

# Newsletter

### **KEY DATES**

A number of our extracurricular events have been cancelled in line with the advice received from the Catholic Education Office and the Minister for Education. Please refer to our website and Facebook for more details

# Year 8 & 10 Immunisations 27 Mar

At time of publication, immunisations will still be occurring. For students who will be absent, a 'catch up' date will be advised once confirmed.

Further information on events is available on our website http://www.cc.catholic.edu.au/news-events/calendar

T: 08 8648 9700

Absentee SMS: 0428 071 211 www.cc.catholic.edu.au

# Principal's Message

#### St Joseph's Feast Day - 19 March

Our College is a Josephite school. It was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1871 under the leadership of St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods. In fact, before we were called Caritas College we were indeed named St Joseph's School. The story of St Joseph, the father of Jesus, is close to the heart of who we are. The love and care that St Joseph provided for his family continues to inspire us today. We aspire to be like St Joseph by being loving and caring to those around us. This is captured beautifully in our motto "In Omnibus Caritas" – In All Things Love.



"In Saint Joseph's Care I leave you"

- St Mary MacKillop (25 March 1873)

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19)

We are in uncertain times with the threat of the coronavirus. The reality is that circumstances are changing rapidly, so we continue to monitor the situation closely and act on advice from government and health authorities. We want to assure our College community that we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and wider community. A letter has been emailed today to all families providing an update on a range of matters relating to the coronavirus. You can access this letter on our website at

https://www.cc.catholic.edu.au/news-events/covid-19-updates

I will take this opportunity to commend students, staff and parents on how everyone has responded to the coronavirus crisis. I have observed a rational calmness from all facets of our College community amidst the unknown circumstances. May we continue to be kind to ourselves and to each other in these testing times



#### New SMS Number - 0428 071 211

Our College has recently implemented a new student information and learning management system called SEQTA. In the coming week or so we will begin to communicate with parents via text message using this system. We will communicate essential information with parents for important updates. Please save this number in your phone and begin to use it to communicate with the school about student absence. If your child is going to be absent please include the following details: Student Name: Reason: Absent Date/s.



#### 2020 NAPLAN testing

The Commonwealth and State Education Ministers have taken the decision to cancel this year's NAPLAN tests citing the potential for lower participation, problems with marking tests and an unnecessary administrative burden on already-stressed schools. The tests for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will resume next year.



#### **College Board Annual General Meeting**

The College Board is an essential element of the school community. It sets direction for the College in the best interests of the students, staff and families. In Week 7 we held our Annual General Meeting. We welcomed Aaron Clifton and Alanna Grover as our newest members of the Board. I am grateful for their willingness to share their time and talents with the College community. With gratitude I also acknowledge Brian Miller who concluded his time on the Board. Brian has been a valued member of the Board since 2016, generously sharing his knowledge and skills. I congratulate the members of the Board for their ongoing work and commitment and look forward to working in partnership with them throughout 2020 to benefit the students and families of Caritas College.

#### **Ex-Officio Members**

Fr Jim Monaghan (President)

Damian Smith (Principal)

#### **Elected Members**

Brett Humphrys Kimberley Cowey Kym Grover David Finlayson Aaron Clifton Alanna Grover

#### **Nominated Members**

Sr Helen Duke (Sister of St Joseph)

Jasmin Eckert (Staff Representative)

Cathy Brook (Parish Representative)

Damian Smith, Principal

# **COVID-19 ALERTS:**

The coronavirus situation is changing rapidly.

Stay up-to-date with the latest information about steps being taken to slow the spread.

All significant alerts will be posted here: cesa.catholic.edu.au/alerts







## 2019 YEARBOOK ORDERS

The 2019 Caritas College Yearbook is now in production. If you would like to put in an order, click on the 'News & Events/News' section of our website www.cc.catholic.edu.au. Cost is \$25.00 per book.





The Rite Journey, an exciting and innovative program for all Year 9 students at Caritas College, combines the Health and Personal Development and the Religious and Values Education curriculum.

The Rite Journey was developed in South Australia and is now being used by many schools across Australia and internationally. It provides the opportunity for students to participate in a year-long rite of passage experience. Many cultures have their own version of a rite of passage designed specifically for this age group.

Learning how to be an adult in any society requires guidance, mentoring and a great conversations. In our society today, young people often turn to their peers, the internet and the media to source their knowledge and guidance. During the Rite Journey, students will be required to have important conversations about what it is to be a respectful and responsible man or woman in our society. As students journey through the year, they will explore four main themes: Relationship with self, Relationship with others, Relationship with Spirit and Relationship with the World. A unique feature of The Rite Journey is the seven steps that form a contemporary rite of passage. In conjunction with the program's founder, Andrew Lines, we have developed a memorable series of celebrations, aimed at honouring student's transition into young adulthood.





To launch the program, students and parents were invited to attend the Calling and Departure Ceremonies, these ceremonies form an essential component of the program. They were conducted at Redbanks beach near Shoreline caravan park on Wednesday 11 March at 6:30am. The calling ceremony honors the journey towards becoming an adult that students are about to embark on. In reflecting on their childhood students show gratitude for all the gifts of love and care given to them. They say thank you for the places, experiences, films, books, games and music, all that the human tradition has given them and made their childhood. They read a letter of gratitude to a loved one and discuss childish behaviours they are ready to depart with. Following the ceremony, staff, students and families shared a breakfast and reflected on the morning and what is to come.

#### STEM - Year 3/4 Blue

3/4 students have been investigating their shadows by looking at how and why their body's shadow changed throughout the day. They were able to make predictions about the sun, moon and Earth and their movement. The unit of learning is all about night and day (why do we have it and how does it occur).







#### **Caritas Ks**

The Year 11 students are currently completing a social justice unit in Integrated Learning. This involves participating in the Caritas Ks walk for Caritas Australia. Students are given the opportunity to walk in the shoes of others, experiencing distances that many women and children walk to access water, education and health care. This year, students walked in small groups carrying one bucket of water in an attempt to gain better perspective of what we might take for granted and how precious water is for many communities across the world. The students are collecting donations to assist Caritas Australia's work for these communities in building water wells and other access points to fresh, clean water.



#### **RAAF Airforce Simulation**

The Royal Australian Air Force gave some of our Year 10 students a taste of flying when they visited the school last week with their Super Hornet flight simulator. The Aviation Motivation Program provides a hands-on in-flight flying experience to students. The activity provided an overview for students considering a career in not only air force, but also other positions such as a pilot, air traffic controller and air combat officer. A great opportunity for our students to 'fly' a plane and to see what it would be like to work in Air Traffic Control.





#### **Year 12 Physics**

The Year 12 physics class used an air table (like a mini air hockey table) to investigate the forces affecting circular motion when we reduce friction. This helps the students understand the forces experienced in carnival rides, as well as satellites orbiting the earth.



#### Year 9 STEM

The Year 9 STEM students have been applying their knowledge of electricity and circuits to design indicators which could be used on the back of a cyclist's shirt. Students had to consider how user friendly their design is, and what changes they could make if their design were to become a real product.



