From the Principal

It was indeed rousing to see the College precinct come to life over the last few weeks as staff returned to work and then last Tuesday the heart of the College was well and truly beating when the Year 7 cohort arrived, all 195 of them. They were welcomed by the entire staff and started their educational journey, aided by the Year 10 Peer Support Leaders, which will culminate in the HSC year of 2023! At our whole school gathering on the Nagle Paved the following day we commenced with prayer that focussed our students on the privilege that they enjoy in being educated and having the opportunities that many in the world do not.
I would like to recognise the great work of Mrs Dobson, Mr Knight, Mr Ricaud, Mr Liu and Mr Gong and in ensuring that the staff and students arrived back to a school that is in pristine shape. The College Leadership Team has worked diligently to ensure a smooth start for all of our students and new staff; thank you to Mr Kerr, Mr Laing, Mr Ritchie, Ms Mirabello, Mr Bulmer and Mr O’Connor for all of your work. This in turn was replicated by both the support staff and teaching staff in seeing the first days of the year begin with the smooth transition from ‘student vacation’ to Term 1 that saw learning and teaching as the focal point. Whilst we have had some teething troubles in managing a new timetable program and learning management system and incorporating data from yet another Sydney Catholic Schools data set we are confident that the initial hurdles will be well worth having a learning management system and administration package that will ultimately only have one point of data reference and enable the whole community a high level of information access and resources. We aim to provide parental access from Week 4.

At our whole school gathering I spoke to the student body about the aims that the staff have for them in terms of our College Vision and Mission statement that has served generations of students so well in the past. As a staff our endeavours to address;

◊ ‘Wholeness’ as Education in its fullest, broadest learning sense
◊ ‘Hope’ in the struggles that we encounter and developing the key response of resilience
◊ ‘Justice’ that underpins dignity, freedom and respect and
◊ ‘Revelation’ as our acknowledging God’s presence in our lives in ways that are demonstrable and in ways that are less obvious.

These are the touchstones of all of our efforts both in and outside the classroom over the course of 2018. I challenged the students to pay heed to the ‘small, but important’ things of being part of a school community namely; ‘Manners, Courtesy, Uniform’ as markers in which they can be productive representatives of transformation in our community and more widely as they are ambassadors for themselves, their families and the College. The staff at Aquinas have high expectations of their charges and the triumvirate of family, students and school should all be working in concert for the young people of Aquinas to achieve personal distinction in the 2018 academic year.

A reminder to all of our students that their ongoing considerate and caring behaviour in public when travelling to and from school will ensure that the excellent reputation of the College is kept in the forefront of the local community’s mind. We are all responsible for ensuring the tradition begun in 1993 is added to by our efforts so as to be able to safeguard that dignity and respect remain the foundation of all that we embark on at Aquinas. We have also been advised by Transdev that for Term 1 they will be trialling the viability of a direct bus service [via Lucas Heights] to and from Holsworthy Train Station.

◊ School Route S101 will operate express from Holsworthy Station departing at 07:45, arriving at school 08:15
◊ School Route S102 departing school at 15:10, then via Lucas Heights Community School, arriving at Holsworthy at 15:40

S101 and S102 will connect with 901/902/902X trips at Holsworthy Station, which the timetable information can be obtained from the Transdev website or www.transportnsw.info from the Home Page, click on ‘Plan your Trip’, then on ‘School Bus timetables’, and search for Aquinas.

I would also like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our new staff to the College;

Enlivened by the Spirit

* WHOLENESS * HOPE * JUSTICE * REVELATION *
◊ Kerryn Blanch  Music Teacher and experienced HSC marker joining us from De La Salle College, Bankstown.
◊ Rebecca Gawidziel  Assistant HSIE Coordinator, who was previously in the same role at Good Samaritan College, Hinchinbrook
◊ Michael Donnelly  Mathematics and Religious Education Teacher, joining us from Our Lady of Mercy College, Burraneer
◊ Veronica Stevens  Science and Religious Education Teacher who was most recently at James Busby High School
◊ Lauren King  Learning Support Officer who had the same role at SO, St Mary’s Star of the Sea, Hurstville and St Therese’s, Lakemba
◊ Rebecca Shepherd  Joins our support staff in the front office area and comes to us from Beverley Hills Girls High School
◊ Mikayla Lilli  Mathematics Intern, who is completing her degree at the University of Wollongong

We wish them all the best as they begin their time at Aquinas and trust that they find their time at the College both professionally and personally rewarding.

