



Term: 3 No:5

Date: 11th August , 2017

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

My thanks go to the whole staff team for the efforts of the last couple of weeks in particular. We have had a string of additional activities, all of which have gone very well, but require a lot of extra work. Thanks to everyone involved with the Subject Information night, STEPS Concert, multiple competitions for gifted and talented students, Gatehouse Girls' and the Public Education Concert. It's been a busy first half of Term 3 and the pace will continue with HSC practical exams and major works being submitted along with the trial HSC examinations.



Whilst all of this is exciting, we must never lose sight of what matters most, and that is ensuring that every student has access to the best possible educational experience every day. We **all** share a responsibility in delivering this. As Relieving Principal I place a great deal of emphasis with all of our staff on developing the expertise to perform their work to a high standard. I also expect every parent to fulfill their side of the partnership by ensuring that each son or daughter has the necessary material to do their work, brings it to school, is in full school uniform and that their Subject Fees are paid up to date.



I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Jackie Saisithidej who last week received a NSW Australian Council of Educational Leaders leadership award for her outstanding work with EAL/D, Pacifika and refugee students. She is an amazing educator with outstanding skills and incredible passion and compassionate. Miss S makes a significant difference to the lives of students through her work and it is wonderful that she is being acknowledged at such an amazing event.

Our building is progressing well due to some great weather which has allowed our contractors to maintain a furious pace. The basketball courts are progressing well and they will now move onto the tiered landscaping areas which will connect phase one to the rest of the school.

If you are wondering why your kids seem to be getting fitter – perhaps the photo above will explain. This is how everyone now travels to E Block.



Best Wishes!

I would like to wish our Year 12 students all the very best. As I write this newsletter they are almost finished their Trial HSC and approaching their final weeks at St Clair High. It's a stressful, anxious and exciting time for all involved, including their family! The Trial HSC is very important because it provides teachers and students with a very clear idea of what they need to focus upon in the remaining weeks of school in order to maximise their final HSC marks. It's important for every student to work through their exam papers and learn how to make further improvements. This period of time is unbelievably valuable to students as feedback is the key to making improvements. The next few weeks are hugely important in terms of preparation for the real thing!

Sally Smithard
Relieving Principal

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2 – 10	Deputy's Report, Welfare, Tips, Drama News, Roads & Maritime, Public Education Week,
11 - 16	Lunch Concert, Evening of Creative Arts, Tips, Science Camp 2017, Library News, Vivid 2017
17- 19	Change of Details Form, Calender of Events

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Subject Selections

At present Year 8 and Year 10 student are selecting their subjects for 2018. For Year 8 this is the first time they will have any significant input into their curriculum. Parents and students are advised to take in as much information to assist with this decision. There are a variety of resources available, including class teachers. Head Teachers, the Year Adviser and their assistant as well as the Careers Adviser. When the selections are collated, we will be able to see the curriculum pattern for 2018 emerge.

Trial HSC Examinations

During Weeks 4 and 5 of this term, Year 12 completed their trial HSC examinations. This is their last formal examination until the HSC is held next term. Also during this period many students were required to submit their major work to begin the marking process. Congratulations to all students who have completed this major task. A special mention to all class teachers who have supported their students in this process, your dedication is highly valued.

It is imperative that Year 12 students ensure they maintain their attendance between the trial examinations and the actual HSC. This time allows courses to be finalised and more importantly class teachers can deeply analyse with students their trial examinations to provide advice to be acted upon for the final examinations. Many of our staff will discuss with students that this is the time they are most likely to improve their results to raise their achievement into the next band.

Dates for Year 12

This is an exciting time of the year for Year 12 as they begin the countdown to some key significant milestones in their education. Year 12 Graduation, Year 12 Formal and the completion of their final exams as secondary students mark the end of their time as high school students, and the graduation and formal are marquee events in the school calendar. Year 12 are reminded of the following dates:

Wednesday 20 September: Graduation Ceremony. The Ceremony commences promptly at 7pm.

Thursday 21 September: Year 12 Formal. When making payments students need to provide their signed permission notes.

