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St Andrews Christian College Newsletter 2023

Issue 11 · 17 Nov 2017

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Principal

Dear Friends,

One of the things we hope to learn on our journey through life is how to cope with success and failure. We need to understand how to celebrate success and grow from our failures in a way that honours Christ and brings us closer to Him.

If we are teachable and humble we actually learn more and can significantly grow from our failures and mistakes. We want to become more like Christ and be a better person, not a bitter person.

College Satisfaction Surveys

Every year we have grown and improved as a provider of excellent Christian Education.

Our College Surveys are an important annual process where we are able to glean from our community the things we do really well in the

College and areas we need to improve in and work on.

Thank you everyone for your involvement and the time you took to partake in the Survey.

It is good to celebrate the wonderful progress that has been made in all aspects of the College but we also need to have a growth mindset and be constantly open to ways we can further improve and be the best school we can be for the Lord and His glory!

Over the past five years, areas identified in the survey that need improvement, have resulted in targeted programs. Survey results have indicated improvement, and in some areas, past weaknesses have now become a strength of our College.

Targeted areas for improvement have included:

- The College's Vision and Mission being clearly stated and integrated into College life.
- Improved day to day organisation and management of the College.
- Improved grounds, resources and buildings.
- Improved technology and equipment for students and staff.
- Concerns of students and parents being consistently and appropriately resolved.
- Increase in the choice of subjects for VCE.
- More opportunities in co-curricular activities, sport, performing arts, gifted and talented programs, career guidance, cultural activities, mission and service activities, Chaplaincy service.
- Clearer policies and procedures that are accessible.
- More effective methods of communications across the College community.
- Adequate and timely communications from the College.
- More Wellbeing programs in place to build resilience in students.
- Building the sense of community in the College.

Even though the biggest issue of concern is the 'convenient drop off/pick up access and parking at the College', there has been improvement in the ratings of this concern (from 6.2 in 2013 to 7.0 in 2017).

We have worked hard to improve this by providing more parking spots (paying for parking at FoodStar), providing better access and traffic flow in Rembrandts, providing more supervision, and

persevering to build a safety crossing on Tyner Road. Unfortunately the traffic control is an area which will be hard to continue to improve with the various constraints we have at the College.

Vividus Survey Results from 2017

The overall satisfaction with the College is high, both across parent and staff groups. Less than 4% of each group are dissatisfied.

There have been no significant changes in the ongoing satisfaction of the College Community in St Andrews Christian College and the general trend of improvement across the College continues.

Significant Highlights of the Results

- 91% of Parents and 92% of Staff feel that the College's Vision and Mission are clearly stated and integrated into College life.
- 87% of respondents say that the greatest strength of St Andrews Christian College is the Christian ethos/values.
- Active promoters of the College have significantly grown over the past year for both staff and parents. This reflects a growing satisfaction in the College and the special community spirit and fellowship experienced by all associated with St Andrews.
- Overwhelming positive response rates as to the positive Christian values and behaviour reflected by staff; the caring attitude of staff towards students, and the support teachers give to students.
- Very high ratings in the wonderful community spirit experienced by students,

staff and parents.

Significant Areas to Observe/Improve

- Retention rates of students.
- Marketing and promotion to the wider community.
- Parents are not aware of all the special programs/co-curricular activities and Gifted and Talented programs we run at the College. We need to improve our promotion of these activities.
- Be more active in promoting our Chaplaincy Program.

- Continue to inform the community of the availability of fee assistance for College Tuition fees.
- Check the appropriate level of ancillary costs in comparison with other similar schools.
- Continue to seek ways to improve pick-up/drop off areas.
- Remind parents of access to Anti-Bullying Policy/procedure.



Vividus Survey Results 2017.pdf

Be blessed,

Catriona Wansbrough
Principal



News

Remembrance Day Service

Mathematics Champions

St Andrews Christian College has a very strong record in Academic Competitions and this year two of our students have reached the top. Sam Tie (Year 7) and Lawrence Hider (Year 6) both achieved the top award for their year level in the Australian Mathematics Competition.



