



ST CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

At the time of writing this month's newsletter our Year 12 students are in their final weeks of preparation before the Higher School Certificate examinations and the end of their years at St Clair High School. They have been a terrific group of students and we wish them all the best as they study hard in the lead up to the exams early next Term.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer a friendly reminder about payments of school debts. We are of course all coming into a fairly expensive time of year as Christmas approaches and some parents can take the attitude that their child's school debts can wait until later to be paid. Just keep in mind that these debts mount up and some parents get overwhelmed when they reach the point of finalisation of payments in the senior years. Please let me know if you need to apply for the very limited Student Assistance funds we have, or if you would like to enter into an Instalment Agreement. Keep in mind that Subject charges are **not** voluntary contributions and must be paid.

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 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 is ready to work hard every lesson.

On another note, a very exciting event at this time of year is the election of our incoming Captains and Vice Captains. The process we instituted a few years ago is quite rigorous and involves an application, a formal interview, a speech to the whole school and then an election. It is a challenging one for the nominees, but is very valuable for the school. The caliber of every one of the students who nominated for the incoming roles this year was again outstanding. It gives me great pleasure to announce that our new School Captains are Tara Ryan and Jeremy Dekit, and our Vice Captains are Yara Bokany and Razeen Mahmood. This is a great honour for them and I am confident that they will be outstanding ambassadors for our school.

Year 11 are currently completing their final exami-

nations of the preliminary course before they commence their final year of schooling in Term 4. This will commence with what is regarded at St Clair High School as their rite of passage with Australian Business Week (ABW) running in week 1. We would love to see as many parents as possible at the ABW dinner on the following Monday. Mrs Beslic will send out invitations to parents.

Our new late processes have been very successful and we would like to thank staff and students for their support. The purpose behind the introduction of these processes was to ensure that lesson time is not interrupted by students coming in late. It is not fair on the students who do the right thing. The school is aware that at different times students may be late for a variety of appointments. We ask that parents provide a note or contact the school.

I would like to make special mention of our outgoing School Captains Rebecca Schmitz and Benjamin Bishop, and our Vice Captains Kiralee Jones and Brenton Allnut. I am delighted to say that they have done an absolutely fantastic job over the last 12 months. On behalf of the whole school I thank them for their efforts and wish them every success for the future.

As we move into the Spring holidays I would like all our students, staff and families a wonderful school holiday period.

Sally Smithard
Relieving Principal

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LATE PROCESS

Please note that school starts at 8:30 am. It is expected that you are at school well before this time. The 8:25 am bell is a warning bell to get to class, not the time for you to just arrive at school.

If you are late to school without a note from your parent or a legitimate reason as to why you are late, you will be required to attend lunch detention on the same day. This detention will be held in Lab 6 and supervised by a head teacher.

If you fail to turn up for your Lunch 1 detention, you will be issued with an automatic afternoon detention which is 45 minutes after school.

If you are a senior student who is late and fail to turn up to Lunch 1 detention, you will automatically receive Loss of Privileges for a week.

**This process will be effective as of Monday,
21 August 2017–Week 6.**

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Subject Options for 2018

At present the timetable team are finalising the curriculum matrix for 2018 and students in Years 8 and 10 will be told which courses will be offered. A lot of time goes into creating a timetable that caters for the broadest range of options available and we thank the timetable team for all of their work in completing this.

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. Staff look forward to celebrating these milestones with Year 12 before they begin their final preparations for their external exams. 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 currently completing their final exams for their preliminary courses. They will return in Term 4 and complete the Australian Business Week (ABW) Program in Week 1 before commencing their HSC course work. This is a fantastic initiative that builds resilience and develops skills such as time management, working collaboratively and thinking critically. These are skills that will transfer into the completion of the HSC course work and assist students to attain their personal best. Please be reminded of the following key dates:

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.

End of Term

All students are finalising their course work for Term 3 and are undoubtedly looking forward to the holiday break fast approaching. We wish all students and their families a safe and restful break and look forward to seeing you all in Term 4.

