



Term:4 No:8

Date: 15th December 2016

ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

6 Endeavour Ave, St Clair 2759
Phone: 96706700 Fax: 98343867
www.stclair-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It's been another terrific year at St Clair High School! Schools are dynamic organisations that often form the hub of the community. St Clair is no different. There have been some challenges with the new building not commencing. This has been frustrating for all involved. We are hoping now that the final design process has been completed that we can now move forward. We are under the understanding that our project manager is in the process of moving to the tender stage. Each month we update the P&C on building plans and seek their input. Perhaps this is an opportunity for you to get involved.

We are still working our way through the rebuilding process that was delayed by the closure of Public Works in 2016 resulting in new Project managers and new architects being appointed. Although this is frustrating for all, the final product will be worth the wait. Below is a 3D image of the building (subject to a DA approval) but the rebuild is bigger than one building. It involves moving the basketball courts, extensive landscape, some development of the hall and of course the building, our innovation centre which will be unique to Western Sydney.



School is primarily about teaching in the classroom and I want to publicly thank our teachers for their efforts in 2016. You may not realise it, but in addition to all of their everyday work and their after school contributions, most of our staff has also given up 3 full weekends during the year to spend time on developing their teaching skills further. That's 6 full days of voluntary work on this aspect alone – amazing!

We have received bucket loads of recognition from many organisations for the achievements of students and staff in Academic, Sporting, Community Service and Performing Arts areas. It truly has been another extraordinary 12 months.

I also want to make special mention of our Head Teachers. Theirs is one of the school's most challenging roles as they play a part as exemplary classroom teachers, coordinate the organisation of their respective teams, deal with a wide range of parent and student issues, supervise a team of staff, and hold membership of the most significant professional body in the school – the school executive. The quality of their work and their capacity to meet the demands of such a diverse role is second to none.

Our Year Advisers and Assistant Year Advisers give up so much of their time to assist in the welfare of our students at both an individual and team level. Their hard work and sensitivity helps to create a more caring and supportive environment for the students. We are also very lucky to have a terrific team of administration staff who provide us with excellent support every day of the year and who cope with significant pressure on a daily basis. Without them we would not be able to achieve the things we have. We have benefited significantly from the leadership provided by our Student Representative Council and in particular our outgoing and incoming Captains and Vice Captains, all of whom have been, and will undoubtedly continue to be, excellent ambassadors for St Clair High.

I am also very grateful to the small number of parents and community members who directly support our school throughout the year. Our fantastic P&C, led by Joanne Taylor, is a determined group whose contribution is highly valued by myself and the staff. It would be great to see new faces contribute to the P&C. We see our school as a community school and value input from all.

Finally, I would like to thank my senior executive colleagues, Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Dickson, who put in a superhuman effort every day and make a great difference in the lives of everyone here at St Clair HS. They have impressed me enormously with their talents, their educational and organisational leadership, their capacity to cope under pressure, to work hard and to survive the long hours into the night! It is an honour to work with such professionals.

2017 will be a very exciting year as the new building gets under way, and hopefully nears completion by the end of the year. Those who have seen the plans already know that it is an incredible building and one that will really seal St Clair High as the school of choice in this area.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and I look forward to 2017 when St Clair HS will continue to pursue our never ending goal of "Personal Best" at every level.

Best wishes and Merry Christmas,
Sally Smithard (Relieving Principal)

CCC	CONTENT
1– 13	Deputy's Report, Welfare Report, Yr7,8,9,10,11 in review, Pasifika, Performing Arts, Science Camp
14 - 23	Mastermind, School Spectacular, Careers , CLI, Gatehouse Girls, Debating,
24 - 26	Change of Details Form, Calender of Events



Best wishes for the future

One of the sad things that occur at the end of the year is that, for a range of reasons, people move on from one school to another. Sometimes that's the result of a well-deserved promotion, and sometimes it's about working closer to home. The number of staff who is successful in being selected for other positions on the basis of merit is often regarded as a sign of a school that is really travelling well. At St Clair High that total now stands at 29 over the last 7 years and that would be a figure unlikely to be seen at any other school.

This year we have several staff who will be taking up new positions.

Isabella Pozzolungo has been successful in a merit selection process and will be taking up a position as a Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts at Hornsby Girls High School in 2017.

Jennifer Dane was successful in a merit selection process and has taken up a position as a Deputy Principal at Castle Hill High School.

Phil Lindsay will take up a teaching position at Katoomba High School in 2017 before moving into retirement. Phil is a founding member of St Clair High School and is well known in our community as he has also taught many of our parents. His contributions to the school and Met West sporting groups are immense. He has taken 23 camps to his beloved Jervis Bay as part of the Bushcraft experience. Many thanks to Phil for his contribution to public education and the St Clair community. We will certainly miss that booming voice that greets us in the morning "How are you going mate!"

We wish all of these people every happiness in their future endeavours and thank them for their contribution to our school.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANAPHYLAXIS SHOULD HE OR SHE CARRY THEIR OWN EPIPEN® OR ANAPEN® TO AND AT SCHOOL?

What is this article about?

If you have told the school that your child is diagnosed a risk of anaphylaxis you should have received a letter from our school asking to assist us to develop a Health Care plan. This article provides more information about anaphylaxis.

