

Week 8 Calendar

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| MON 16 | • Trade Photos & Catchup |
| TUE 17 | • St Patrick's Day |
| WED 18 | • Rugby League Country Cup |

Important Dates

- **Wed 25 Mar – Futsal Soccer**
- **Thu 26 Mar – Futsal Soccer**

Photo of the Week



Our swimming carnival winners:-
Above Right: Jayde Cross & Ashley Nowlan.

Above: Maddison Taylor and Rachelle Hambly.

Right: Dillan Carew, Chris White & Shawn Carney



Principal's Message

SATLO Funding

You may be aware of recent television and news coverage regarding withdrawal of funding for School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Liason Officers (SATLOS). It is important that students understand that this decision by the state government does NOT effect our students or service delivery in any way. The function performed by the SATLOs in other schools is performed by our own staff 'in house' at Newman Senior Technical College.

Boundary St Intersection

Many parents and staff have raised concerns regarding the safety of the Boundary St Intersection and Hastings River Drive. I have been pursuing this issue with the Port Macquarie Hastings Council for some time in the hope that the gazetted upgrade of the intersection, including the construction of a round-a-bout, could be fast-tracked. Unfortunately, our advice from the council at present is that, although under regular review, upgrade of the intersection is not currently on the 2009/10 schedule of works.

We will be asking for a meeting with the Council in the near future in an attempt to find a reasonable solution to the safety concerns identified.

Yr 12 Assessment

Congratulations to all Yr 12 student who completed their Yr 12 English speech assessment on Wednesday. Preliminary feedback from the teachers involved suggests that the presentations were of a high standard.

Thankyou to Miss Mary Flintoff for organising the logistics of presenting and marking these assessments across both of our Campuses.

St Patricks Day

Our SRC will be facilitating a fund-raising activity on St Patricks day this Tuesday. I encourage all students to embrace the spirit of the day and wear something green for a very worthy cause being the support Caritas Australia.

Good Luck

Good luck to the Senior Rigby League team who will compete against local sides at the CRL gala day next Wednesday at Stuarts Park

Adam Spencer
Principal

Quote of the Week

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.

Thomas Huxley

Campus Manager's Report

Year 11 Workplacement

It was pleasing to note that despite the challenges with late and delayed contracts that the majority of Year 11 students commenced their workplacements on Wednesday of this week. From all reports students made a very solid beginning with their employers.

This program is at the core of the College program of learning experiences and I am confident that students will gain an enormous amount from the program over the next two years. I would encourage families to talk with their son/daughter about the experience and to offer guidance around the learning in the workplace experience.

Next week we have our St Patrick's Day fundraising activities, the Country Cup gala day for the Rugby League side and Year 11 Interim reports will begin to be compiled by staff. All of these represent an example of the diverse activities that students engage in at the College.



Have a great weekend.

Stephen Pares
Campus Manager

School Photos

Trade Photo Day - Monday 16 March

Students have the opportunity to have a professional photo dressed in their trade uniforms, taken in a trade environment. Not only a fantastic memento of their time at the College, the package also includes a digital download which students could use in their resume or portfolio.



NOTE: *Students will be required to bring their full trade uniform including safety equipment.*

This will also be an opportunity for any student who missed having their photo taken this week to have a school portrait taken.

Students are to wear the college polo or blouse; trade shirts will not be acceptable for portrait photos.



Coordinating Principal's Message

A Shining Light

Last Friday, 6 March, over 1000 family and friends gathered at St Francis of Assisi Church, Paddington to bid farewell to well known Sydney identity, 38 year old Sydney lawyer and former Sydney Lord Mayor candidate, Matt Laffan.

Matt grew up in Coffs Harbour where he attended St Augustine's Primary School. When in Years 3 and 5 he was taught by Pat McLoughlin, the Principal of St Agnes' Primary School, who became a lifelong friend of Matt and his family.

Matt was no ordinary guy. He was born with diastrophic dysplasia which stunted his growth, twisted his spine and restricted his breathing. He was very small in stature, less than one metre in height, and had very little movement even in his hands, so he was confined to a wheel chair. When born in 1970 doctors did not expect Matt to live long, but he defied the odds. He showed a great fighting spirit from the beginning and it soon became obvious that he was blessed with a fine intellect.



After his Higher School Certificate Matt attended Sydney University where he studied Arts/Law. While at university Matt was a resident at St John's College and in his final year he was elected to the prestigious position of Senior Student. After graduating, Matt found work with the Department of Public Prosecutions where he worked under Nicholas Cowdery QC. Matt developed a reputation for being quick-witted, intelligent and industrious. Not surprisingly he had a very keen sense of justice and compassion.

His father coached the NSW Rugby team and Matt developed great friendships with the players, including Nick Farr-Jones and Peter FitzSimons. The latter wrote a wonderful tribute to him in the Sydney Morning Herald last week. In it he explained that Matt needed help at the beginning and end of every day to get into and out of bed but was able to manage most other things by himself and lived independently in his own inner Sydney unit.

Matt was a great public speaker and motivator. He had a great sense of fun, was extremely family orientated and "had an extraordinary zest for life".

Peter FitzSimons finishes his article with a great analogy "... physically, life had dealt him a pair of red twos and a couple of black fives, but he always played like he was holding five aces".

