



# OUR LADY'S COLLEGE

ANNERLEY

Newsletter

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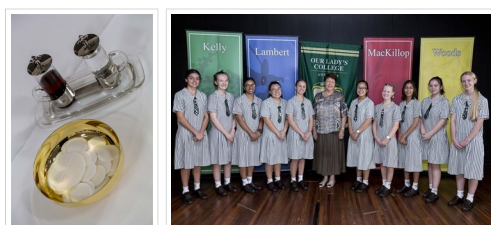
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14 February 2020

## Principal's Message



Our Mass to bless the school year was an engaging and welcoming celebration. We thank Fr Deng Nguyen for presiding; Mrs Brandenburg, Mrs Holmes and the Liturgy committee for their vision and organisation; and our choir led by Mrs Johnson for the beautiful music. We were also privileged to have Ms Pam Betts, Executive Director of Brisbane Catholic Education and proud alumna of Our Lady's College, and the Sisters of St Joseph: Sr Chris, Sr Genevieve and Sr Angela also join us for this important occasion.

A significant feature of our liturgy is the installation of our Senior Leaders. Congratulations to:

Position	Name
College Captain	Ella Gilbert
College Captain	Nikki Nguyen
Liturgy Leader	Blessy Mathew
Social Justice Leader	Anna Tran
Cultural Leader	Beth Allen
Sport Leader	Isabella West
Kelly House Leader	Erin Horan
Lambert House Leader	Saarsha Lucas
MacKillop House Leader	Elaina Mullins

Position	Name
Woods House Leader	Madelyn Prigge

We all appreciate the importance of good leadership, and as we commence the school year, we are reminded of the importance of those underpinning values. The following true story recounted by Bishop O'Kelly in a homily about Catholic Values reminds us of the importance of ethical decision making. He said,

*In 1942, the Wannsee Conference was held in Berlin.*

*It was attended by 15 highly educated men.*

*Among them were three judges, six or seven lawyers, the majority held doctorates, at least two were sons of Lutheran pastors and the others were highly accomplished musicians. The leader was Reinhard Heydrich, who himself was highly educated.*

*The meeting lasted just one and half hours and it mapped the framework for the Final Solution, which resulted in the death of over 6 million Jews – 1.5 million of whom were children.*

*I use this to make the point that education is more than academic results and qualifications.*

In Catholic schools, we value academic pursuit, but we also know the value of a holistic education which is Christ centred. In this sense, we never view education as a commodity, which is produced to fill vacancies in the echelons of industry and commerce. While we are driven to ensure our students develop the necessary skills, and we certainly value academic achievement, our schools develop the human person so that they can use their education to make a real difference in the world they enter: that, too, is the mark of good leadership.

The focus of our Mass, and at the heart of our MacKillop tradition, is VALUING PEOPLE, especially in their vulnerability. We are constantly reminded that this must be central to our decision making.

We congratulate all the Senior Class of 2020 on their leadership commitment and look forward to an exciting year.

**Paula Goodwin**  
**Principal**

## Teaching and Learning

Because of the unprecedented rain events, like many schools and colleges, we were forced to cancel our Swimming Carnival. This would have been an opportunity to test a bespoke Swimming Carnival Database Management system developed and coded by students as an assignment in their 2019 computing class. The database will be very useful for the efficient scoring and recording of events in future years. Congratulations to Justine Reyes, Natasha Brahne and Charlotte O'Shea for their excellent work in this project.

Our College Diary mentions briefly the types of homework, but it is important to see how students view homework. In Mathematics particularly, it is essential that students see homework as a means to absolutely master a required skill so that progress beyond the skill can happen in the subsequent lessons. Students who tell parents how long they've been working, rather than what they've achieved, risk doing "time" rather than meaningful "homework". The object of the homework is the learning, not the spaces filled with ink. Ask your daughter to explain her work to you when checking their homework and you can quickly determine how successful her efforts are in this area. Rather than just remembering facts, they should be looking more deeply at the work to determine patterns and styles so that this can add more meaning to their learning.

In classes, teachers are outlining the Learning Intention and, with the students, determining the Success Criteria. This means that your daughter should be able to tell you WHAT they have been learning in each of their classes and HOW WELL they are going in achieving the expected learnings. Ask them - frequently.