Monday 16 October: HSC commences

Dates for Year 11

Year 11 are also in the final stages of completing their preliminary courses. Please be reminded of the following key dates:

Preliminary end of course examinations: Monday 11 September - Friday 22 September

Australian Business Week: Monday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2017. ABW dinner Monday 16 October 2017

Commencement of Year 12 HSC year: Monday 16 October 2017

Uniform

Students are reminded regularly of the uniform requirements and of the procedures if they are out of uniform. Parents, on the whole, are supportive of our efforts. We take this opportunity to remind all students that the correct footwear for school is leather shoes for all practical subjects. This is a Work Health and Safety Requirement. Students may be excluded from class if they do not wear correct shoes.

As the building process continues it is imperative for everyone's safety that all students are easily identifiable by wearing full school uniform. We appreciate your support in ensuring everyone's safety and wellbeing.

Enhancing online safety for children

This year The Australian Federal Government launched The Office of the Children's e-Safety. The Office of the e-Safety Commissioner leads online safety education for the Australian Government and protects Australian children when they experience cyberbullying by administering a complaints scheme. Their website can be found at: <https://www.esafety.gov.au>

Below is some information from their website:

Who can make a complaint?

You can make a complaint if you are an Australian child - that is, you are under 18 and live in Australia.

The Commissioner can accept your complaint if you are 18 years old and were cyberbullied as a child, provided you make the complaint:

- within a reasonable time of becoming aware of the matter; and
- within six (6) months of your eighteenth (18th) birthday

The office of e-safety will also accept complaints from adults who are:

- a parent or guardian of an Australian child; or
- authorised by the child to make a complaint on behalf of that child.

What can I complain about?

You can complain about cyberbullying material targeted at an Australian child, where the effect is likely to be:

- seriously threatening
- seriously intimidating
- seriously harassing
- seriously humiliating

What material is included?

You can complain about material:

- posted on social networking sites (including photo and video sharing sites)
- posted on apps with messaging or comment functions
- posted on chat services (phone and online based)
- posted on blogging sites and apps with messaging or comment functions
- sent via phone-based text messages and MMS pictures
- sent via email, video sharing and instant messaging
- in the form of data, speech, music, photographs and visual images
- in an online game where users can play with others online

K Shepherd
Deputy Principal

R Dickson
Relieving Deputy Principal

WELFARE REPORT

Important Dates this Term

17 th August	Year 10 Welfare Program – bStreetsmart, Qudos Bank Arena
17 th August	Year 9 Welfare Program – Gatehouse Girls
31 st August	Year 12 - Due date for final formal payment
7 th September	Recognition Ceremony
15 th September	Year 7 Welfare Program – 2 nd dose vaccinations
20 th September	Year 12 Graduation
21 st September	Year 12 Formal

Year 7 Vaccinations

Year 7 students will receive their second round of vaccinations on Friday 15th September. If your child missed out on getting the first dose of vaccinations in term 1, they will be caught up on this day. Should your child require a vaccination consent form, please have them see Mrs Owston in the Welfare Office.

Second Hand Uniform

Second Hand Uniform is available from the welfare office on Tuesday morning from 8am – 8.25am. To assist with providing this service we need donations of clean clothes, particularly maroon shorts, school jumpers, school jackets, PE uniforms and polo shirts (junior and senior). They can be left at the front office anytime. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Year 10 Welfare Program – bStreetsmart

Each year, Year 10 have the opportunity to attend the bStreetsmart road safety education program. Year 10 will be attending on Thursday 17th August.

bstreetsmart is held because youth are being severely injured and killed due to potentially preventable road crashes. The NSW statistics for 2014 for 17–25 year olds, recorded 15181 road traffic crashes of which 67 were fatalities and 4742 were injured. These young people hold only 14% of licenses, but they are involved in 21% of fatal crashes. Westmead Hospital's Trauma Service is committed to decreasing these numbers.