What is an EpiPen® and an Anapen®?

EpiPen® and Anapens® are the emergency treatment for children who are having an anaphylactic reaction.

What is anaphylaxis?

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sometimes sudden allergic reaction. If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor as being at risk of anaphylaxis there are some important things to remember that will help the school to support your child's health care needs.

Why you need to keep us informed if your child is diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis or if his or her condition changes. This includes if they have an anaphylactic reaction while not at school.

The school can only respond to risks it knows about. Please keep Mrs Owston informed so that we can plan to support your child at St Clair High School.

Why you need to provide the school with your child's current ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis and an EpiPen® or Anapen® signed by their doctor

The plan sets out the steps the school needs to follow in an emergency. It is essential for us to have this to keep your child safe. We will keep a copy of your child's ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis stored with your child's EpiPen® or Anapen®.

Why it is important to talk regularly with your child about some simple steps to help keep them safe

It is important to regularly talk with your child about when and where they are at risk of contact with the things they are allergic to and how to avoid this. If you have told them not to take part in sharing food at school, regularly remind them of this. Reassure them that if they do come into contact with something they are allergic to or they feel unwell at school they won't get into trouble. ***They need to tell a teacher immediately.***

Consider whether your child should carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen®

If your child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis you can request that they carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen® to school and at school. A request form has been sent home and is also available from Mrs Beamer, our Head Teacher Welfare.

If you request that your child carry an EpiPen® or Anapen® with them to school and at school you will still need to provide the school with at least one additional EpiPen® or Anapen® for storage in a central location within the school and for access by staff in an emergency.

The school will contact you about any request you make for your son or daughter to carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen®.

Why does the school need to know if your son or daughter is carrying their own EpiPen® or Anapen®?

Staff need to know your child carries an EpiPen® or Anapen® in an emergency. For this reason this information will be included in your child's individual health care plan.

They also need to be able to find it quickly so it is important that it be in an easily identifiable and accessible spot (eg. not a locker).

To find out more go to the Department's public schools website: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/index.php>

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As the year comes to a close the Deputy Principals would like to thank students and their parents for their support during 2016. Without this support in terms of time and reinforcing the need to maintain St. Clair High School as a safe, respectful place of learning where students are able to achieve their Personal Best our job would be more difficult. Both of us value the partnership we have forged with our parents and the broader St Clair Community.

School Uniform

During the summer vacation many families purchase items of school uniform. A reminder that shoes must be enclosed leather, either black or white. The majority of students wear black or white leather joggers. Like your own work places we must meet Workplace Health and Safety legislation.

During 2017 the uniform shop will be operated by Excel Uniforms. The school is looking forward to working in conjunction with Excel in maintaining and improving the school's image through the compliance with the school's uniform policy. School shirts, pants and jackets/jumpers are available from the School Uniform shop. The uniform shop is located on the western side of the School Hall. It will be open from mid January.

Safety to and from School

In planning for the 2017 school year we would ask parents to reinforce the safety measures that can be taken when students are moving to and from school. It is always advisable that students walk home with friends or brothers and sisters rather than alone. When crossing roads students need to be aware that vehicles have right of way. When using pedestrian crossings they also need to wait for vehicles to stop before proceeding onto the crossing.

Student Achievement

We are continually amazed at the scope of achievement from students and staff at St Clair High School and this continued in 2016. We feel privileged to be able to be part of celebrating their success. This will be highlighted at our annual Presentation Night and Year 10 Graduation in which we recognise the achievements of our students with our broader school community.

The Deputies would like to wish all students and their families a safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to seeing all students in 2017 ready to achieve their Personal Best in a safe and respectful way.

Rowena Dickson
Relieving Deputy Principal

Karen Shepherd
Deputy Principal

WELFARE REPORT

Important Dates this Term

12th December Year 10 Graduation

13th December Presentation night

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone on the welfare team for their amazing efforts and dedication to their students, parents and our community. A large number of our students have had access to a wide range of additional programs at St Clair High School that have had positive impacts on their wellbeing. Many of these programs would not be possible or would not have run successfully without our amazing team behind them. Thank you to our amazing team!

Year 7 – Amanda Tannous and Amanda Mansour

Year 8 – Megan Currie, Alex Dowd & Leigh Chapple

Year 9 – James Thurtell and Daniel Collette

Year 10 – Sue Lowe and Meina Andrawis

Year 11 – Landon Dowson and Jasmine Robertson

Year 12 – John Brady and Sylvia Cenda

Transition – Aaron McCarthy, Shikha Sharma &

Careers Adviser – Nicola Bennet

Chaplain – Josh Piper

Counsellors – Sarah Miller and Steve

Gatehouse Girls – Jasmine Roberston

Peer Support – Ros Salt and Aaron

SRC – Amanda Masour

FROM THE LIBRARY

Congratulations to both Fadel Ibrahim from Year 7 and Matthew Curcuruto from Year 9 on successfully completing the 2016 Premier's Reading Challenge.

Mrs. Saunders.



Year 7 Nearing the final weeks of Term 4, where did the time go?

I remember the school hall was a sea of fresh faces and immaculate, new uniforms. Parents watched on anxiously as the New Year 7 cohort took their first tentative steps towards high school independence.

