# Delany News

#### Term 4 Issue 3

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#### **Events in December**

Tuesday 5th College Academic Awards 1.50-3.05pm

Wednesday 6th Year 9/10 Sydney Hospitality Excursion

Thursday 7th to Saturday 9th Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Tuesday 12th
Year 12 HSIE/CAFS
Excursion

# APPLY NOW!

Students are invited to join the Europe Art/History tour in September and October 2018. The itinerary is proposed to include Paris, Ypres, Berlin and Rome. Please return the expression of interest form to Mrs Broue or Mrs Venhuizen ASAP.







Dear Delany Community,

Last Sunday's Gospel reading tells the parable of the talents. On the surface this is a parable about money, but the parable is more about us using our creativity and energy for the purpose of making the kingdom of God real in our world.

The parable is about how God trusts us to do our thing, using our flair and daring, with the gifts He has given us. If the relationship between God and us is one of trust, there is surely an expectation for us to bring our initiative and imagination to the way we manage our gifts.

Ultimately, we flourish in proportion to our willingness to be adventurous. This is exactly what our students have done this week at Delany College. The extent in which our Creative and Performing Arts students displayed their gifts was commendable. It never ceases to surprise me how much talent we have at Delany. Thank you to Ms Broue and her team in preparing such an incredible night. We especially acknowledge the work and support of renowned pop artist Johnny Romeo who donated one of his signature pieces to raffle off for fundraising.

I take this opportunity to welcome our Year 7, 2018 cohort who spent the day at the College on Tuesday, 21 November for their Orientation. There were a number of happy and contented faces. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

God Bless,

Robert Muscat Principal

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Preparations for the 2018 school year are well under way. The College calendar is being prepared, teaching and learning units of work are being completed and plans for minor renovations around the grounds are being finalised. However there's still much work to be done in the last three weeks of this year's term.

#### THE DELANY COMMUNITY

On Tuesday 21 November we had the pleasure of hosting our 2018 Year 7 students and their parents. During the day our new recruits spent the day learning about the history of the College, meeting staff and students, learning about the differences between Years 6 and 7, and finding their way around the College grounds. There was a lot to take in!

Our visitors participated in three activities during the day: hospitality (cooking and icing cupcakes for the evening's presentation); science (testing whether the students were human, werewolf or vampires!); and a tour of the College. Thankfully everyone got fed, the vampires were controlled and no one was lost on tour. The students were asked to provide some feedback at

the conclusion of the day and a small sample of their responses:

**24 November 2017** 

## What's the best experience you've had today?

- The science lab experiment and baking
- Cooking!
- Meeting my new classmates for 2018 year 7 and getting a chance to experience what students do and learn in subjects

# What is one thing about your day you will tell your family?

- That I'm a vampire and a witch
- My cupcake that I decorated as a melting snowman
- I made new, kind friends that are amazing

# What is one thing that you've learned today that you didn't know about the school?

- That the school is named after Daniel Delany
- How to test human blood, wolf blood and vampire blood
- That the school has six science labs

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

# Name one thing you're most nervous or excited about as you get ready for next year.

- I was nervous but now I'm ready for high school
- The exams (nervous); doing experiments (excited)
- I am so excited about working with chemicals in science and playing sports
- I am nervous about fitting in
- I'm excited about meeting my teachers
- Nothing. I'm very confident

My thanks goes to the many teachers who worked both behind the scenes and throughout the day: Mrs Lennon, Ms Mutabdzija, Mrs Bellamy, Mrs Sayoun, Mrs Fasavalu and Mr Spehar. However without the assistance of our year 7, 8 and 10 students the day simply would not have been a success. Throughout the day they worked with and mentored our new students and showed them just how impressive Delany College really is.

#### THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Congratulations to every student in our community. By the time you read this report all examinations for the year are complete and results may have already been returned. Please ask your children to share their results, and indeed their exam papers, with you. It is worth sitting with your child and reflecting on the examination period with a few questions: did you complete enough work during classes to have good study notes? Did you give yourself enough study and review time to prepare for the exams? Are you satisfied with your **effort** before and during the exams? What will you do differently next time to improve your results?

#### THE PATRICIAN COMMUNITY

Another highlight of the past few weeks was the Year 12 Retreat. Our senior class and seven staff members spent three days together reflecting on our journey with Christ. The facilitators of the retreat - Mrs Stow, Mrs Pratelli and Ms Guillaume - prepared a fun and faith-filled experience for everyone. There are a number of wonderful outcomes of this retreat: that the students get to know each other better; that staff and students get to know each other in a more personal way outside the classrooms; and that we are all given time to reflect on our relationship with Jesus. I was privileged to participate in some very honest and heartfelt discussions with students during this time and it is a truly humbling experience to witness the joy, optimism and faith so many of our students carry.

# BEYOND THE DELANY COMMUNITY

#### St Vincent de Paul appeal

Students and staff have been challenged to donate presents and food items for families in need within the Granville and surrounding areas. Each mentor class has a designated family. For example, one class may have a family with a mum and three children of ages 11, 8, and 7. Our objective is, of course, to share the spirit of Christmas with these families and embody the words on our College crest: Love. Serve. Hope.

#### SCHOOL DIARIES IN 2018

At the beginning of the 2018 school year students will be given a school diary for the year. At the moment only Years 7 & 8 have a diary because we had adopted an electronic version in 2017. A key feature that we have found missing from an e-diary is the opportunity to communicate with parents using a quick handwritten note in a diary, and for you to then respond. A physical copy also keeps learning and planning in front of students eyes all the time.

Mr Anthony Blomfield Assistant Principal

# CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Showcasing the best from Visual Arts, TAS & Music.

Creative and Performing Arts night was a great event where we had lots of beautiful performances. Students performed music from a variety of genres including rock, pop, around the world and their own compositions. A great night as usual!