Year 11 students will soon start working on their iSMART goals to inform their study behaviours this term. Essentially, they must identify an area (or two) of priority and determine strategies to assist with achieving success in this area. After identifying the strategies to success and listing the support people to who can assist, students set about making steps toward achieving their goals. The place of homework and revision can also play an important part in this discussion. Academic Mentors are crucial in the conversation between students, parents and your daughter's teachers.

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has made provisions for students to "bank" credits for external courses so that they can be included in the count for Ranks and QCE's in Year 12. This means that students, who privately study music, languages or other approved subjects with exams, can apply to have them added to their official results from QCAA. Students are directed to negotiate with their private teachers about the entry of qualifications, as schools have no authority to act on any external certification. As well, some students choose to sit for the External Examinations held for the QCAA at the end of their final year. Over the past number

of years, we have had students who sit for language exams to take advantage of the extra BONUS RANK points offered by various universities and to boost their ATAR results. Students in Year 12 wishing to complete this exam must make contact with me directly to apply for this opportunity. Exams are available in a number of languages covered by Saturday school classes in many parent communities. Many of our highest achieving students from last year used bonus rank points to enhance their rankings which, in turn, guaranteed their first choice TAFE options.

The curriculum at Our Lady's College is designed to be flexible – allowing students the time to "add-on" components to their learning. We have an impressive number of senior students who are able to take advantage of this flexibility to include School Based Traineeships and TAFE qualifications. Again, in 2020, we are partnering with external providers to increase the resources available to students. Currently, in Year 12, we have an external provider (Binnacle) offering the Certificate III in Business being delivered onsite during class time.

Later in the year, when the registrations for the enhanced studies programs (and other similar programs) become available, more of our students will be able to avail themselves of this opportunity.

## Alternative Learning Programs

Some of the options mentioned above result in a variation to a student's timetable. Some students are involved in alternative programs, both within and outside the College, and this results in extra study lessons throughout the week. Students are provided study periods in Ad Altiora Place to support this alternative program.

## Assessment Schedules

Assessment schedules for all years are available to students in electronic form via the College's Student Portal and this information is available to parents in the Parent Portal. When these have been checked, they will remain as the final version as reference for parents and students. If you note any variation or discrepancies, please alert the College. At all times, the dates provided directly on actual Assessment Items are the official dates for draft and submission of assessments.

Year 12 students will have a smaller exam block this term with final details being distributed closer to that date.

Have a great week.

**Anthony Stevens**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**Teaching and Learning**

## Community Matters

### Attendance

In 2020, Brisbane Catholic Education is encouraging all schools to meet the challenge of 90% of students attending school 90% of the time. Our Lady's College expects all students to attend school every weekday and to arrive at school on time. We appreciate the support of parents and carers in improving their child's attendance.

## Uniform

All students are expected to attend school in full school uniform as per the Our Lady's College Uniform Policy found in the student diary:

It is an expectation at Our Lady's College that students are attired and groomed in a manner befitting a student at a Catholic Girls' College. Outlandish hair styles and the wearing of makeup (**foundation, eyeliner, mascara, eye lash extensions, blush, etc**) is not acceptable. Hair colour must be natural in colour and unnatural colours and streaks that are significantly different from the base colour are not permitted. Any hair extensions must be natural in colour and beads are not permitted.

We appreciate your support in making sure that your child is appropriately dressed to attend school.

## Welcome Dinner

New families to Our Lady's College in 2020 will receive an invitation to our Welcome Dinner very soon. Please save the date, more information about the Welcome Dinner will be available via email.

## Year 8 Camp

The Year 8 Camp will be held at Tallebudgera this year between 4 – 6 March 2020. Students are offered the opportunity to build friendships, problem solve and have fun in a relaxed environment. Great thanks to Mrs Anita Macknish, the Year 7/8 Pastoral Leader for the planning and organisation of this experience for our Year 8 students.

## Year 11 and 12 Parent Afternoon Tea

Year 11 and 12 parents you will shortly receive an invite to a Parent Afternoon Tea hosted by Year 11 and 12 Pastoral Leader Bianca Johnston and College Counsellor Anna Wallace. Please save the date, more information will arrive shortly via email.

## National Consistent Collection of Data

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a yearly count of students by all Australian schools across the country. The aim of the NCCD is to provide the Australian Government with information about the number of students with disability in Australian schools and the type of adjustments they need in order to access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. From 2018, the NCCD will be used by the Australian Government to inform funding for schools, known as the 'student with disability loading'.