Mrs Shepherd – Deputy Principal for Years 7, 9 and 11

Mrs Dickson – Relieving Deputy Principal Years 8, 10 and 12

STEPS CONCERT
Penrith Panthers~Evan Theatre
Thursday 10th August 2017

Our school was represented by year 9 to year 12 students. They performed as musicians, stage hands and master of ceremonies. Well done!!



YEAR 12 HSC EXHIBITION 2017

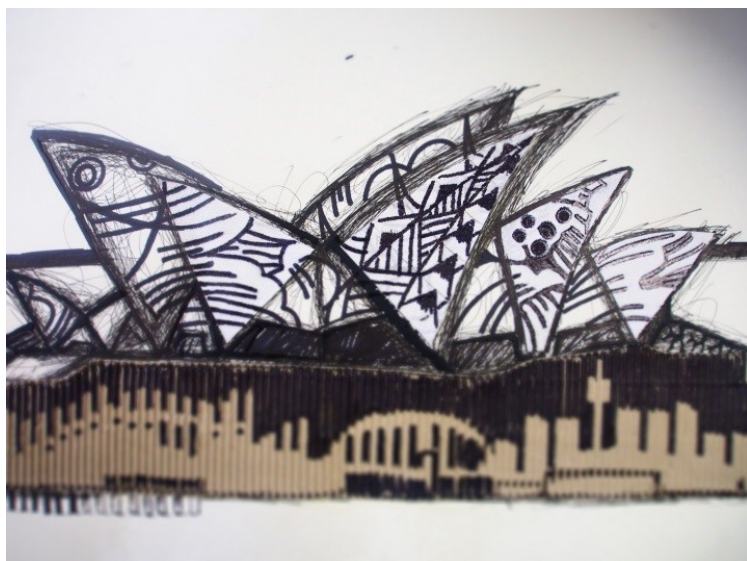
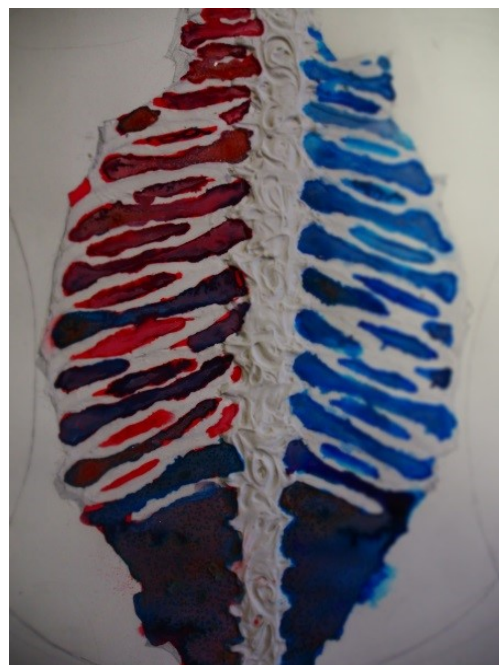
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Year 12 on the completion of their Body of Works Practical Examination for their HSC.

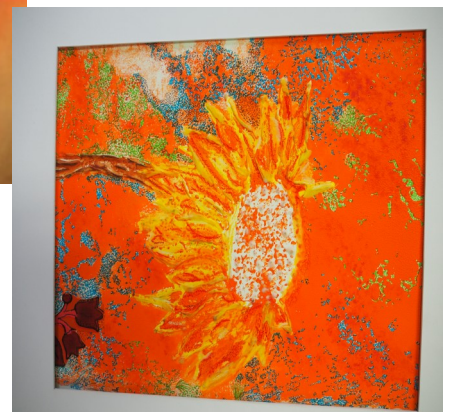
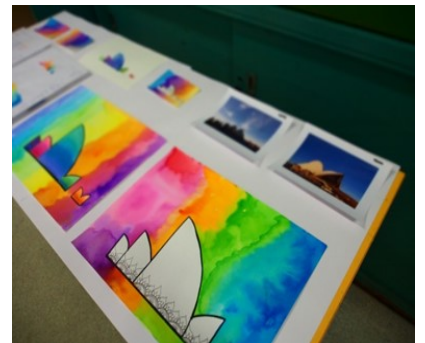
An exhibition of their artworks was on display on Friday 8th September, 2017 in A1. This was a fantastic afternoon and was attended by many members of staff, Principal, Deputies, students, family and friends.