PRINCIPAL'S AWARD presented to Youssef Sarkis.





We are also very excited to

announce that one of our talented students, Lauren Daher's artwork has been shortlisted for Artexpress and was on display at our CAPA night. (Artexpress is an annual series of curated Visual Arts exhibitions across the state, of exemplary artworks created by NSW Visual Arts students for the HSC.







# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Last week, we took Year 11 on their senior retreat which focuses on reflection, spiritual formation and preparation for the HSC and beyond. The theme for the retreat was "I am more with Christ: How can I leave a legacy?"

Through a number of activities and testimonials, our Year 11 students slowly began to unpack this question. The sacrament of Reconciliation was generously offered by Fr. Peter Strohmayer over both nights of the retreat. He also celebrated Mass and adoration with us on the final evening, reminding us of the sacredness of the Eucharist in our Catholic Faith. Christopher Del Rossario and Calvin Swaraz also joined us for a day sharing with us their vocational decision to become a priest and conducting a Q & A session with students about our Catholic faith.

We were very blessed to have such quality guests share with our students over this time. We are extremely grateful for their contribution to our Year 12 retreat. Thank you as well to Mr Mark Robinson, Mrs Margaret Bartley, Miss Sarah Guillaume, Mr Alex Peronace, Mr Blomfield and Mrs Simone Pratelli for their guidance of our students at the retreat.

God Bless Mrs Karina Stow Religious Education Co Ordinator



Year 12 Retreat was an unforgettable experience, that intertwined collective memories into 3 days. As I hopped off the bus on the premises of Bennett XV11 centre, Grose Vale, carrying my luggage I looked around and all I could hear was silence.

The beautiful scenery, nature; trees, birds, new buildings and a church set the scene perfectly.

Three activities that were my highlight on retreat were:

- On the first night we reflected deeply on ourselves, this meditation of self consciousness allowed us to visualise our lives, the past and where we want be in the future.
- The second activity that brought me into tears was Mr Spehar's story. He used teachers as representation of his family, the overall question that was asked by Mrs Stow "who is my support system?". This question was very alarming as people in my group told their 'story'. This activity was very effective as those that never spoke, opened up connecting in a whole new light with those around them.
- Last but not least we entered the church. Silence, peace, unity and tears were apparent as we prayed with Father Peter who kindly came along with us on the first day and second day, we are dearly thankful for him. We were given the opportunity to reconcile with God and participate in adoration which was a mesmerizing experience.

Year 12 retreat was a successful event in which allowed all to come together in unity gathered in one faith, One God with many intention. Thank you to all the teachers who may it a success working behind the scenes

Elizabeth Kondok (Year 11 Student)









# FROM THE PEDAGOGICAL LEADERS

As the end of the year approaches, teachers are busy finalising marks and writing reports. At Delany, our students are assessed using a wide range of methods.

These may be summative exams, research reports, final products or presentations.

Whatever the form these assessments take, they are all based on learning outcomes which are reported using a common grade scale.

The end of the year is also a time when students can reflect on the feedback they have received from their teachers.

A good method is to ask

- What did I do well?
- What didn't I do well?
- How will I improve?

Learning from feedback is a great way for students to grow their capabilities and resilience and to develop a Growth Mindset.

Sharon McManus and Jo McKeown

# SPORT, LIFESTYLE & RECREATION

The Year 12 Sport Lifestyle and Recreation class went to Guildford Swimming Pool on Thursday 16th November 2017 for a Lifesaving and Swimming program. The program was run by Cumberland Council and covered swimming and rescue strokes, Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation commonly called CPR, plus survival and rescue techniques.



All of the students had a great day and learnt a lot about the different facets of swimming and lifesaving. A big thankyou to the Pauline for her enthusiasm and commitment to teaching this life changing course. Lastly, on a final note some of the students are exploring the option of being life guards at the swimming centre. Teacher: Mr Warren Johnson



## CURRICULUM

SCHOOL REPORTS

At the end of the School Term, the School will send home the End of Year reports for students in years 7 to 11. Parents are always keen to know how their child is progressing at school and it is most important that they are kept well informed. Reports are one way to do this.

Essentially, reports provide parents and students with clear indications about a child's areas of strength and areas that need further consolidation, in relation to the curriculum and other areas of social and emotional development.

In addition to reporting on a child's progress, our reports also indicate a child's effort in relation to how they have applied themselves to particular areas, not just their academic performance.

Delany College, as a Patrician School traditionally does, focuses on an all-round education which considers spiritual growth, social awareness and sporting endeavours just as important as academic performance.

If you have any questions about your Child's report please don't hesitate to contact your child's teachers.

Mr Mark Robinson Head of School Learning & Diversity

### UNIFORM SHOP

Year 9 Senior Uniform.

Just a reminder that all senior uniforms need to be collected no later than 30 th November. Last trading day for the uniform shop is 7 th December, 2017.

Coupons are now available at the uniform shop for boys trousers. These are the correct colour that you will need for next year. We have negotiated special price for them at \$40 each and hem alterations at \$6. Please see Mrs Dib in uniform shop before the end of term to collect your coupon.

The uniform shop will be open next year on Monday 29th January, Tuesday 30th January, and Thursday 1st February 2018, 8.30am—2.00pm. Then trading as normal each Thursday.

## **BISHOP'S OFFICE**

# Special edition of Catholic Outlook

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition.

Carols at St Patrick's Cathedral: 2 December Carols in the Forecourt of St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta will be on December 2 at 7pm.

# TASMANIAN EXCURSION



Our students have arrived in Hobart this morning.