If you are a parent, guardian or carer of a child with disability who requires ongoing adjustments at school, a teacher or another school staff member will consult with you to understand your child's needs. This collaborative approach ensures the most appropriate adjustments are chosen to support your child's learning and participation at school. In some cases, an individual education plan (IEP), Matrix or personal learning plan (PLP) may be developed to document specific educational goals and to review your child's progress over time.

Your child will be included in the NCCD if they require ongoing adjustments at school due to a disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 [This link will open in a new window](#) (the DDA). This is a very broad definition of disability, which includes physical and intellectual disabilities, learning disorders such as dyslexia and dysgraphia, and mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression.

The Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards) set out the obligations of schools towards students with disability. Information for parents, guardians and carers on the DDA and the Standards about how schools can work with students and their families is available at Disability Standards for Education: A practical guide for individuals, families and communities.

If your child has a disability, your child's school will provide information about them for the NCCD, including:

- your child's year of schooling
- the category of disability that best describes your child's difficulties (one of four categories is chosen by the school team to reflect your child's greatest area of need: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional)
- the level of adjustment your child receives at school (one of four levels is chosen by the school team to reflect the type of support your child requires: quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary adjustment, substantial adjustment, or extensive adjustment).

The information collected by schools for the NCCD will ultimately be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education. In some cases, this will involve the school passing the information directly to the Department. In other cases, the school will provide it to its state or territory government agency (or other relevant body) in the first instance, and that agency will then provide the information to the Department.

While it is not possible for schools or families to 'opt out' of the NCCD, the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is treated with utmost importance. Data is collected within each school, and personal details, such as student names and other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

**Tina Ellis**  
**Assistant Principal**  
**Student Wellbeing**

## In the Tradition

### Opening Mass

This week we celebrated our Opening Mass, led by Father Dang Nguyen from St James' Coorparoo. Father Dang's engaging sermon reminded us of the importance of being people of love and to live out the Gospel values in our relationships. He also spoke of the many positive comments he received about Our Lady's from students and ex-students within his parish.



It was also wonderful to have three of the Sisters of St Joseph attend our celebration. Mrs Pam Betts, Director of Brisbane Catholic Education, also attended and commended the sisters for their service not only to Our Lady's College but to Catholic Education.

At the end of the ceremony our Year 12 students were formally commissioned into leadership with all having a role in serving others and setting an example. We were thankful a number of family and previous students could attend hospitality afterwards.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on 26th February with a prayer service held in the morning in House groups. The students will lead the services which have been organised by the Liturgy Committee. Lent is an opportunity to focus on following Jesus more closely, through prayer (a commitment to God) fasting (a commitment to self) and almsgiving (a commitment to others).



**Linda Brandenburg**  
**Assistant Principal**  
**Faith and Mission**

## Campus Minister

Last Saturday, 8 February, marked the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947), a Canossian sister active in Italy for 45 years after having been sold to slavery at a young age in Sudan. In 2000 she was declared a saint by the Catholic Church, and is venerated as the patron saint of Sudan and victims of modern slavery and human trafficking. The International Day for the Prevention of Human Trafficking is also held on this date each year in light of the example of Josephine Bakhita, so that we might reflect on the circumstances of violence and injustice affecting millions of voiceless people.



## ROSIES and TRICARE

Thank you to the generous Year 11 and 12 students who have registered their interest in outreach service in the wider community.

Rosies training is after school this Wednesday 19th February for those shortlisted for this program. The opportunity to volunteer for TriCare visits is still open.

Blessings,

**Kay Holmes**  
**Campus Minister**

## Guidance Counsellor

The new school year is an exciting time for students. For Year 7s high school can mean more independence, making new friends, and opportunities to learn and try new things. However, any change can bring with it lots of different emotions – nervousness, excitement, frustration, stress, and enthusiasm.

Students may have felt a mix of emotions since starting school this year, which is very normal.

Last week I met with the Year 7s during their Pastoral Assembly and I asked them to take part in a short survey. The survey showed that for most students the best thing about starting high school has been meeting new people and making new friends.

Getting involved in activities, clubs and sport at the College is a great way to meet new people, strengthen friendships and feel more connected to the school. Students learn about opportunities to be involved during PC, when the morning notices are read to the class, and at assemblies. Recently we had the sign-up day for trimester one sport and contemporary and cultural dance. Other activities can be joined any time during the term, such as choir, Benenson's Society, St Vincent De Paul and Drawing Club. Parents can also access the morning notices on the school website.