This year students displayed a great diversity of forms which included drawing, print making, Photoshop, digital and wet photography and mixed media. The subject matter included portraiture, Surrealist landscape, flora and fauna, Indigenous cultural themes and the destruction and impact on the environment.

I wish Year 12 all the very best for their Higher School Certificate and all future endeavours "Congratulations" and well done Year 12

Visual Arts Teacher
Ms Doris Rainsford.





A word from the Careers Adviser

Dear Parents, guardians, teachers and students,
My name is Brooke Moon and for those of you who haven't yet met me, I am the relieving Careers Adviser for 2017 at SCHS. Here's an update of what's on offer for Careers in the coming weeks and during Term 4:

Work Experience – Any student in Year 10 can participate in the 2017 Work Experience Program. Students find a host employer in an industry they are interested in, then receive and complete the relevant paperwork from the Careers Adviser in order to complete a one week block (5 working days!) at the business. This is a great opportunity to see what day to day work is like in an industry of your choice, plus it looks great on your resume!

Apprenticeship/Training Opportunities – Finest Kitchens in St Marys are interested in having students from SCHS for work experience, with the possibility of a full time apprenticeship (if you do well!). This opportunity would be best suited to students in years 10 or 11 who have a genuine interest in learning about cabinetry and would like to pursue a full time apprenticeship.

2018 TVET TAFE Courses – The application process for TVET courses closes on Friday the 22nd September, 2017. Students in Years 10 and 11 interested in doing a TVET course next year need to see Miss Moon or Mrs Lowe for details beforehand.

Interested in Policing or ADF? – If you are interested in careers in policing, consider going to the Police and Community Engagement Day on Saturday, 14th October 2017 in Abbotsbury. Also, the ADF runs regular information sessions at Parramatta for those interested in enlisting. See <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/joining/event-finder> for details.

Interested in School Based Apprenticeships or Traineeships? – Year 10 students interested in completing SBAT whilst also doing their HSC should see Miss Moon for details.

If you need any information about the above or would like to see me about another Careers related matter, don't hesitate to pop down to the office or contact me through the school number!

Brooke Moon
Relieving Careers Adviser at SCHS

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.

STEPS BOOK FORUM 2017

As part of our St. Clair and Erskine Park Schools (STEPS) learning community initiatives, the primary and high schools of the St. Clair area joined together for the fourth year running to celebrate Book Week 2017.



This year's event was hosted by Erskine Park High in their school library on 15th August. Groups of students ranging from Year 5 to Year 8 participated in a discussion forum analysing and celebrating the books that were shortlisted for Book Council of Australia's 'Children's Book of the Year' for 2017



Each school is allocated one of the shortlisted books and engage in a range of activities in preparation for the Book Forum event. St. Clair High School was allocated the book 'Mechanica' by author Lance Balchin. Two fantastic book trailers promoting this book were created by Year 7 students Calinda Surene and Emma Tidyman and Year 8 students Fadel Ibrahim and Raghav Puri.



Diverse artworks based on the 'Mechanica' book were created by Year 7 & 8 students and displayed at the event in the Erskine Park High School library. Two talented artists who contributed lovely artworks were Year 8 students Jennifer Pruyne and Chris Dearden.



Cameron Edwards and Monique Zammit from Year 8 were wonderful representatives of St. Clair High on stage for the official Book Forum session. Both students confidently discussed themes, messages, language and visual literacy elements of each book. They were a credit to our school as their thoughtful discussion demonstrated the joy of reading and appreciation of books in front of an audience comprising students, parents, grandparents, teachers and principals. Well done Monique and Cameron.



From l-r: Mr Brian Edwards, Cameron, Mrs Barbara Edwards, Monique, Mrs Sonia Zammit, Mr Kevin Zammit

Thank you to Mrs Saunders and Miss Holt.

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.

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



Doonside Public Schools 80th Anniversary Fete!

Come along to enjoy
the rides...