The Forum provides students who are most at risk, a realistic look at the trauma caused by road crashes and gives them information and strategies in an attempt to reduce serious injuries and deaths. The Forum's contents and structure aim's to treat young people as adults allowing them freedom to choose from a range of interactive exhibits.

Merit Awards

At the beginning of the year, the Welfare Team implemented a new Merit Award System. Our Merit Awards System has been designed with anticipation that will

- Reward students for sustained effort and achievement of excellence.
- Encourage all students to do better than they did yesterday.
- Develop and maintain a cooperative and supportive atmosphere among teachers, students and parents.

I would like to congratulate all of our students who have so far received Merit Awards. Students are encouraged to see their Assistant year Adviser to have the Merit Awards recorded and can work towards receiving our highest Award – the St Clair High School Medal.

Supporting Student Health

St Clair High School promotes the healthy development of students through:

- school programs and practices that protect and promote health and safety
- supporting individual students who need help with health issues
- providing first aid and temporary care of students who become unwell or who have an accident at school.

Individual Health Care Plans are developed for students at our school with more complex health care needs. Students who suffer severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy, anaphylaxis, are at risk of a medical emergency or require administration of specific health procedures should be identified to all staff. Should your child require an Individual Health Care Plan or your child's health needs have changed. Please contact the Head Teacher Welfare, Mrs Rebecca Owston.

Kind regards

Rebecca Owston

Head Teacher Welfare

SCIENCE CAMP 2017

Once again the Science faculty held their annual 2 day Science camp. This year 47 students and 5 staff members travelled to Port Stephens where they participated in a variety of activities aimed at learning about the importance of protecting Australia's vast fauna and flora. Some of the activities that students participated in included a dolphin watching cruise, natural koala habitat walk and swimming with the sharks and stingrays. Congratulations to Tiffany Griffin on being crowned Science Camper of the Year for 2017. Students are commended on their behaviour and participation during the camp not only by staff but also by many of the venues that students visited. I would like to thank Mr Dowd, Mr Thurtell, Mrs Ralph and Josh Piper for their efforts through out the camp. The Science staff at St Clair High School look forward to many more adventures to come in 2018 and beyond.

Mrs Leigh Chapple
(Science Camp Organizer 2016 and 2017)



LIBRARY NEWS

The 2017 Premier's Reading Challenge is approaching the deadline for completion. Participating students must see Mrs. Saunders, teacher librarian and PRC co-ordinator by the 25th. August to ensure 20 book entries are entered online and are validated by the due date.

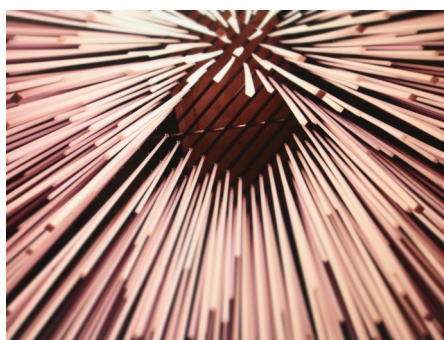
A talented group of Year 7 and Year 8 students have been working toward the upcoming STEPS Book Forum to be held at Erskine Park High School on 15th. August The preparation has included making artworks, participating in literacy activities and creating book trailers. The result has been very successful and I am looking forward to being able to share more information in the next newsletter regarding the event.

Mrs. C. Saunders.



CANON HQ: VIVID 2017

The Vivid photography workshop at Canon HQ was an amazing opportunity for Years Ten, Eleven and twelve. The workshop itself was located within the MCA, it ran for about two hours and all students participating were given a camera as well as instructed and guided to create the best image. After the course the students were able to print out their favourite shot of the evening to take home with them. It was an amazing night and the students were allowed into restricted areas in order to get the best views and images of Vivid 2017 and all of the students involved thoroughly enjoyed their night as well as love the images that they created.