They each received a monetary prize, a special certificate and a commemorative badge at a ceremony on October 30th.

Well done on a fantastic effort!

Greg Crotty

Academic Competitions Coordinator

Remembrance Day Service

What a beautiful service!



It captured the hearts and minds of us all and brought us

to Jesus midst the turmoil of our world.

Thanks so much to all staff and students involved.

Catriona Wansbrough
Principal

Coins For Change

We are collecting 'change' to help support our mission programs at St Andrews Christian College.



The last week that the tubes will be available to drop money into is Monday 4th to Friday 8th December.

Sally Wade
Vanuatu Mission Coordinator

Operation Christmas Child - Status Update

Christmas in a Shoebox

We were able to pack and pay for 55 shoeboxes to send via Samaritans Purse for Operation Christmas Child.

We had enough lovely things to fill 6 more boxes and donated another box of extra goodies.

Sonia Sires
Prep Teacher

Junior Drama League

Our Junior Drama League recently performed in a night of entertainment called "Popcorn plays". What a great night it was! As we lose some of our experienced actors at the the end of this year, it is great to know we have many others coming up through the ranks to replace them.

The students did an amazing job which brought many laughs and positive comments from those in attendance.

Particular congratulations and thanks to Karen Elbourne who was the driver behind the plays.

She was ably supported by many others who made the night a success. Special thanks to Katie Brown and Mardi Easton for working closely with Karen during the rehearsal process.

A great night! Well done to all involved.

Tim Farmilo
Deputy Principal

Chess

Congratulations on such a wonderful effort from all those who competed in the recent chess competitions.



Junior chess team at their first



Players that represented St

Prayer Group



Students who represented St Andrews in the State Semi- Finals

Well done to all those who participated.

Daniel Ferguson
Chess Coordinator

Wednesdays at 8:45am

The St Andrews Parent Prayer Group will be meeting every **Wednesday morning at 8:45am** in the meeting room next to the school office.

The St Andrews Prayer Group would like to welcome and invite all parents to come along and join in prayer, with other parents for the needs of the St Andrews school community.

It is a great opportunity to join in fellowship with other parents.

For specific prayer requests, there is a prayer request box at the front reception desk for you to put your request in if you are unable to join us.

We are greatly blessed at St Andrews to have the opportunity to gather together for prayer. As Christians we are called to pray, and we encourage parents to join us. Be reassured that you don't have to pray out loud if you are not comfortable in doing so.

Suzy Song
Prayer Group Coordinator



Calendar

Important Coming Events for Term 4 2017:

November

Week 7A

Monday 20th - Whole School Assembly 9am*

Monday 20th - 24th - Yr12 VCE Exams

Monday 20th - 24th - Yr7-11 Exams

Wednesday 22nd - Parent Prayer Meeting

8:45am*

Wednesday 22nd - Prep 2018 Orientation 9:30am-12:30pm

Wednesday 22nd - Yr1 Science Excursion

Thursday 23rd - Yr9 City Planning Session

Friday 24th - Report Writing Day - No School

Friday 24th - Yr12 Valedictory Dinner

Week 8B

Monday 27th - Whole School Assembly 9am*

Monday 27th-1st - Duke of Ed Expedition

Monday 27th-1st - Yr10 Work Experience

Monday 27th-1st - Yr10, 11 and 12 Headstart Program

Wednesday 29th - Parent Prayer Meeting 8:45am*

December

Friday 1st - Junior School Christmas Concert 7pm*

Week 9A

Monday 4th - Whole School Assembly 9am*

Monday 4th-8th - Yr10, 11 and 12 Headstart Program

Monday 4th-6th - Yr9 City Experience

Monday 4th - Yr4 Graduation Day

Monday 4th - Yr6 End of Year Fun Day

Monday 4th - Yr8 Middle School Graduation

Wednesday 6th - Parent Prayer Meeting 8:45am*

Thursday 7th - Presentation Night - Belgrave Heights Convention Centre 6:30pm*

Friday 8th - Last Day of Term 4

* *Parents welcome*

Term Dates

TERM DATES FOR 2018

Term 1: Thursday 1st February – Friday 29th March
*Prep commence Friday 2nd February