ENJOY A YUMMY TREAT...

Friday 22nd
September, 2017
2.30pm – 6.30pm



BROWSE THE STALLS...

Lolly Bags!

Face Painting!

Raffle!

Cake stall!



BBQ!

Lolly Guessing!



Unlimited Ride Band
Prior to event \$20.00
On the day \$25.00
Or \$5 per ride



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INSPIRE
BELIEVE**

**BRING THIS ADVERT
TO OUR STUDIO
AND RECEIVE YOUR
FIRST LESSON
FREE**

**BE A PART
OF OUR
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Jazz · Tap · R.A.D Ballet · Contemporary · Lyrical
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Classes for all ages and abilities!

ALL TEACHERS ARE INDUSTRY EXPERTS & FULLY QUALIFIED

Contact us on 0449 946 912 or email: dance_industrie@outlook.com
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FUSION Western Sydney presents

**RAISING
RESILIENT
TEENS**

**A Talk by
COLLETT SMART**

LIFE, RELATIONSHIPS AND THEIR ONLINE WORLD

7pm, Friday 27 October 2017 . Colyton High School

Cost: \$10 per person

Bookings: www.fusionwesternsydney.org.au/events
Or from Fusion Cafe, cnr Queen & Stations St,
St Marys (open weekdays 7am-3pm).

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



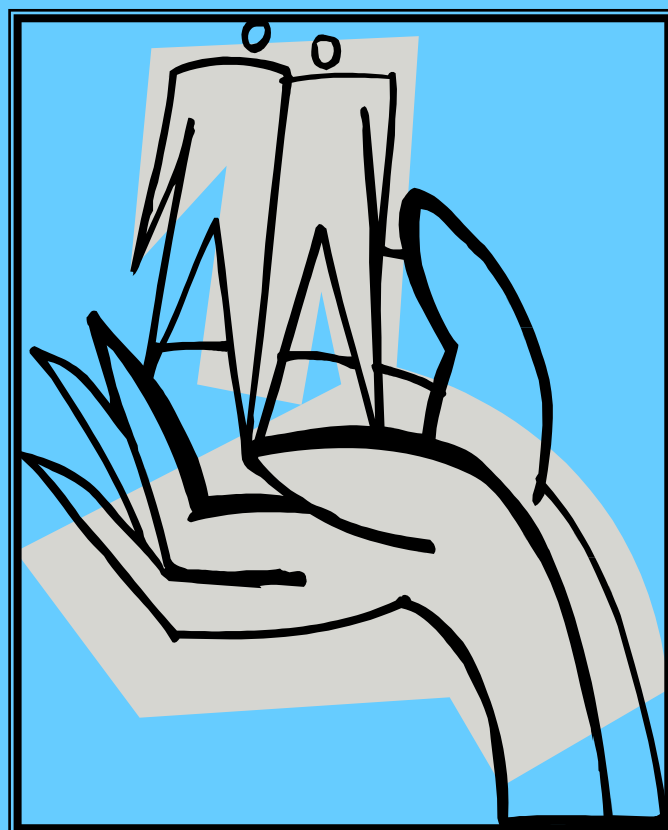
for homework help

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 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

TERM 4 2017

Week 1 – A
 Mon 9/10 ABW (ALL WEEK)
 Thur 12/10 Pulse Concert Rehearsal 11am

Week 2 – B
 Mon 16/10 HSC Exams Start (ALL WEEK)
 ABW Dinner 6.30pm
 Tue 17/10 Pathways to Dreaming Yr9 & Yr10
 P&C Meeting

Week 3 – A
 Mon 23/10 HSC Exams (ALL WEEK)
 Thur 26/10 Gatehouse Girls, Mountain view Nursing Home

Week 4 – B
 Mon 30/10 HSC Exams (ALL WEEK)

Week 5 – A
 Mon 6/11 HSC Exams (ALL WEEK)
 Thur 9/11 PASS Excursion Active 1 day camp

Week 6 – B
 Mon 13/11 Elevate Seminar 1.15pm Careers Yr11
 Thu 16/11 Pulse Concert 9 am

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

www.sites.google.com/site/schspandc



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