Drama News

On the 23rd of June a group of talented St Clair Drama students performed for the production of *Flannofest: The Tower* at The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre. Students did both a matinee and evening show and performed alongside eight other schools from within the area. The students worked with Miss Robertson and guest director Naree Shields to devise the original performance piece. The show was titled *NeVer EnoUgh* and was about the abuse of power within society. Congratulations to the following students who were involved in devising and acting of this performance: Jordan Bemrose, Praphatsorn Duangphawang, Breanna Luca, Bianca Maayo, Kahla McGrath, Olivia Palmeri, Bailee Schoenherr, Zahli Smith, Emily Wales, Rhiannon Williams.



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

Some safety messages – please help!

From time to time it's important to remind everyone about some things that need constant attention. We ask every parent for your understanding and support in relation to the following;

- Full school uniform includes the correct footwear. No parent should allow their son or daughter to come to school without safe footwear. Fashionable canvas shoes, no matter what colour are not safe and should not be worn to school under any circumstances. Yes, everyone, both junior and senior students! Students cannot be on site unless they can be identified as students at SCHS. Our emergency management procedures have this as a requirement.
- Deodorant sprays are a health hazard to some of our students and staff. Please understand that some people suffer from Asthma and other related respiratory conditions and spray deodorants can cause a serious risk to them. Please don't allow your children to bring these to school. Also, if your child does suffer from Asthma we ask that you provide the school with your child's Asthma Action Plan. Proformas are available from our Library SASS staff to assist you in the preparation of this important document.
- 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.

In the interest of safety, please help us out!

From time to time it's understandable that your son or daughter may become unwell at school. We have strict procedures in place to manage these situations. This involves contact by the school administrative staff to a parent, caregiver or emergency contact person. This contact must come through the school, not directly to you from your son's or daughter's mobile phone. There have been some occasions when students have used their phone from a classroom (which is in breach of school policy anyway) and asked a parent to come to school to collect them. When the parent arrives, the school is unaware that the student is sick or has called the parent. Please ensure that if your child calls you, that you refer them to the front office and then contact the school to advise them of the call you have received before coming to the school.

SAFE SEXTING: No such thing



Parents are urged to warn children about the dangers of 'sexting' – the growing trend for young people to send provocative images of themselves to their friends via mobile phones.

Once photos are sent, it is an almost instant push of the button to forward them or load them onto the internet. These pictures then become part of a young person's 'digital footprint', lasting forever and potentially damaging future career prospects or relationships.

Images sent by mobile phone can easily fall into the wrong hands, and once they are in cyberspace it is impossible to remove them or control who sees them.

More and more young people seem to be distributing highly suggestive or even sexually explicit photos of themselves to their friends, often without a real understanding of the consequences.

The easy availability of new technologies and social networking sites can turn what can seem an innocent joke or flirtatious fun into a potentially devastating experience – with young girls most at risk.

Sexting can lead to public humiliation, cyberbullying, or even sexual assault.

The message to young people is – don't post images of yourself and don't distribute any sent to you.

It is illegal to take sexual photos of children and young people and it is also an offence to pass them on.

Parents are encouraged to get advice on sexting through the 24-hr parenting advice line, Parent Line 1300 1300 52. The line is staffed by highly trained and experienced counsellors.

Parents can learn about how technology is used in their child's life by visiting the Education Department's website www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/technology/index.php.

For more advice on parenting and sexting, visit the Department of Community Services website www.community.nsw.gov.au.

Tips for parents

- Warn your children about the consequences of sexting.
- Remind children to think before they act.
- Tell children that sending or possessing child pornography is illegal.
- Warn them about sexual predators.
- Parents should learn how to use and monitor their children's mobile phones.
- Parents should check photo galleries on their children's Facebook and MySpace accounts.
- Give your children clear rules on what they can and can't do with their mobile phone.





What is bullying?

Bullying has three key features. It:

- involves a misuse of power in a relationship
- is ongoing and repeated, and
- involves behaviours that can cause harm.

Bullying can also occur online. This is known as cyberbullying, which is using technology such as the internet or mobile devices to bully someone. It can include sending abusive texts and emails, posting hurtful messages and putting inappropriate comments on pictures of others.

Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in NSW schools, whatever the reason. Schools are committed to working with parents, staff and students to prevent bullying and respond quickly and effectively if it does occur.