Term 2: Tuesday 17th April – Friday 29th June
Term 3: Monday 23rd July – Friday 21st September
Term 4: Mon 8th October – Tuesday 11th December

ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au

Rockin' Royal Christmas
A Sausage Sizzle to a Slightly Sing

Friday 1st December
Sandhursts 7pm

Starting with a performance presented by the PFA, then a Christmas Musical by the Junior School.

Instead of a gold coin donation, the Junior School has decided to encourage the spirit of giving. Please bring a non-perishable item to set and donate them to The Salvation Army, and help families in need.

PFA INVITE YOU TO ENJOY A FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE BEFORE THE JUNIOR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT ON FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER. THE BBQ STARTS AT 6PM.

AFTER THE CONCERT THE PFA INVITE FAMILIES TO STAY ON AND ENJOY A COFFEE (COFFEE CART WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE) AND DESSERT. JOIN US AS WE FINISH OFF CELEBRATING THE YEAR WITH SOME RELAXED FELLOWSHIP.

WE REQUIRE PARENTS TO HELP WITH THE BBQ FROM 5:15PM ONWARDS IN SETTING UP (2 PARENTS) AND COOKING (2). AND THEN FROM 5:45PM TO HELP SERVE THE SAUSAGES (2) AND TO SELL DRINKS/SNACKS (2). THESE CAN ALL CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR PARENT PARTICIPATION HOURS. CONTACT PFA@STANDREWS.VIC.EDU.AU

Parents and Friends

Junior School Christmas Concert BBQ and Coffee/Dessert Night

Introducing Mr Andrew O'Brien, PFA President



Dear Parents,

I would like to introduce myself as the new President of the St Andrews PFA. I am a Chartered Accountant, by profession, and an Honorary Life Governor of the Royal Children's Hospital. My family includes my wife Catherine and

my children, Jacqueline in Prep S this year and her younger brother, Raymond, who will join her at St Andrews in 2019 .

My family firmly believe that St Andrews offers an encouraging, family oriented and enriching environment for our children to grow and develop. The St Andrews College family is the one place that your children will spend the most amount of time outside of your home over the course of the year. I encourage all families to become involved in both the PFA Meetings and as volunteers at the various events organised by the PFA and the College in general. I believe children are encouraged and inspired when they see their parents actively involved in their activities and education.

I would especially like to thank the members of the outgoing Executive who are stepping down, Shaun Beovich and Peter Wan for their efforts over this year and many previous years, as well as the current Executive, Sally Wade and Lesley Goh together with our new Treasurer Jean Lee and Assistant Treasurer Eric Chen.

Andrew O'Brien
PFA President

Junior School Christmas Concert

PFA invite you to enjoy a free sausage sizzle before the Junior School Christmas Concert on Friday 1st December. The BBQ starts at 6pm.



After the concert we'd like to invite families to stay on and enjoy a coffee (Coffee cart will be in attendance) and some cakes/sweets. Let's finish off celebrating the year with some relaxed fellowship.

We do require parents to help with the BBQ from 5:15pm onwards, to help setting up (2 parents) and cooking (2). And then from 5:45pm to help serve

the sausages (2) and to sell drinks/snacks (2). These can all contribute to your Parent Participation Hours.

School Banking

Next week is the **last week to hand in your banking reward redemption** for the year. This allows us some time for rewards to be ordered and distributed to students before the last banking day.

Next year's School Banking will be held on Tuesdays.

We are also looking for parent volunteers who can commit to more than 10 weeks, and willing to sign up with Commonwealth Banking as a Banking Coordinator. Please contact me via

pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au if you are able to volunteer next year or catch me around drop off/pick up time at school.