The students were welcomed very enthusiastically by the St Clair High School community whilst Year 7 students learned about their new environment, different teachers, a changing timetable, different procedures and protocols and meeting new friends.

Since then Year 7 have experienced many successes such as attending the AIM Higher Workshop and being introduced to our Police Liaison Officer, Ben Gillan who discussed with them the importance of cyber safety.

They also attended both their first Swimming and Athletics Carnivals where they were given the platform to demonstrate their talents. They have engaged in a range of different cultural activities on Harmony Day and led ongoing SRC initiatives throughout the year.

I am very pleased and proud of the way Year 7 have coped with the transition into the high school environment. 2016 has been a great and promising year and I'm looking forward to 2017 where our wonderful students will progress into year 8.

We wish all our students a wonderful break and we look forwards to seeing them in the New Year

Miss Tannous and Miss Mansour
Year 7 Adviser



Year 8 A Year In Review

Year 8 have had a busy year, their first major event being Harmony Day, where students across the school celebrated Australia's Cultural Diversity and learnt the importance of inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Students got to participate in a range of activities from designing Polynesian bookmarks, painting day of the dead masks, Japanese tea ceremony and finally finishing off the day with a range of performances that celebrated the range of cultures represented at St Clair High.

During May Year 8 took part in a Bully Busters presentation in which students were taught respect, resilience and how to recognise and handle bullying. Following this in June students were then given an entertaining talk by the wonderful Xavier of Penrith City Council on Graffiti. Xavier performed a range of scenarios based on personal experience and those of others on the dangers and consequences associated with Graffiti and how a simple tag can eventually lead you down dangerous path.

Later in the year a small group of students along with Miss Currie, represented the School at Western Sydney University in a debating competition. St Clair fought the hard fight but unfortunately eventually lost to Doonside Technology. All was not lost though as the students overall enjoyed a valuable experience of visiting one of the local universities and getting a chance to put those English skills to the test.

With Year 9 around the corner the next important event for Year 8 was subject selection night. The night opened with Mrs Smithard discussing their options and providing tips on choosing suitable subjects. Students then had the opportunity to browse a range of displays set up by each faculty in order to help them decide which subjects would best suit them for the following year.

In November Mrs Chapple lead a group of students to Canberra for the annual Science camp. Students from Year 8 and other grades had the opportunity to visit Questacon and get a real hands on experience of science.

Throughout the year select students from Year 8 along with grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 were also recognised for their consistent hard work and efforts at school at the Recognition Ceremony. Well done Year 8 keep up the hard work.

Mr Dowd and Miss Chapple
Year Advisers



Year 9 2016

2016 has been a year of achievement, growth and enjoyment for the young men and women of Year 9 at St Clair High School. The wide range of activities, learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities partaken in by our students has been exceptional. First of all we saw our students successfully sit their Year 9 NAPLAN exams that will be used to determine their ability compared to the rest of the country.

Our students have participated in and excelled in many different areas including Sport, Academics and Performing Arts. Some of our students were fortunate to visit Western Sydney University (WSU) for the STEPS program which gave the students a small taste of what life at WSU is like and to create a connection between St Clair HS and WSU.

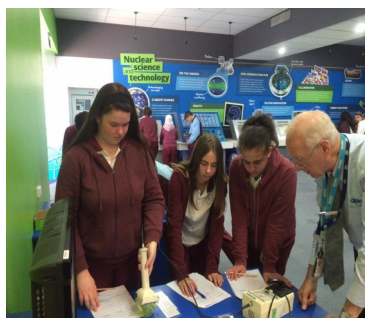
There have also been many welfare initiatives which Year 9 has been a part of this year. One in particular was an alcohol presentation by Warner Youth Education. This fun and interactive presentation tackled some real life issues and gave our students some strategies to avoid poor risk taking behaviour. The Gatehouse Girls program was another highlight with 20 of our girls enjoying a year long program. The program was built on the foundations of empowering the girls and tackling challenges together.

We were also lucky enough to welcome Penrith Panthers NRL player Suaia Matagi to talk and inspire our students with his remarkable story from prison to the NRL and representing his country. Other highlights have been the involvement of students in Harmony Day performances, CAPA Performance Night, Aurecon Bridge Building Competition and a variety of excursions to enrich the learning experiences of our students.

The participation and success of our students in the sporting field is incredible. Our year has an abundance of talented athletes who have shown great pride in representing our school. We have seen success in netball, football, rugby league, oztag, swimming and athletics, among others. We have had many students representing the school at higher levels as well.

2017 brings another year full of promise, opportunities and excitement for our students and we all look forward to seeing what can be achieved.