What can you do if your child has been bullied?

Listen calmly and get the full story

Your child needs to know that they are being heard. Their feelings matter and their concerns should be taken seriously. Encourage your child to talk about what happened. Explain to your child that reporting the bullying is okay.

After listening to their concerns, ask questions to get more details if needed: who, what, where, when.

Reassure your child that they are not to blame

Children may blame themselves and this can make them feel even worse. Say supportive things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with', or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should feel safe at school'.

Ask your child what they want to do – and what they want you to do

It is important to help your child to find their own solution as this will help them feel that they have some control over the situation.

If your child is not in any immediate danger and they feel confident, they could try these strategies:

- Ignore the bullying.
- Turn their back and walk away.
- Act unimpressed or pretend they don't care.
- Say "No" or "Just stop!" firmly.

If the bullying happened at school, support your child to tell a teacher. If your child wants to talk to someone other than the school or you think added support would help, you could tell them to go to the Kids Helpline website. They can also call for free on 1800 55 1800.

When do I contact the school?

Your child may be reluctant for you to speak to school staff. Discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help.

If needed, make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher. You could also ask to talk with the principal.

Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.

Support for parents and carers

Kids Helpline also has a parent line with trained teams who provide support, information and counselling for parents of children aged 0-18 years. You can call them for the cost of a local call from 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 4pm to 9pm on weekends on 1300 1300 52.

Telephone interpreter service

If you would like to contact the school or Parent Line NSW and need assistance with English please call the telephone interpreter service on 131 450, tell them what language you need and ask the operator to make the call. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.



August 2017

Work continuing on the M4 Western Motorway, St Clair

The NSW Government is funding this essential maintenance work under its \$1.5 billion program to maintain and improve the 18,028 kilometre state road network.

Roads and Maritime is upgrading the drains and stabilising the embankment on the M4 Western Motorway, westbound between Roper Road and Bennett Road. We have including a map to show the location of the work.

We were scheduled to finish the work in early August but had to postpone a number of shifts in order to carry out further environmental assessments.

Our work schedule

To complete the remaining work, we will be back on site for another 15 shifts between **Monday 14 August and Friday 29 September**, excluding public holidays, weather permitting. Our work hours will be from 7am to 6pm, between Mondays and Saturdays.

How will the work affect you?

The work will be noisy at times but we will do everything we can to minimise its impact, including staging them in different locations.

Traffic changes

There will again be some temporary westbound traffic changes to ensure the work zone is safe.

Please keep to speed limits and follow signs and traffic controllers' directions. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit livetraffic.com or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our delivery partner, DM Roads, on 1800 332 660 or nsw_projects@dmroads.com.au

For more information on our projects visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your patience during this important work.

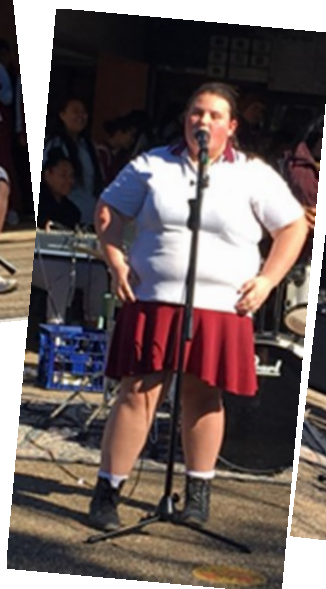
Let's Celebrate Public Education Concert Rooty Hill RSL ~ Friday 4th August 2017



Syrene Sue is a talented singer from Year 11. Syrene represented our school at the Let's Celebrate Public Education concert at Rooty Hill RSL as part of the Public Education Week Celebrations. She did our school proud by performing Sam Brown's "Stop", reaching a wide range of notes and adding vocal improvisations. Well done Syrene!



Lunchtime Concerts



An Evening of Creative and Performing Arts Tuesday 25th July 2017



A celebration of student achievement
in Drama, Music and Visual Arts
Photography.

Some safety messages – please help!