Juli Tu
School Banking Coordinator

Term 4 PFA Events

Every Friday

School Banking

Every Tuesday

Icy-pole Friday

Junior School Christmas

Concert BBQ

Friday 1st December



Junior School

Year 4 Hands On Science Incursion



Year 4s had a constructive morning working out how force and friction affect our lives and things around us. We did experiments on forces that act

upon objects like pulling, pushing and how gravity affects the result. We also discovered that different materials can slow down or increase the speed of an object

Paige Cheung
Junior School Teacher

English and Maths Competitions

Well done to the many Junior School students who completed the English and Maths competitions last term - you are all stars! A special congratulations to those who got distinctions or high distinctions:

Year 2- Joanna, Nancy and Zoe

Joseph, Chris; Nicole and Dhanush.



Year 3- Justin L, Katherine, Ethan W, Samantha, Elise, Josh D, Julian, Holly, Annika, Darius, Jayden, Ruth, Jennifer, Sean, Michael, Nathan

Judith Hendricks
Year 2 Teacher

Year 4-Matthew T, Daniel H, Alannah, Sidra, Matthew W, Hannah, Eugene, Jonathan,



Middle School

Yr 8 Science GTAC Excursion

Stories of Impact

In Middle School, we ask students from time to time to share an experience that deepened their faith, and that demonstrated the care and encouragement of their

teachers. Below is the story of one of our Year 7 students.

It can be easy to assume that doing big things, takes superhuman powers. Sometimes we underestimate ourselves, and it can be hard to

be content when it seems like everyone else is surpassing you. We can feel like we're not good enough, that we can't do it and that we don't matter at all. I know how it is to feel that way because I've been there.

Luckily, I had help from my teachers, friends and parents.

I suffered from stage fright, so bad that I usually ended up crying if I hadn't prepared myself well enough. That wasn't all. In just a few days, I had to stand up and deliver a speech for the entire class to listen to. I had prepared well enough, and I knew my speech off by heart. My only problem was that I had no control over my growing emotions and I was afraid of what people would say about me.

I looked at my teacher, silently pleading her to forget me. My teacher smiled warmly, and she has one of the most incredible smiles I have ever seen. She genuinely believed that I could do it, and confidence seemed to seep back into my body.

In the end, I loved the marks I received for my speech. That was when I learnt to have faith in the darkest situations and vowed to do my best to see the brightness and positivity in each day. You don't have to do something big and embossed to help someone. Doing things like giving someone a long and

meaningful pep talk and showering them with gifts is wonderful, but sometimes it's the smaller genuine things that can make a larger difference and mean so much more.

Every day, I try to smile and greet everyone I see and tell them something nice that I mean. It is incredible how things like that can brighten someone's day because it can be easy to think that we aren't big enough to make a difference. I am forever grateful to all my teachers and the other people in my life who have helped me to grow into the person I am today. I can safely assure everyone I meet, that all dark situations will eventually brighten, but they will only get better if we can be brave enough to be the light that shines.

We can't always just let the other people in our life make things better for us, it is important that we can keep on pursuing hope, and have faith that God will help us to be resilient in our problems. We can do it, but we can only do it when we ask God for help. He has an eternity of experience, and He will always reply to our

problems if we ask Him to help us. Change for the better doesn't begin with superpowers from the sun or radioactive chemicals, but it starts with something far simpler. Faith.

What a privilege to hear these stories, to see the mature faith displayed by our students, and to know that our teachers carry the interests of each student in their hearts.

Christa Cloete
Yr7/8 Coordinator

Robotics



Aiden and I really enjoy building robotics. Our favourite was the time we built the cross-bow, and next we will build the catapult. The cross-bow fires 3 nerf gun bullets by pulling back the rope and pressing the trigger.