Year 7s were most worried about homework, study and keeping up with classes. Many Year 7 students have gone from one homework sheet for the week in primary school to receiving homework every day. Keeping up with homework can also be a worry for students as they start any new year at high school.

It can be difficult for parents to know how to support their child through increased homework and other changes. Some suggestions are:

- Encourage your child to be involved in lunch time clubs and sporting and cultural opportunities
- Help your child set up a new after-school routine. They need time each day for homework, but also to relax and have fun.
- Ensure your child is getting enough sleep. Change can be tiring! Nine hours of sleep is recommended for adolescents, although 8 hours is often more realistic.
- Help your child to use strategies to relax when feeling nervous or overwhelmed. You might like to try meditating with your child. Headspace and Smiling Mind are good meditation apps to try.

If you are worried about how your child is settling in to their new school year, reach out to their Pastoral Leader, or me and share your concerns.

## Middle Leaders Report

### Humanities

#### What an exciting year!

2020 marks the end of the beginning for the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system as we move from OPs to the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) which will make comparison between different state education systems more transparent.

In the Humanities, the new QCE system means that our girls began work on their Year 12 units in Term Four of Year 11. History students have already completed their first of four assessment items and Year 12 General and Essential English

are working on their first item during the first few weeks of Term One. For all three Senior Humanities subjects, three of the four Year 12 assessment items are internally assessed by the school and one item is externally assessed. All assessment items are endorsed by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) and all marks are confirmed by QCAA.

Internal assessments contribute 75% towards a student's final subject result in each of our Humanities subjects and the external assessment contribute 25%.

As part of the new QCE system, QCAA have placed even greater emphasis on the importance of academic honesty and integrity. Our senior students have completed an online module developed by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority which assists students to better understand these concepts. At its heart, academic integrity refers to the process of acknowledging other people's by diligently referencing any sources used to construct a response. The College Diary provides clear guidelines regarding referencing.

Two areas of academic integrity which students sometimes find difficult to understand are collaboration and drafting. Collaboration is an important Twenty-First Century skill and refers to working with others inside and outside of the classroom. Students need to develop a clear understanding of how collaboration can be used to complete an assessment item and which elements must be completed independently. While it might be quite appropriate for students to discuss a task and share suggestions regarding how the task might best be addressed, it would be totally inappropriate for humanities students to email each other the drafts of their assignment.

The drafting process is also tightly controlled by QCAA. In the drafting process QCAA permits teachers of senior classes to provide feedback on a draft so that the student can develop the response; however, the feedback must not compromise the authenticity of the student's work. QCAA policy indicated that teacher feedback may:

- indicate some textual errors and that the draft requires more careful editing.
- provide a summary of advice to the whole class.

#### Teacher feedback will not:

- provide students with new ideas, language or research to improve the quality of their response.
- edit and proofread for spelling, grammar and punctuation.

I look forward to sharing the journey through 2020 with you and your daughter and trust that it will be a fulfilling and rewarding experience

**David Lyon**  
**Middle Leader Humanities**

## Ad Altiora Place

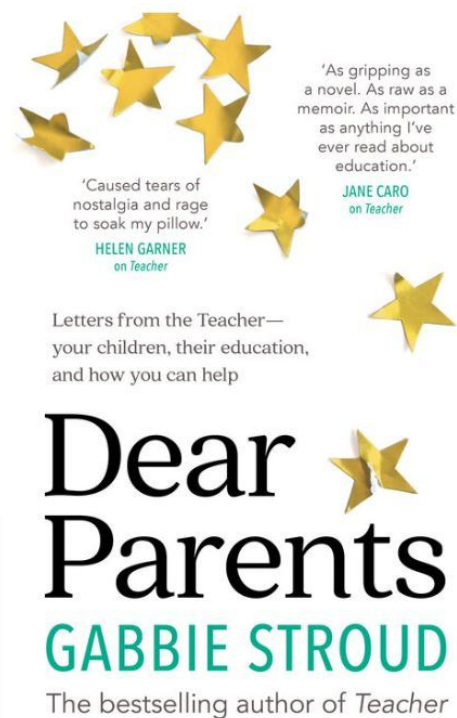
### Year 7s in the Library



The Year 7s are familiarising themselves with Ad Altiora Place and learning about the role it can play in their academic and social life. Technology lessons will help them to make the most effective use of their laptops and coming in English classes will encourage them with their reading. Students will be given information about how best to research their assignments and understand what resources are available for them. In English classes this week, books about helping girls in a number of ways will be displayed and discussed, and able to be borrowed. The picture included shows just some of the books available.