Mr Thurtell and Mr Collette
Year Advisers



Year 10 2016

Year 10 has had a dynamic year as the seniors of the junior school. This year 50 students took the opportunity to visit the Hawkesbury campus of Western Sydney University with Miss Bennett and Mr Andrawis and learnt about the many courses that were offered at that particular campus. Our next adventure was the BSmart Street Wise campaign that was presented at the Qudos Arena in Homebush and attended by over 10,000 students from all over the state. This was a very powerful campaign regarding safe driving and the consequences of poor decisions when driving. Year 10 have also been involved in a program regarding time management and how to organise their study and assessment times around work and social lives to maximise their potential for the best outcomes regarding not being stressed for school commitments. At the beginning of Term 4 Year 10 were also given the opportunity to purchase their commemorative senior blue t-shirts, which should hopefully arrive for graduation.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Year 10 students who are leaving this year, whether they are moving schools or going into the work force, all the best for their future endeavours. We have been proud of each and every one of them and we hope they find happiness and fulfilment with whatever they choose to do. On behalf of myself and Mr Andrawis all the best and best wishes for the future. For those who are staying with us for Year 11 and your senior years, we look forward to being there to see you grow and achieve your personal best completing your HSC. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Mrs Lowe and Mr Andrawis
Year Advisers



Year 11

This has been a huge year for our Year 11's at St Clair HS, with the time highlighted as usual by the Crossroads camp in Term 2 and Australian Business Week at the beginning of Term 4.

In the second week of Term 2 we headed up north to the Great Aussie Bushcamp at Tea Gardens. As usual this was a hugely successful event, where despite the inevitable groans of getting up early and the weather being cold, the students participating had a great time. Activities involved the High Ropes course, Kayaking, Leap of Faith and others. The highlight was undoubtedly the obstacle course through knee and sometimes chest deep mud. The students showed great character and revelled in covering the participating teachers, and each other, from head to toe in mud.

Term 4 saw our students participate in the ABW program. This is a flagship event for St Clair High School and one that sees students work as hard as they ever have. This year I was incredibly proud to see near 100% participation and every single group work their socks off. Over five days they set up trade displays, created video commercials, compiled business reports and deliver business presentations to staff. This was

Our year group has now moved into Year 12 and are looking towards their final year, reaching their goals of achieving their personal best.

We wish a safe and Happy Holiday.

Mr Dowson and Miss Robertson
Year Advisers



2016 PASIFIKA PICTORIAL

As the 2016 school year draws to an end, our Year 7 and Year 8 Pasifika (including Maori) students are gearing themselves up to attend the MY FUTURE Conference at Western Sydney University with PATHE. This last event wraps up a busy year which began with Harmony Day. Our Pasifika students also participated in a variety of workshops designed to encourage them to **DREAM BIG** and to reflect on how school and further education can get them there. The boys also had an opportunity to attend an inspirational talk from Penrith Panther player, Suaia Matagi. Pasifika parents and caregivers also joined us for our Pasifika communities' morning tea.

The school looks forward to another fantastic year in 2017. Thank you to all the students, staff, parents /caregivers and volunteers for supporting Pasifika students. Stay tune for news about the school's involvement in Pacifica Sydney in 2017.

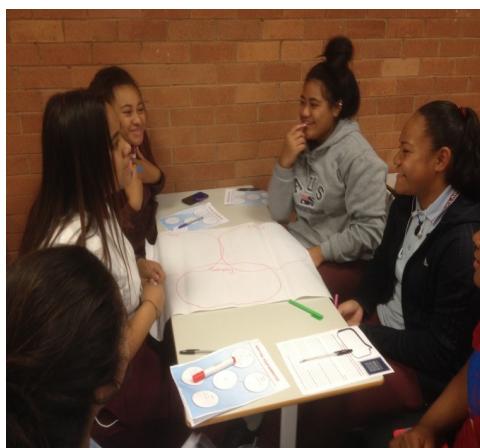
Ms Saisithidej, Pasifika Co-ordinator



YR 9 STUDENTS ENJOYING THEIR WORKSHOP.



YR10 STUDENTS AT A PATHE WORKSHOP AT WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY BANKSTOWN CAMPUS.



YEAR 7 STUDENTS AT A PATHE WORKSHOP PLAYING EGG, CHICKEN OR DINOSAUR.



YEAR 7 STUDENTS REFLECTING ON THEIR DREAM CAREERS.



, Penrith Panther, Suaia Matagi with some excited Year 7 students at his presentation.

Invitation to Morning Tea *Vala'aulia mo se ipu ti mo matua*



CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS END OF YEAR EXHIBITION 2016

The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty have ended 2016 with a bang.

Our end of year exhibition was a night of entertainment, fun and excitement. Tahlia Brown opened the night with a beautiful rendition of the Australian Anthem. Our school captains Rebecca Schmitz and Benjamin Bishop were the Master of Ceremonies.

The Year 9 drama performance was a lyrical mime. It was something special to witness. To a soundtrack of French cafe music, the students performed a number of scenarios on the subjects of relationships and modern life. Their biggest challenge was to create a clear and meaningful narrative and character without speaking. The students were inspired by French mime artist Marcel Marceau and the silent films of the 1920s. The audience found the performance very moving and enjoyed the students artful use of expressive movement and choreography.

The rhythms our music students played made you want to dance. Songs included Hotel California (The Eagles), Don't Stop Believin' (Journey), Thinking Out Loud (Ed Sheeran), Summer of '69 (Bryan Adams), How to save a life (The Fray), Read all about it (Emilia Sande) and You can go your own way (Fleetwood Mac).