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- Deodorant sprays are a health hazard to some of our students and staff. Please understand that some people suffer from Asthma and other related respiratory conditions and spray deodorants can cause a serious risk to them. Please don't allow your children to bring these to school. Also, if your child does suffer from Asthma we ask that you provide the school with your child's Asthma Action Plan. Pro-formas are available from our Library SASS staff to assist you in the preparation of this important document.



- 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.

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

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!

DUTT MEDICAL CENTRE

NOW OPEN

80 Cook Parade, St Clair

Phone: 96704901

Surgery Hours

Monday 2pm - 7pm

Tuesday 2pm - 7pm

Wednesday 9am - 6pm

Thursday 9am - 1pm

Friday 2pm - 6pm

Alternate Saturdays

All Appointments are bulk Billed

TAKING NEW PATIENTS



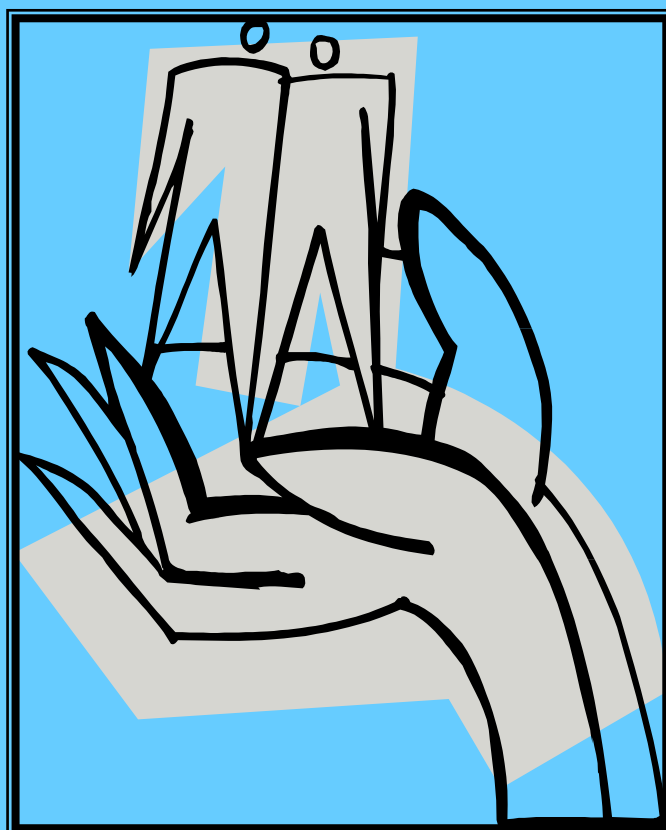
for homework help

Does your child need
a hand with his or her
homework?

Has an assessment or
assignment got them

What about getting
some handy study

Need study space?
Access to printers?



- 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.



ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL CHANGE OF DETAILS FORM

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: ____ / ____ / ____ **YEAR:** ____

DETAILS WHERE STUDENT RESIDES: (PLEASE PRINT)

Family Mailing Title(e.g. Mr & Mrs J Smith)		
New Address		
	Post Code:	
Previous Address		
	Post Code:	
Phone Number	Home	
Father/Guardian Phone	Work	Mobile
Mother/Guardian Phone	Work	Mobile
Email Address		

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Please ensure that this table is completed as we **MUST** have the name of someone we can contact in an Emergency situation (**other than mother or father**).

Emergency Contact	#1	#2
Telephone Number		
Mobile Number		
Relationship to Student		

TERM 3 2017

Week 6 – B

Fri 25/8 ATSI Pathways to dreaming 10 am

Week 8 – B

Fri 8/9 ABW Trivia Night 6.30pm

Week 9 – A

Mon 11/9 Year 11 Exams (ALL WEEK)

Week 10 – B

Mon 18/9 Year 11 Exams (ALL WEEK)
 Tue 19/9 ATSI Pathways to dreaming Yr9 & Yr10
 P&C meeting 7pm
 Wed 20/9 Year12 Graduation

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

[www.sites.google.com/site/
 schspandc](http://www.sites.google.com/site/schspandc)



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