Congratulations to the following students on their sporting endeavours over the summer period;

• Lauren Agostino [Year 12, La Salle House] has recently been selected to represent Australia in the Acrobatic World Championships in Belgium in April this year. Well done Lauren!!

• Costa Tsakalis [Year 9, Nagle House] and Edmund Haddad [Year 8, Rice House] have been selected to play for the Under 14 Sydney Olympic FC side to contest the MIC Cup in Spain later this term. The competition includes sides from Manchester United, Juventus FC, Ajax FC & Real Madrid. Well done & good luck boys!

I would also like to invite all parents to our Opening School Mass which will take place this Thursday, February 8th, 9.30 am in the JP II Hall. Fr Daniele Russo, Assistant Parish Priest of Holy Family Menai will be celebrating our first whole school liturgy and we will take the opportunity to commission our Year 11 and 12 student leaders and new staff.

Please also keep Lauren Morel [Year 7, La Salle House] and her family in your thoughts and prayers as her grandmother recently passed away.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

James Corcoran
Principal
30 January 2018

Dear School Community,

Sydney Catholic Schools

As you are aware, Sydney Catholic Schools is responsible for the operation and management of systemic schools which educate more than 70,000 students in 152 parish primary and regional secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

As part of our commitment to meeting the future operational needs of our schools, and the educational needs of our students, the Archdiocese of Sydney undertook a review of our existing structure to determine how best to operate in a more contemporary manner to meet current and future challenges.

We are writing to inform you that the outcome of this review was the decision to change the existing structure of Sydney Catholic Schools to establish a separate legal entity for Sydney Catholic Schools. As part of the new arrangements, the Archdiocese has established a company Sydney Catholic Schools Ltd as trustee for the Sydney Catholic Schools Trust (SCS), which came into effect from 1 January 2018, to conduct the current operations of Sydney Catholic Schools.

In practical terms, there will be no change for you as parents in our school community.

Sydney Catholic Schools’ policies, personnel, schools, and commitment to ensuring students receive high quality education in the Catholic tradition remain unaffected by this change in structure. The only changes you may notice are the change of name on our letterheads and in other correspondence from our schools.

There is no further action that you need to take to secure your student’s position in a Sydney Catholic School.

Thank you for your understanding.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Sydney Catholic Schools on 9569 6111.

Yours faithfully

[Signature]

Dr Dan White
Executive Director, Sydney Catholic Schools
Assistant Principal

Welcome back to the new school year. Thank you to all families for their support with ensuring their children return meeting the College’s expectations regarding personal presentation and attitude to learning.

New Finishing Time

Starting this year, we will finish the normal school day at 3:00pm. We hope that this will ease congestion around the site and make the crossings around the area much safer.

As a part of this new finish time, staff may request individuals or groups of students to remain for debriefing until 3:10pm. This could be to either finish learning in the classroom, clarify homework or for minor indiscretions. As no school buses will be missed resulting from this, debriefing can be done without the need of staff members informing parents.

Cyber Wise Discussion

Last year, we began a series of parent discussions around being cyber wise. Details of the next discussion appear below. Please extend this invitation to anyone in the wider community who could benefit. The communities of St Patrick’s Sutherland and Bosco Engadine have been invited through their schools.

Digital Nutrition with Jocelyn Brewer

Aquinas Catholic College Menai, will be offering an evening for all parents and caregivers in the wider community to a presentation on Digital Nutrition. Psychologist Jocelyn Brewer will explore a range of social, emotional and cognitive impacts of technology use (and overuse!) and provides solutions to help maximise the benefits of devices and avoid the pitfalls. Digital Nutrition considers a wide range of modern issues from an informed psychological perspective.

The interactive presentation will follow a healthy digital habits line, with a good dose of practical parenting strategies and social-emotional development thrown in!

“Many of the issues that parents face require offline skills to address - so I use my training as a 123 Emotion Coach and Engaging Adolescents practitioner to address the tech/digital dramas.”

Date: Wednesday 21 February
Venue: John Paul II Hall, Aquinas Catholic College Menai
1d Anzac Rd, Bangor
(Parking available onsite)
Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Cost: Nil
Audience: All parents and caregivers
RSVP: Via this link

Click on this link to view a short video of Jocelyn on Studio 10.

For more information, please contact Damien Kerr.

The above events are mirrored in the Aquinas Catholic College publicly available calendar.

Damien Kerr
Assistant Principal
The final days of 2017 were marked by the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Approximately fifty students from Year 9, 10, 11 and some of our graduated Year 12s attended all three days of the festival. There was a high level of energy and spirit by the Aquinas students so much so that when the next festival was planned for Perth plans were being made amongst the group to do it all again.