Our art exhibition displayed a range of 2D and 3D works made by our most gifted and talented artists. Drawings, paintings, printmaking, ceramics, wet and digital photography were among just some of the media practice on display. Conceptual practice covered themes that included landscape, still life, the built environment, portraits and representations of the circus and interpretations of animals using Aboriginal artmaking style.

On the night, 277 personalised certificates were handed out for excellence in all three key learning areas and 24 art prizes were awarded.

For the first time, we introduced the "People's Choice Award". It was a full house and the audience were given an opportunity to vote for their favourite artwork on the night. Grant Perez's artwork depicting a hotted up blue sports car was an overwhelming favourite and a major prize winner.

Our technically savvy light and sound crew made sure our performing stars were lit up in bright lights and sounding great.

On the night we raised \$346.10 through coin donations and our souvenir limited edition colour catalogue sold out in a flash. Money raised went back to the CAPA faculty to assist in paying for the night.

2016 is my last year at St Clair High School. It has been a real privilege to work with the staff and students here at this school. Special thanks must go to my Creative and Performing Art Faculty. Together we have achieved a lot and provided our students with unique learning opportunities and experiences. I thank my faculty for their support over eight years and their tireless and continuing efforts in supporting our students and public education. 2016 was yet another fantastic year. I wish the staff and students of St Clair High School a fond farewell and best of luck with all future endeavours.

Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts
Ms Pozzolungo



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE: SCIENCE CAMP

On the 17th and 18th of November 54 students from years 7 - 10 went on a two day Science Camp visiting the nation's capital. Students attended various locations including the National Zoo and Aquarium, Questacon and the National Botanic Gardens. Students are to be commended on their excellent behaviour. All staff involved in organising the excursion are thanked for their efforts especially Mrs Evans, Mr Pabian, Mrs Ralph and Mr Collette who attended the excursion. As a Science Faculty we look forward to hosting a variety of extra curricular activities promoting Science in the future.

Mrs Leigh Chapple
Science Teacher - St. Clair High School



MASTERMIND COMPETITION

This year St Clair High School was chosen to take over the running of the History Mastermind competition. This is a competition sponsored by the NSW History Teacher's Association and involves hosting a number of schools from around Sydney. This year, SCHS hosted 30 schools for a combined total of 82 teams, including our own. The hall was full to the brim with students keen to establish themselves as the brightest history minds in NSW.

Halfway through the competition, St Clair's Year 8 team had already made their mark, sitting in 2nd place overall, neck and neck with the likes of Penrith HS and James Ruse Agricultural HS, both well-known selective schools. Our Year 7 team also performed well throughout the competition. By the end of the preliminary rounds, our Year 8 team sat in 3rd place and faced an incredibly tough semi-final against previous winners James Ruse. The playoff was tense, with St Clair matching James Ruse answer for answer. Eventually it came down to a tie-break, which was won by James Ruse. Nevertheless, it was an incredible effort from the Year 8's, who deserved to feel very proud of their achievements.

St Clair teams:

Year 7 – Hope Brown, Sarah Stevens, Joseph Paese, Akhil Prasad

Year 8 – Lachlan Vecchio, Jordan Morrison, Faith Rivers, Aimee Tunks

A huge thank you to our organiser of the day, Daniel Collette, as well as all other staff members who assisted. The day was a huge success, with all schools praising St Clair on their efforts.

Mr Brady

Head Teacher HSIE



Y7	Position	Y8	SCORE
HELLS SPORTS-7A	15	Penrith HS 8A	20
PENRITH HIGH 2B	15	James Ruse HS 8A	18
REDEEMER-7A	15	St Clair HS 8B	17
ROUSE HILL-7A	15	Montgrove College	17
ARABERHILL-7A	14	Zetland Macquarie HS 8B	15
M. PAUL ANDERSON	14	Mitchell HS 8B	14
MOOREBANK	14	Rouse Hill HS 8B	14
PENRITH HIGH-7A	13	St Clair HS 8A	13
		James Ruse HS 8B	12
		St Clair HS 8A	11

ST CLAIR IS A SPECTACULAR SCHOOL

This is an annual event for which our students auditioned earlier in the year. It took place this year at Qudos Arena, Sydney Olympic Park on the 25th and 26th November. Schools from all over NSW participated in Choirs, Orchestra's, Bands, Singers, Dancers and Actors. Five of our students were part of the massed choir. Miracle Mau (Year 7), Cameron Edwards (Year 7), Hayley Mician (Year 8), Rebecca Attard (Year 12) and Renae Morley (Year 12) made our school proud for all four shows. In 2016 a new Guinness Record was achieved as the largest variety show with 5322 performers. The concert was televised on the 3rd December, on Channel 7.





Careers Corner

As 2016 comes to an end we all take some time to reflect on the year that has past. In Careers, students and teachers alike have experienced some eye opening and interesting moments along the journey this year.

Both Year 9 and Year 10 got a taste of Western Sydney University at the Richmond and Bankstown Campuses with experiences of different teaching faculties at each. Year 10 were taken on a journey through the sciences of the Richmond campus, even getting a chance to hold python snakes and other various reptiles. Year 9 got to experience an Amazing race around the Bankstown Campus, making new friends with students from other schools.