Daniel Wong
Year 5F

Year 8 Science GTAC Excursion



Electrophoresis to separate DNA fragments, centrifuging and gel filtration to identify milk proteins are both processes that Scientists use regularly. Our Year 8 Scientists were recently introduced to them at GTAC in Parkville. The students discovered the processes involved in immunisations, tried to work out which cows to breed from, the composition of their milk and also learnt about gene technology and its implications. They worked in small groups with real research Scientists and – most importantly – had lunch at The University of Melbourne.



"It was fun and educational. I liked playing games and doing experiments. I learnt about how science works in life situations."

"It was interesting to learn about genetic disorders and how we breed cows, and I got bubble tea."

"I had fun learning from the scientists that worked there. I really enjoyed working with the machines that were present in the lab."

Greg Crotty

Middle School Teacher

Celebrating Reading

VICTORIAN PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE AWARDS

On 9th November, Mr Nick Wakeling, State Member for Ferntree Gully, presented the Year 7 and 8 students with certificates to celebrate their successful completion of the Challenge.

Mr Wakeling was pleased to note that the Reading Challenge was part of the Middle School English Program. As reading plays a critical role in literacy development and future educational success, he encouraged students to enjoy reading and engage in the many wonderful discoveries, experiences and journeys that books present to us.



A highlight of the morning was a special presentation to the VPRC Top Reader for 2017, KRISTEN BAKER. In addition to

reading the 15 books required by the Challenge and completing the activities, Kristen continued reading in her free time and completed an impressive total of 100 books!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENTS FOR THE SUCCESSFULL COMPLETION OF THE CHALLENGE AND TO KRISTEN BAKER, THE VPRC TOP READER FOR 2017!

Rajes Krishnan
Middle School Teacher

French Certificate 1



During August, a number of high-performing French students in Year 7 and 8 were invited to take part in the

French Certificate 1

competition.

While quite a few students received a distinction in either Listening or Reading, the highest achievement was by two linguistically gifted Year 7 students, Sophia Tran and Kayle Dharmadasa. Sophia received a High Distinction for Reading and a Distinction for Listening. Kayle received a Distinction in both these areas. Both Sophia and Kayle have accelerated their French studies, and have nearly completed all requirements for Year 8 French.

Bien fait!

Christa Cloete
French teacher, Year 6 – 8



Senior School

Duke of Ed Commando Course

Careers News

Items in the Careers Newsletter include:

- News from Monash University
- Accounting: it's not just a Numbers Game
- Biology Bridging Course
- Careers in the Rail Industry
- Prosthetics and Orthotics at La Trobe University
- Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing at Melbourne

Polytechnic

- Careers that started in Science
- Career as a Protective Services Officer (PSO)
- Digital Workshops for students at Academy of Information Technology (December)
- Mobile VR and Game Design
- Designing for Website and Apps
- Special Effects in Film
- Gaming Camp

- School Based Hospitality at Box Hill Institute

 [Careers News ...](#)

 [Careers News ...](#)

If you have a question about a topic featured in the Careers Newsletter, please contact Careers Coordinator Mrs Irena Yevlahova iyevlahova@standrews.vic.edu.au

Irena Yevlahova
Careers Coordinator

Duke of Edinburgh Commando Course

On Tuesday the 24th of October, the Duke of Edinburgh bronze students went on an excursion to do a commando course.

Once we got there, our instructor gave a devotion that inspired us to be soldiers and warriors of God. The commando course was a series of obstacles through the bush over 1km which normally takes about 50 minutes to complete.



The course had some hard obstacles that we had to work

as a team to get through. One of these was a wall about 3 metres tall, with nothing to grab onto. The only way up the wall was to be boosted up and then pulled over. There was also a rope swing over water and no one managed to make it all the way across. We also had to go through a turning tunnel that was underground and pitch black.

We went through the course twice. The first time was to introduce us to the different obstacles so that we could go through them safely. We all had a go at trying the obstacles, with two spotters watching us with their hands out in case we fell. After having lunch, we split into two teams and competed to be the fastest. This time we went through the course as fast as we could to beat the other team. Everyone had to do each obstacle and if someone skipped it, there was a 1 minute penalty. The last challenge of the course was the dam. In the end the teams were close but the winners' (my team!!) time was just a few minutes faster.