If students have any concerns about their technology, research or reading needs, please visit the library staff as we are also here to help.

### Event for interested Parents



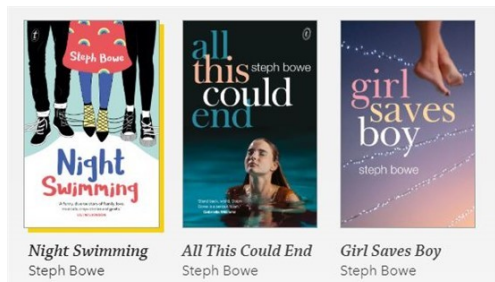
Gabby Stroud, author of *Teacher* has written a new book titled *Dear Parents*. She will be speaking at Bulimba State School, in partnership with Riverbend Books on **Thursday March 12** beginning at 6.30 pm. **Dear Parents** is a funny, heartfelt and impassioned series of letters to the mothers, fathers and caregivers of Australia. She makes a plea to all parents to understand the fundamental changes to the way their children are being taught, and the results of this process on the development of future generations. Booking details and more information can be found [here](#).

## Vale Steph Bowe



I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Steph Bowe on January 20 this year, a 25-year-old author, who wrote three highly regarded novels, the first one published when Steph was only 15. She was diagnosed last year with lymphoma and showed tremendous courage as she fought this aggressive cancer. I was friendly

with Steph and had been on a literary judging panel with her and found her to be wise beyond her years. She presented to the girls at Our Lady's College a few years ago, so in a small way, she connected with our community. Images sourced from Text publishers.



**Find time to read**  
**Patricia Buckley**  
**Teacher Librarian/eLearning Leader**

## School Community Industry Partnership Service

**Do you remember what you wanted to do when you left school?**

For many students, work placement provides them with the means to 'test drive' their ideal jobs. In 2020, our students will be taking part in meaningful work experience.

**Do you have a small business? Or have connections in organisations?**

Contact **Janelle De Villiers** to join our community of employers who are engaging with this program!

E: [jdevilliers@slc.qld.edu.au](mailto:jdevilliers@slc.qld.edu.au)  
M: 0401 628 551  
Ph: 3010 1124

**SCIPS**

## A Message from Annerley Police



There has been an increase in opportunistic crime in the local area. Annerley Police would like to remind residents to always lock their homes, secure their properties and remove all valuables from motor vehicles.

## College Newsletter and 2020 Calendar

Access our College Newsletter and 2020 College Calendar via the College website below:

<http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au/>

## Important Dates and Deadlines

<b>18 February – Tuesday</b>	Red for Rosies Day Year 12 Drama Excursion to La Boite Theatre Kelvin Grove
<b>19 February – Wednesday</b>	Year 12 Rosies Training 3 – 4pm P&F Meeting – College Boardroom 7pm
<b>25 February – Tuesday</b>	College Excellence Awards – College Hall 11am Project Compassion Launch Shrove Tuesday College Board Meeting – College Boardroom 6pm
<b>26 February – Wednesday</b>	Ash Wednesday Rd 1 AFL, IC, JTF, OIV
<b>27 February – Thursday</b>	Year 11/12 Parent afternoon Tea on the Deck Ad Altiora Place
<b>28 February – Friday</b>	New Families Welcome Dinner – College Hall
<b>2 – 4 March</b>	Year 12 Exam Block – College Hall
<b>4 – 6 March</b>	Year 8 Camp
<b>4 March – Wednesday</b>	Rd2 AFL, IC, JTF, OIV
<b>5 March – Thursday</b>	Inter-School Swimming Carnival - Chandler
<b>6 March – Friday</b>	Year 12 Student Leader Soiree – St Rita's College

## Absentees

**Please Phone:** 07 3426 8095 prior to 9.00 am daily

**Email Link:** In the link below

**Absentee Email:** absenteeOLC@bne.catholic.edu.au

**Or via the Parent Portal**

<http://www.ourladyscollege.qld.edu.au/>