A trip to Taronga Zoo enabled many students to discover careers and pathways into Animal Science and Animal handling. Sometimes all it takes is the right information and experience to ignite the light within.

Year 11 and 12 were given the opportunity to broaden their own horizons with some specialist study skills seminars delivered by Elevate Education. Seminars covered Study skills, time management, exam techniques and memory Mnemonics. Elevate always seem to make what can be a somewhat boring topic into a meaningful, vibrant and exciting hour of information.

I would like to wish all students, parents, carers and families a safe and happy holiday period.

Miss Nicola Bennet
Careers Adviser



Don't Forget to check out the St Clair High School Careers Facebook Page for all the latest careers news, job advertisements and Apprenticeship opportunities.





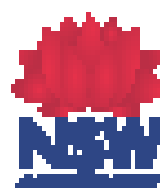
Teaching someone to drive can be a **happy** experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE:	VENUE:	BOOK NOW ON:
Wednesday 7 December 2016 6pm - 8pm	Library Theatrette Penrith City Library Civic Centre 601 High St Penrith	(02) 4732 7556 or Email catherine.waerner @penrith.city *BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Helping learner drivers
become safe drivers





ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

Contemporary Learning Innovation (CLI) is a subject that was introduced in 2016 to our Year 7 cohort. This subject is designed to teach our students skills that will apply in everyday life and future jobs/ careers.

We focus on teaching our students to direct their own learning. This is where they build on their interpersonal skills as they are working with others through negotiation and cooperation.

The level of engagement from our students has been overwhelmingly positive. Students are taking pride in their work where they stay back during their own time to refine their tasks.

It has been rewarding for teachers to see students grow in terms of working cooperatively with their peer and teachers.

The CLI subject will continue to be taught throughout 2017. Students will continue to embark on a journey where they collaboratively work on higher order tasks. This drives the students to learn about real world issues that apply and affect them personally. If you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to contact Miss Amanda Mansour on (02) 9670 6700.





In Australia, one in four children are exposed to domestic violence.

Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse. (2011).
The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children: A Literature Review.
 Retrieved from: <http://bit.ly/1oiyn2E> p.3-4 © White Ribbon Australia 2014

For the Annual Christmas Spirit Competition this year, St Clair High School is starting an initiative which seeks to support women and children experiencing domestic violence. In doing so, we have teamed up with local service, WASH House. WASH House is a meeting place for women and aims to reduce isolation by increasing connectedness and access to services. It offers a range of services including counselling, family support and assistance to women who want to end a violent relationship. Women and children leaving domestic violence often leave with nothing but the clothes on their back. If we can help them transition to a safe refuge or accommodation quickly and easily, it can really make a difference.

Instead of toy donations, we are putting together emergency kits, called “Grab N Go Kits”. These kits will contain supplies a woman (and children) may need if they are fleeing domestic violence. We are appealing for contributions by the St Clair community. This may be by putting your own kit together or by supplying individual items for kits. Any old handbags or recyclable shopping bags would also be great for the items to go in.

Here is a list of helpful items that may give you some ideas:

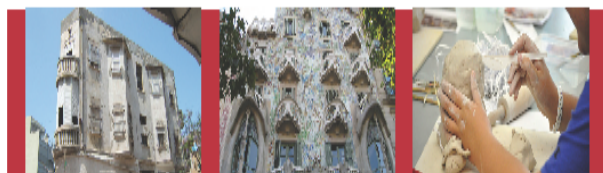
- ◆ Toothpaste and tooth brushes (include some kids ones)
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Shampoo
- ◆ Hair ties
- ◆ Travel sized hair combs/brushes
- ◆ Sanitary pads
- ◆ Colouring books and textas/crayons/pencils for kids
- ◆ Small soft toys for cuddling (children who are scared really respond to the comfort of a cuddle toy)
- ◆ Chap stick or lip balm
- ◆ Sunscreen

Any donated items will be greatly appreciated and can be dropped at the front office or in the careers room at the bottom of E block.

Thank you for your support in this great cause!

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY

TERM 1 2017 – ART CLUB



In 2017 Art Club students will be inspired by architecture from around the world. Motivated by Bauhaus architecture, Gaudi's cathedrals, books and their own imagination, students will build models, dream-up and draw imaginary cities,

design wild tree houses and learn the rules of perspective drawing. Come and expand your knowledge of art, design and architecture while exploring a range of techniques and materials!

WHO: Year 1 - 7 students

TIME: 4:15 - 5:15pm

DATE: Thursday 2 February – Thursday 6 April

COST: \$110 for the term

For more information please call Barjinder on 4732 7890 or email childrensteamlibrary@penrith.city

BABY TIME AT PENRITH LIBRARY ON MONDAYS IN 2017

Baby Time has been a huge success in 2016.

We went from fortnightly sessions to weekly sessions and our numbers just kept growing.

We averaged 35 babies and parents each session with our largest session reaching 45 babies!

In 2017 Baby Time will be on **Mondays from 10.30-11.30am** during school terms. Our first session is on **Monday 6 February**. We hope to see you there.