After going through the course and then showering, we sat together and reflected on the day. We all realised that to

make it through the course quickly, we had to work well as a team and encourage each other. We helped each other through our weaknesses and encouraged each other through our strengths. Overall, it was a really fun day and we learnt things about ourselves, each other and God.

Ella Cassidy

Year 9 Student

Senior School Awards

At the last school assembly a selection of Senior School students were presented with a variety of awards. It was an excellent opportunity to recognise outstanding achievements by St Andrews students. Our students have the opportunity to participate in a range of co curricular activities to complement their studies.

Ian was awarded the 'VET in Schools' Award as the highest achieving student in Certificate II in Engineering studies, 2nd year.

Kaycee was presented a certificate for her entry into the

National History Essay Competition.

All Year 10 students participated in the 'Leaders of Change' School Conference run by Moral Fairground. Students investigated how their consumer choices impacted the wider community and environment. At the conclusion of the conference, selected students made a presentation on behalf of the school. Joel and Chloe were presented with certificates for their presentation which 'way surpassed our expectations and was the most popular session during the event.

The assembly was a wonderful time to recognise the hard work and excellence our students display in all aspects of their education. Well done!



Senior School Awards

1. **Kaycee Tu** – State Finalist in the National History Challenge

2. **Ian Neo** – 'VET in Schools' Award, highest achievement in Certificate II in Engineering Studies, 2nd Year.

3. This year our **Year 10 students** have participated in the 'Leaders of Change' School Program and participated in Moral Fairground's 'Leaders of Change' School Conference.

John Presant

Head of Senior School



Library

Library

Library News

Library Staff: Lynne Marks,
Joanne Edwards, Wai-Peng
Heath

Junior Library

Lunchtime Monday

Middle/ Senior Library:

Monday to Friday: Recess and
Lunch

After school:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
and Fridays until 4pm.

Wednesdays until 3.45pm.

Email:

library@standrews.vic.edu.au

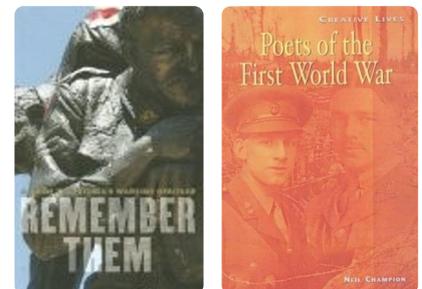
Remembrance Day

In the week leading up to
Remembrance Day (11th
November), the Senior Library
put up some posters for
students to inform them of why
this day is important.



There was also a display of
titles around this theme, which
students were able to borrow if
they wished. All are to be
found in the 'War' section of
the Senior Library and are

available to students in Years 5
or 7 and up.

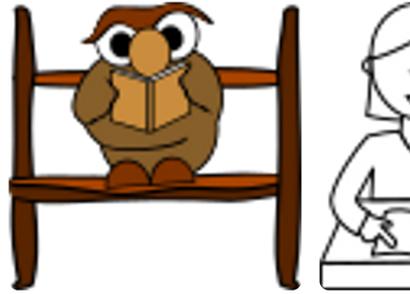


Thank you

The Library staff would like to
say a very big "thank you" to all
parents who have been
covering textbooks for us. We
are very grateful for your help.

Reminder

A reminder to all students in Years 4-6 that there are only a few weeks left to finish reading as many ARs (Accelerated Readers) as they can.



KEEP READING!

The Library Staff



Community Notices

Newsletter 11

This section of our newsletter is to give our families information about programs being run by organisations outside of the school which

may interest our school families.

These organisations are not endorsed by St Andrews Christian College.

Scoresby Magpies Jnr

Scoresby Magpies Jnr are holding their Registration Day for 2018. Please see PDF for details.

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