The first two days started and ended with sessions at Qudos Bank Arena. These were uplifting moments with great music, talks and even prayer! The atmosphere was very powerful. Throughout the rest of the days students had the chance to explore the many talks, concerts and stalls with one of the highlights being the Matt Maher concert on Saturday morning. Some of us were lucky enough to get pretty close to the front!

The festival concluded with a mini pilgrimage from Homebush via train to Milson’s Point and then by foot across the Sydney Harbour Bridge through the Botanical Gardens to the Domain for the final Mass. I would like to thank the many teachers who attended and got involved in the festivities. They were a great example to our students of living out our collective faith. My final word of thanks goes to the students who attended. I know that I got so much out of my days at the festival seeing you not only make the most of this fantastic opportunity but to see you celebrate your faith in such an open and honest way. I am glad that I got to be a part of this experience with you all!

The good news is that it doesn’t end here! The ACYF marked the beginning of a Year of Youth. There will be days where we will relive the magic starting next weekend at Miranda Parish when students from all over the Shire are invited to attend a reunion event. There will also be chance to see Fr Rob perform again one Friday afternoon and Aquinas will host Jesse Manibusan in May.

2018 will be a year of fanning the flame that ACYF helped to generate. I pray that the abounding faith of the few inspire the many. It did in the beginning. It can again!

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival Reunion**

For all those who attended ACYF and for all those who wish they did!

**4:00PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11**

@ OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA MIRANDA

50 Kiora Road Miranda

Come and enjoy an afternoon of the music from ACYF, a talk by one of the ACYF presenters and a chance to relive the magic of the festival. For all students and youth of the Sutherland Shire. The evening will conclude after the youth Mass at 6:00PM.
When you bump into the Pope at ACYF

Enlivened by the Spirit

• WHOLENESS • HOPE • JUSTICE • REVELATION •
Compass News

In Week 4 this Term every family will receive a unique printed Compass login letter, you will be sent an email notification alerting you to the arrival of the letter once they have been sent. Please ensure the letter is only opened by a parent and that the details are kept private. The letter will also provide you with the direct link to the Aquinas Compass Parent Portal and instruction for downloading the Compass App.

Parent Compass Information Sessions will run in Week 4 and Week 5. Information about these sessions will be published in the upcoming school newsletters.

For more information about Compass please read the brochure, "Welcome to Compass - a guide for Parents and Families" found here: tinyurl.com/SecondaryParentBrochure
Public Speaking Competition 2018!

Last year, students from Aquinas Catholic College achieved outstanding results in the CSDA Public Speaking competition. This year we are striving to continue this great success and are looking for confident, passionate and articulate speakers from Years 7-12 to try-out for the 2018 team.

Before trying out, students must ensure they are available for all of the evenings below and that they are able to make their own way to the host schools (TBA):

Round 1: Friday 2nd March  
Round 2- Zone Final: Friday 9th March  
Round 3- Final: Friday 16th March

Try-outs:
Please check the morning notices in pastoral and on COMPASS for confirmation of times/dates and information regarding try-outs. (Try-outs can only be held once the 2018 topics are released by the CSDA)

The CSDA allows each school to enter two students per year group and thus the selection process will be based on the student’s approach to the topic, creativity, content and delivery of their speech.

If you have any questions, please see Miss Cooper in the staff study or email (danielle.cooper@syd.catholic.edu.au)
Every year the Aquinas community raises money for Project Compassion by holding ‘Roses Day’ around Valentine’s Day, a well-known day of friendship and love.

Aquinas staff and students will have the opportunity to order roses for those they care for, which will be delivered by Year 12 students on **Tuesday 13th February 2018**.

All money raised will go towards Project Compassion. Project Compassion is a major fundraising campaign run by Caritas Australia, a Catholic agency for overseas aid and development.

Starting Monday, Week 2 (5th February 2018) the Year 12 students in each pastoral class will take orders from staff and students for Roses Day.

**All orders and payments MUST be made by 9am Friday, Week 2 (9th February 2018).**

1 Rose = $4  
3 Roses = $10  
6 Roses = $18  
12 Roses = $35
Pink Stumps Day
2018

Thursday 22 February 2018
Week 4

The Year 12 leaders are organising a PINK STUMPS DAY for Thursday 22nd Feb 2018 (Week 4). There will be more details in next week's newsletter regarding the activities involved as well as fund raising links.