STORY TIME AND TOY LIBRARY 2017

Our first Story Time and Toy Library sessions in 2017 are as follows:

St Marys Library
Tuesday 7 February

Penrith Library
Wednesday 8 February

St Clair Library
Thursday 9 February



THANK YOU

We would like to thank all the families who attended our Story Time, Baby Time and Toy Library sessions at Penrith, St Marys and St Clair libraries this year and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2017!

The Library Children's Team
Miss Rosie, Miss Lizzie, Miss Natalie,
Sam, Michelle and Barjinder

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 92, SUMMER 2016

SUMMER READING CLUB

Monday 12 December 2016 to Sunday 29 January 2017

We're inviting children to unleash their imagination, get ready for action, and discover heroes, villains, sidekicks and more by joining the Penrith City Library's Summer Reading Club (SRC).

The SRC is a nationwide reading program run through public libraries to support and keep up children's reading skills over the long summer holidays. The program encourages children and young people to discover great authors and illustrators of picture books, junior and young adult fiction and non-fiction.

Participation in the SRC gives children and young people the opportunity to:

- Engage with their local libraries and library collections
- Discover and develop knowledge, understanding and skills related to the annual SRC theme
- Enjoy reading books and participate in activities that inspire a love of reading, literature and the library habit

To join the SRC you need to:

- Be a current library member
- Collect a reading log from any library branch or download it from our website
- Read and record ten books on the reading log
- Return your completed reading log to any library branch for your chance to win a prize
- Claim your free reward at the desk each time you put your reading log in the barrel

The SRC starts **Monday 12 December 2016** and ends Sunday 29 January 2017. It's **FREE** and open to library members, 16 years and under.



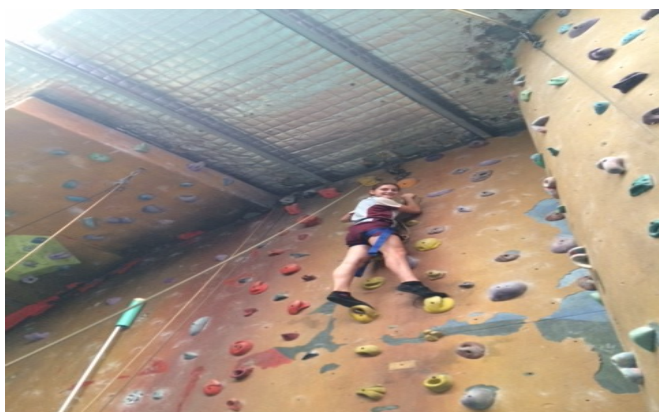
PENRITH CITY LIBRARY
601 High Street
Penrith 2750
Ph: 4732 7891

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

THE GATEHOUSE GIRLS ROCK CLIMBING

On the 30th November the Gatehouse Girls had a day of conquering their fears with indoor rock climbing. The girls started the day with a healthy breakfast workshop. Mrs. Lowe gave them advice and information on the benefits of eating a nutritious breakfast. Following this they made a delicious and nutritious breakfast parfait that consisted of fresh fruit, yoghurt and muesli. The indoor rock climbing was a lot of fun and a little daunting for most. Every single girl had a go and put in their best effort. Well-done Gatehouse Girls!! Thank you to Mr. Thurtell for coming along to help out on the day. Ms Robertson.

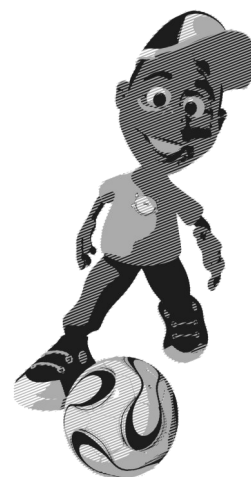




ST MARYS SOCCER CLUB

2017 Registration Days

Saturday	21/01/2017	10am – 2pm
Sunday	22/01/2017	10am – 2pm
Saturday	28/01/2017	4pm – 7pm
Sunday	29/01/2017	4pm – 7pm
Saturday	04/02/2017	10am – 2pm
Sunday	05/02/2017	10am – 2pm
Thursday	09/02/2017	6pm – 8pm
Saturday	11/02/2017	4pm – 7pm
Sunday	12/02/2017	10am – 2pm



Potter Field Cnr of Shepherd St & Bennett Rd St

- Players turning 5 in 2017 to All Age, including over 35's & 45's.
- Girls only teams start at under 10's.
- All new players need proof of age (License, Passport or Birth Certificate).
- All registrations must be done online at MyFootballClub.com.au or via our website and follow the link. Please bring invoice to canteen when registering.
- Discounts apply to completed & fully paid registrations on the 9 official registration days.



Enquiries:

John Sipsak 0401 942 865 - Registrar
Joe Youssef 0410 694 742 - Vice President

www.stmaryssoccer.com.au

YEAR 8 DEBATING

On Monday the 21st of December seven students from Year 8 participated in a 'Debating Challenge' excursion at the University of Western Sydney Kingswood Campus. This event, run by the Western Debating Union, provided the students with the opportunity to develop their skills of persuasion and public speaking. The students were organised into two teams. Team A was Rianna Davies, Nyah Mason-Whaitir, Jordan Morrison and Saele Ah Mann while Team B consisted of Alishba Khan, Lara Sarkawt and Hayley Mician. Throughout the day the girls learnt about constructing a team argument, how to write rebuttals and the structure of a debate.