Considering Matt Laffan's debilitating physical disabilities, his achievements in life were extraordinary. His life shone like a beacon for all who knew him or knew of him. What a great inspiration he is for us who are blessed with physical capabilities that he only dreamt of having even for one day.

Matt Laffan's life and courage will not die with him if we can be inspired to use our gifts to also achieve great things in life. May he rest in peace.

Jim O'Brien - Coordinating Principal
St Agnes' Parish Secondary Schools

Curriculum News

English News

Preliminary English: This week Year 11 students received notification of their first English assessment. The task is a creative speech that must convey their understanding of the area of study. Changing Perspectives. The speech task is due on Thursday 26th March (Week 9).

Your son / daughter will need to work on this assessment at home.

HSC English: This week Year 12 students completed their third HSC assessment task. The task was a speech based on 'Distinctive Voices'. Overall, staff were pleased with the standard of speeches.

However, it should have highlighted to students the importance of being prepared and organised so as to achieve the best results possible.

Year 12 students will now begin their study of Module B, "Cosi".

The English Department.



*Ethan Rassi
delivering his speech*

**Mark Nunan
Director of Studies**



TRADE TALK



Yr 12 students have commenced an introduction to bricklaying. The students enjoy this opportunity to learn some skills that may be utilised in the future when the need for a BBQ or letterbox project may arise. The students are very fortunate to have Ian Gilbert, a fully qualified bricklayer to guide them through the process.

St Patrick's Day!

Tuesday 16th March

\$2 Donation

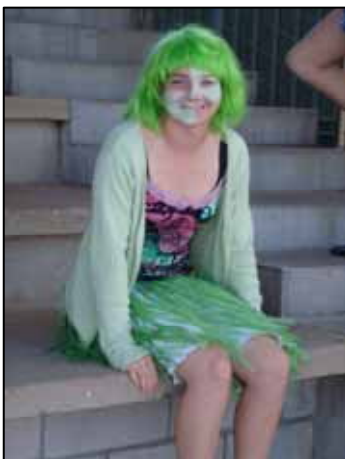
All proceeds are towards
Caritas Project Compassion

Wear green for your chance to WIN!

*St Patrick's Day Games
Competitions
PRIZES!*



Swimming Carnival 2009



Photos by Chris Pike



Health News

ADDITIVE

"BY THE AGE OF 17
YOUNG AUSTRALIANS
HAVE CONSUMED ENOUGH
FOOD ADDITIVES,
PRESERVATIVES,
ARTIFICIAL COLOURS,
FLAVOURING,
FLAVOUR ENHANCERS,
ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS,
STABILISERS,
THICKENERS,
HUMECTANTS,
& EMULSIFIERS
EQUIVALENT
THEIR BODY MASS."

*source: Clean Foodorganic

For example: if you weigh 76 Kg
you probably have eaten 76 Kg's
of food additives.

This industrialisation of our food
supply in the past 17 years may be
a contributing factor in *the* rise
of **ADD** and other brain and behaviour
disorders. Also the ADD-ing of *extra*
weight around the bodies of our youth.

You have a choice
and we encourage you to do
everything you can to eat whole
foods. Avoid junk food with numbers
and food ADDitives you can't
pronounce or even know their
cumulative effect inside you.

Yours in health & fitness,
Greg & Kerry Gleeson.
CHEK HLC 3



Message from the Chaplain

Being nice is easy when you're feeling happy and confident. Anyone can do this. It is a true test of character to be nice when you're feeling flat, tired or upset. Try to be nice all the time. If you say something, make it positive and encouraging. It is especially important with those who we live with or see on a daily basis, that is family and friends. We have a remarkable ability to influence others by what we say and do. Use this influence to make someone's day better. Have a great weekend!

Steve Hall - Chaplain

Wrap Up Retail

Students in both Year 11 and 12 have been very busy and enthusiastic about their courses. Year 11 were fortunate to listen to Varan Freestone, a successful business person who shared her experiences and expertise in running a business. A big thank you to Varan who generously gave up time in her normally busy schedule.



Year 12 have been caught up with the hype of Retail promotional days. So far this term they have been creating Valentines Day and St Patrick's Day displays. Overall, very impressive work.

Our next main calendar event is Easter. The retail classes will be creating some very special Easter Baskets and Easter Egg Hampers. We encourage all families to buy tickets in the raffle as it becomes available.

Until next time – Happy Shopping
Tess Hunter

URGENT REQUEST

Retail class needs recycled baskets, cane baskets for their Easter Egg Hampers. Please send in if you have baskets that you no longer use. Both large and small sizes gratefully welcomed and appreciated.



COME AND TRY HOCKEY DAY

Port Macquarie Hastings Hockey Association is inviting anyone who would like to know more about hockey to attend an Open Day at the Port Macquarie Hockey facility on **Saturday 28th March 2009.**



Activities will include mini games for children, introductory information and an opportunity to register with the clubs who will be present.

Adults and children are all welcome.

Junior hockey will commence after the April School Holidays.

PMHHA is offering a modified mixed junior competition which will run for 12 weeks.

When: Saturday 28th March from 9.00am

Ages: U 5's (skill development), U7's U9's & U12's

Cost: \$50

Venue: Port Macquarie Hockey Facility

Each junior player will receive as part of their 12 week playing fee, a Hockey stick, ball, shin pads and mouth guard.

For more information come to the Come and Try Hockey Day or email pmhhasec@live.com.au or contact Kim Cox on 65 898007 during business hrs.