OHS White Card Training

The OHS White Card training is a one day training course and is a Workcover requirement for anyone who works, or does work experience, on any construction site. The training is valid for life. It is a cost of $100.

On 15 February 2018, the College is offering this training to students in years 10, 11 and 12 who will need this for work experience; work placement; future employment or casual employment with friends / family.

As a matter of urgency, if you are interested in this training, please email Mrs Higgins (lisa.higgins@syd.catholic.edu.au) immediately to obtain a permission note. If we do not have the minimum numbers to run this course, it will be cancelled.

Regards,
Lisa Higgins
Careers Adviser
# 2018 CANTEEN PRICE LIST

Please record clearly on lunch bag:
Name, Class, Order, Total Amount Due & Amount Tendered

Note: Please do not seal bags with tape
Ice creams and ice blocks are not to be ordered (counter sales only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SANDWICHES / ROLLS &amp; WRAPS</th>
<th>HOT FOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Buttered Sandwich</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Buttered Roll</td>
<td>0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Vegetable/Lam</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Chicken or Ham</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Salad</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Chicken or Ham with Salad</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Cheese</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Tuna</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Salmon</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Ham, Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Salad wrap</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Egg or curried Egg</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#Caesar Chicken Wrap includes:</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce, Tomato &amp; Cucumber</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falafel Wrap with Hommus, Lettuce &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SALAD EXTRAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce, Tomato, Beetroot, Cucumber, Carrot or Mayonnaise each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRESH SALADS AND FRUITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Tub Greek Salad (one dressing included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Tub Caesar Salad (one dressing included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Additional dressing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Yoghurt (Plain, Berry or Passionfruit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Tub of Fruit Salad (Terms 1 &amp; 4 only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Tub of Watermelon (Terms 1 &amp; 4 only)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRINKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple 100% Juice 350ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineapple 100% Juice 350ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Juice 100% 350ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poppers Flavoured 200ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate/Strawberry Milk 390ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water 600ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flavoured Water 750ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iced Coffee Mocha &amp; Espresso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus Water 500ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump Water 750ml</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prices are subject to change (This will also be published on our website)
Lunch orders must be received before 8:40am
Forks or spoons will be provided for items marked * only –
If required for other items, 10c per fork or spoon applies

# Items must be ordered – no counter sales

Enlivened by the Spirit
UNIFORM SHOP
THURSDAY 8 February
8:00am—9:00am

Please note the Uniform Shop only sells Sports Uniforms and School bags

The Uniform Shop now has Eftpos facilities

CANTEEN NEWS

No meat or chicken products available on ASH WEDNESDAY or Fridays during LENT

- Hash Browns $1.00
- Mini Spring Rolls pkt 3 with sweet & sour sauce $2.00
- Cheese & Tomato pizza slabs will be available $3.00
- Cheese & Spinach Triangles $3.50
- Small Ricotta & Spinach Rolls $2.50
- Oriental Noodle Cups $2.50
- Greek Salad & Garden Salad $3.50
- Falafel Wrap (lettuce, tomato and hommus) $4.50

Salad Sandwiches / rolls
Tuna / Salmon / Egg / Cheese also available
Cheese & Bacon rolls will be replaced by Cheese rolls on Fridays during Lent

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 1
TIME: MONDAY-THURSDAY 10:00-1:35, FRIDAY 9:30-12:45

MONDAY 5/2/ KYLEE WEHBE, MELISSA LOPEZ, ANTHEA MURE
TUESDAY 6/2 KYLIE WOELMS, CATHERINE WINEY, MICHELLE WHEATLEY
WEDNESDAY 7/2 CHRISTINE BAZANTAY, MARIE CLAIRE ABDULLAH
THURSDAY 8/2 MIN STRAUSS, JOSEPHINE YEEND
FRIDAY 9/2 LORETTA HERAGHTY, MICHELLE GRECO, NANCIE FERRARO, ELIZABETH CAMPBELL

MONDAY 12/2 PUPIL FREE DAY– NO CANTEEN
TUESDAY 13/2 VICKIE CRAWLEY, LEANNE O’GRADY, ROBYN GRAHAM
WEDNESDAY 14/2 JOANNA NERSISYAN, MARIA HASSAPIS
THURSDAY 15/2 ANN-MARIE WALKER,
FRIDAY 16/2 ARISTEA MARAKAS, KIM HURST, GAYLE NETTO, JENNY PELI, ANDREA POWELL

Enlivened by the Spirit

WHOLENESS • HOPE • JUSTICE • REVELATION