In the final session of the day both teams prepared a debate in 45 minutes on the topic: Social Media should be banned for people under the age of 16. Both teams argued 'negative' and while they competed well, unfortunately both teams lost. All of the students should be extremely proud of their efforts in competing in their first ever high school debate! Well done!

Miss Currie

Relieving HT English



HOMework

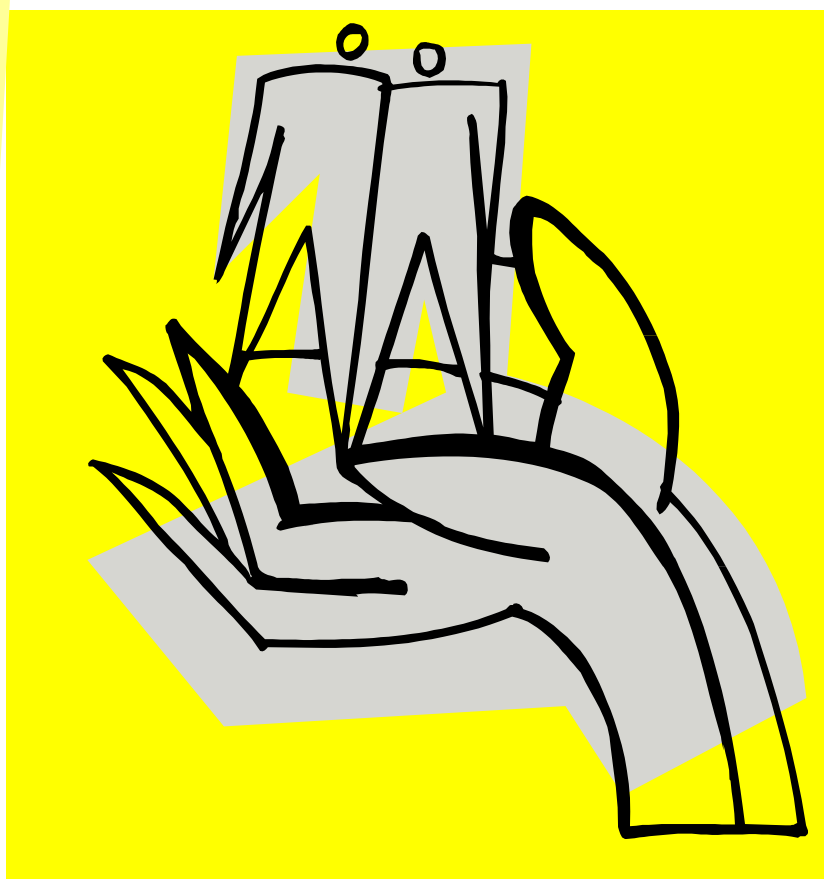
For homework help

Does your child need a hand with homework?

Has an assessment or assignment got them stumped?

What about getting some handy study hints?

Just need a quiet place to study?



- Get your child along to the Homework Centre in the school library.
- Staff will be available to help St Clair High students with their homework, assignments and with study skills.

WHAT: Homework Centre

WHERE: School library

WHEN: Every Wednesday

TIME: 2:35pm - 3:45pm

COST: It's FREE!

QUESTIONS: Contact

Ms Saisithidej (Ms.S) on
9670 6700 at the school.

Helping teenagers celebrate safely

Parties are part and parcel of a teenager's life. While most celebrations go off without a hitch, they can go wrong and get out of hand – particularly if the party is unplanned. Here are some tips to help ensure your teenager and their friends have fun but remain safe.

Time to party: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au//wellbeing/development/time-to-party>

Guide to technology tools

The holidays are traditionally the time for the big gifts that kids have been begging for all year. Here's what to watch out for when choosing technology toys for your kids.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/hu/technology/using-technology/a-guide-to-technology-toys>

Have you changed your address or phone details?

Please let us know the new details immediately.

If you don't let us know, and something happens to your child requiring us to contact you urgently

If there's an emergency we need to be able to reach you!

TERM 1 2017**Week 1 – B**

Mon	30/1	Year7, 11,12 Return
Tue	31/1	Year 8, 9 10 Return

Week 2 – A

Mon	30/1	Yr7,11,12 Commence
Tue	31/1	Yr8,9,10 Commence
Wed	1/2	Year Assembly Yr7,9,11 Formal Assembly Yr 8,10,12

Week 3 – B

Mon	6/2	Yr 12 Construction work placement (all week)
Wed	8/2	Year Assembly Yr 8,10,12 Formal Assembly Yr7,9,11

Week 4 – A

Mon	13/2	Year12 Hospitality Work placement (all week)
Wed	15/2	Year Assembly Yr7,9,11 Formal Assembly Yr 8,10,12
Fri	17/2	Swimming Carnival

Week 5– B

Tue	21/2	Year 7 BBQ
Wed	22/2	Formal Assembly Yr7,9,11

**Next P&C
Meeting
and report from
previous meeting,
check out the
following link for
lots of
information!**

www.sites.google.com/site/schspandc



Please be aware that the school day starts at 8.30am. Students are expected to be at school when the warning bell rings at 8.25am, ready to start Period 1 at 8.30am.