and being absent for multiple days leaves a student well behind the rest of the class in many or all subject areas.

During term 3 you may have received a call or been invited to a meeting to address a low attendance rate of your child. Having students away from school is one of our greatest concerns. We don't want sick children at school - that is to no one's benefit. We don't, however, want children at home who should be at school. If there is any way in which we can support your family please do

not hesitate to contact me at the College.

St Patrick, pray for us.
Mr Anthony Blomfield
Assistant Principal

Congratulations

Our congratulations are extended to Chloe Zaiter.

At the end of last term Chloe attended the *Mirath In Mind* awards presentation held at Parliament House Sydney where she received an award from The Honourable Shaoquett Moselmane MLC for her achievement and commitment to Mirath in Mind Annual Cultural Event where she has represented Delany College for the last 3 years.



GIRLS OPEN TRAINING SESSION Blacktown West Basketball Association



Date: Every Monday, During Term 4
(Final Session: December 12, 2016)

Time: 5:00pm to 6:30pm

Cost: Free

Ages: Girls from 5 to 16 Years Old

Venue: Kevin Betts Stadium
Ralph Place, Mount Druitt, 2770
(Behind Town Centre Reserve)

For more information, please contact Errol Gadia
Phone: (02) 9675 2362 Email: eg_kbs@yahoo.com.au



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

As we commence Term 4 of the school year, there are many significant events to look forward to. This lead up to Advent causes us to reflect on the way in which Jesus is present in our lives .

October is the month of the Rosary. On Fridays at lunch, staff and students have been invited to participate in this special prayer of our faith. Through the Rosary, we are also encouraged to reflect on the role of Mary in our Catholic faith and the significant message she teaches us ; to say yes to Christ.

From the 2nd - 4th November, our newly selected Year 12 leaders will attend the Patrician Leaders Seminar. This seminar aims to immerse students in the rich Patrician spirituality and provide an opportunity for them to interact and share ideas with students from other Patrician schools. We look forward to seeing the results of this annual seminar.

Our Year 11 cohort will also attend their Senior retreat in November this year. With the theme of ' I am more with Christ: How do I leave a legacy?' our students will reflect on their years at Delany and the next step in their journey of faith.

Our Year 9 students are starting back Faith in Action this term, working towards a Christmas event for our Delany Community. In the coming weeks, invitations through the newsletter will be present to invite family and friends of the college to participate in this event in Week 9. Year 9 are looking forward to putting their faith into action once again.

Mrs Karina Stow
Religious Education Co Ordinator



2017 SCHOOL LEADERS



Patreece Georges & Wesley Swalah Mcdahrou, Mariam Karam, Elisar Salameh, Dennis Mataia, Hilary Lim, Denzel Narayan, Alyssa Turner, Sheza Shahid, Divashna Kumar, Chloe Zaiter & Nora Monday.



CAPTAINS

Wesley Swalah Mcdahrou & Hilary Lim



FORMATION LEADERS

Mariam Karam & Denzel Narayan



COMMUNICATION LEADERS

Alyssa Turner & Divashna Kumar



EVENTS LEADERS

Elisar Salameh & Patreece Georges

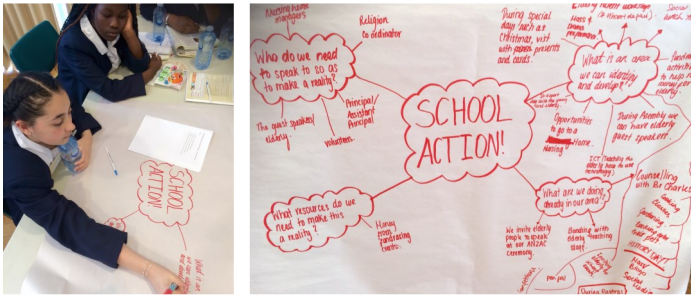


HOUSE CAPTAINS

Nora Monday, Chloe Zaiter, Sheza Shahid & Dennis Mataia

DIOCESAN SOCIAL JUSTICE LAUNCH

"As a christian community we are called to reach one another". These were the lovely words spoken by the new Parramatta Dioceses Bishop, Bishop Vincent Long on the 12th of October, 2016 at a Social Justice Event held at St Patricks Cathedral Hall partaken by year 9 students, Matelita Senivatalala, Irene Juru, Vincent Tuala, myself and our teacher Ms Magistrado.



On the day of arrival we were greeted by an introduction of what the annual social justice event was going to be about. This year the arising topic was based on 'Social Justice in an Ageing Society', 'a place at the table' announced by Sister Louise. This was further explained through the message from Mr Gregory Whitby in saying "Being a saint doesn't mean your perfect, it means you're just on the right path to becoming a leader". In the context of the event, this meant helping and supporting the elderly though many different parts and aspects in schooling and individual life. This is a right path, and a path to becoming a leader.

Through the powerful words of Mr Whitby, the foundation in which the day focused on, the event continued through the words of Bishop Vincent Long saying "We must realise our gratitude to the elderly" and the fact that "The church must come together including the elderly and youth". The unity of the elderly and youth was spoken of, and directed to all the students present to make us come to our sense that "we are the future" and that the "elderly are the mirror of the suffering Jesus Christ". Which in hindsight allowed our eyes, mind and heart to open to help the elderly, as in each one of them lay Jesus Christ inside and if we as the youth, we the future ignore, what God is asking us to do, then we are technically ignoring our faith and Jesus Christ too.

Further, on the day each one of us present in the hall were asked to complete a statement breakdown, whether that be a bible passage, a quote from the pope or other. This was actively and cohesively completed as a team to make a further link and understanding of how this relates to the elderly. To open the empathetic and sympathetic side of each individual we watched a video reflecting the elderly and their struggles and benefits to the world. As a Delany team we took out many words and statements that were in relation to the social justice video, such as the need to be "compassionate, appreciative and have gratitude" towards the elderly especially because many believe that in this economic state they are "slow and unproductive" which is certainly not the case.



Then we were made as a school team to cooperatively discuss ideas of how our school can incorporate some of the elderly in our everyday school routine and so we had ideas of allowing them to join in school events and be guest speakers for many school assemblies. This was later agreed on by Irene Juru saying "You have to start somewhere to finish or somewhere else". Talking as a group a lady named Ms Rayella Haines addressed us on the importance of the inclusion of the elderly. I believe that drew the sympathetic side out of many of us, as she was saying that , "Many old people have nothing to look forward to, so young people give them a reason to look forward everyday." In addition, "Many elderly people feel as though they do not have a voice therefore need someone to talk to."

The social justice event finally concluded with Luke Tobin making a metaphorical gesture with money in comparison to the elderly. Even though Mr. Tobin tampered with the note, stomped on the note and scrunched it up he taught us that it is still \$20. So that is in the same way with people, including the elderly, even though they may look or are different they are all people, living life and should be respected.

As a collective this taught us that we must avoid ageism and stereo types and to value the elderly as "The wisdom and experience of older people is a resource of inestimable worth. Recognising and treasuring the contributions of older people is essential to the long term flourishing of any society".

By Mary Ghribian

YEAR 11 VET CONSTRUCTION

Students at their work placements during last term.



Dennis Maitaia did his workplacement with Urban Apartments labouing, and assisting tradesmen.



Elias, Jake and Kane gained valuable experience in demolition and labouing working for Rada Constructions



Fouad Al Lakkis spent a week with Saba Aluminiums where he helped the tradesmen making and installing aluminium windows and doors and loading the ute.



Jeremy Denham spent a week with Caabcorp Pty Ltd assisting the carpenters on site moving timber, passing tools and measuring.



Sarkis Bou Francis assisted Murrays Floorsanding & Polishing tradesman, with timber floor laying, repairs and maintenance

SPORTS REPORT

PDSSC Oztag started this term, we have boys and girls junior and intermediate teams representing the school.

In the first round we came out with 3 wins and one loss. junior girls lost 6-0, intermediate girls won 6-4, junior boys won 5-2 and intermediate boys won 8-2.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US!

Place your advertisement in our newsletter. Our newsletter is issued fortnightly excluding school holidays. Approximately 20 issues per calendar year. The newsletter is distributed to all our families via email and Skoolbag App. Please contact Amanda Fasavalu on 0296377788 or email fasavalu@parra.catholic.edu.au

CAPTIVATE

the spirit of expression

We are pleased to announce that access to download and/or stream online the videos of ALL 7 Showcase 2016 performances is available to purchase now.

You can go straight to the booking site at <https://www.trybooking.com/MWPI> or see some preview videos and get other information on our [website](#).

Video access costs \$10 and lets you view and download any (or all!) of the Showcase videos.

Please be aware that these videos are being sold for private use only. There are also plenty of photos on our [Facebook page](#) from Showcase.