

# ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 5

Term 2, May 2019

## Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope and pray that it was a well enjoyed break and most importantly a blessed Easter had by all with family and friends reflecting on the Risen Christ.

I would sincerely like to ask for the support of parents in assisting us with your children's spiritual, academic, sporting and co-curricular activities. It is the mutual relationship between the College and parents that will reap the successes of our students.

In order for the College to address any issues of concern, we will continue to emphasise the importance of contacting your child's teacher or the relevant year or subject coordinator with any issues that are worrying you. When the College is not made aware of any concerns, it becomes difficult for the College to work with you to resolve them.

Unfortunately rumours circulate in the community, most often based on incorrect information. In order to avoid this we kindly ask that you direct your concerns to the appropriate staff members in order to maintain a level of trust and confidentiality within the College community.

There are many families who will commence travel plans to Lebanon during the next few months. I wish them a safe trip but may I remind parents that taking students for long periods of time may negatively impact on their child's learning as they are missing out on class instruction. Additionally, I would like to remind you that only 10 days of leave will be approved by the College and that school fees must be paid and up to date so that you are not disappointed by any decision that is made in relation to your child's enrolment.

Furthermore, the College must be notified in advance of any leave to be taken by completing the leave application form available from the Administration office.

We turn our gaze to Mary during this month of May which the Church dedicates to Our Lady. We ask her to intercede for us before God, to guide us to her Son, Jesus, and to help us bring more people to Him.

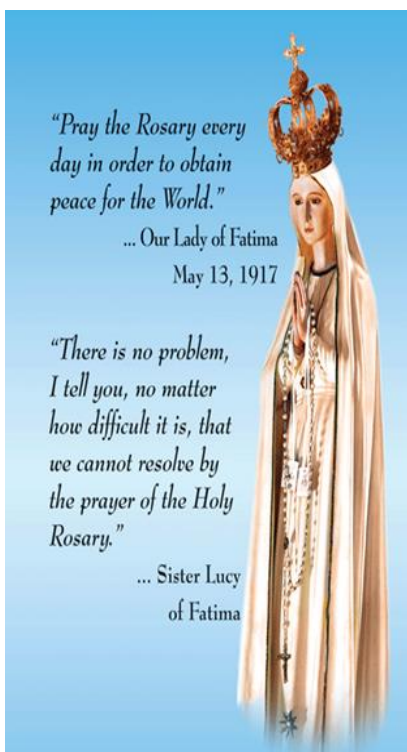
Finally, thank you to the P&F Association who as always kindly arrange our Mother's Day morning tea and the Mother's Day stall. May Our Blessed Mother guide and protect each and every one of our Mother's, those present with us and who have entered eternal life. A happy and blessed Mother's Day to you all.



Welcome to Term 2!

This Term, the Primary students will engage in discussions and activities around the significant feasts celebrated during the months of May and June. Throughout history, Mary has held a special place of honour among Maronites, but specifically during the month of May. We can show honour to Mary by: creating a prayer space at home or at school; pray the Rosary; attend processions and Masses. Our students are doing these things and more! Also throughout this month, the school community stops at 12 midday to pray the Angelus – a prayer that reminds us of Jesus' coming to earth. We ask the Virgin Mother, Mother of God and Mother of the Church to intercede for us all.

**Remember that the Rosary is the most spiritual weapon we possess! Pray it daily as a family.**



The 9th of May was also celebrated as the birthday of our Patron St Charbel!

We give thanks to God for our role model. May his birth renew our faith, hope and love in Jesus Christ and allow us to continually seek to walk in St Charbel's footsteps.

Lord,

We give thanks to you this day for our Patron St Charbel who was always ready to listen to Your voice in the depths of his heart. In a noisy world, it can sometimes be challenging to discern Your voice. Keep us ever centred on You and persevering in faith amidst the challenges of each moment. We pray that St Charbel continues to watch over our school community and guide our steps towards You every day.

Our Lady of the Eucharist, pray for us.

St Charbel, pray for us.

## PRIMARY

Primary School students all took part in an Anzac Day service on Friday. It is important that we take the time each year to remember people serving in the military who sacrificed their lives so that we could live in freedom. Every student made a poppy in preparation which they then pinned to a Memorial Wall. This was a stunning backdrop to the service.

Vegetables will be planted in the school garden this week, following the garden beds being established just before the holidays. I look forward to watching the plants grow and the garden flourish.

Kindergarten interviews were conducted this week for prospective 2020 students. The school has had a large expression of interest: it is wonderful to see so many members of the community keen for their children be part of the St Charbel's school community.

### **NAPLAN:**

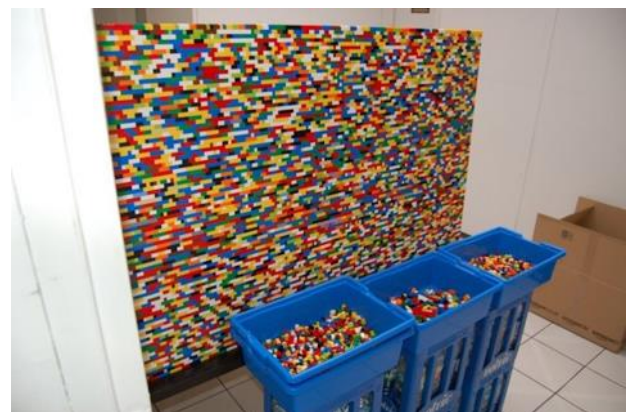
NAPLAN testing will take place next week. If your student is taking part in NAPLAN, the best way to support your child is by ensuring that they go to bed at a reasonable time prior to the exams, and that they are at school on time on test days. The tests are done first thing in the morning while the students are fresh, so it is vital that students are punctual on these days. Note: this means arriving before the bell, ideally between 8.00am and 8.25am.

### **CALL OUT FOR LEGO:**

Lego is a great activity for students as it develops their creative and design skills. A few Lego towers have been purchased for Years 1 and 2 students to use at lunch times and I would like to put a Lego Wall in place for Years 3-6 students. Lego is very expensive and a large variety is needed, so any donations of Lego would really be appreciated.



**NAPLAN**  
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
Literacy and Numeracy



## LIBRARY

Welcome back to Term Two from the Library Staff. We began the term with an ANZAC Day commemoration. In the library this month our focus has been on ANZAC picture books.

The ANZAC Billy by Claire Saxby tells the story of a young boy whose father has gone away to fight in World War One. The boy fills a billy can with luxuries like chocolates, warm socks and letters to send to his father for Christmas. The billys were sent on a ship and distributed to help raise morale at Christmas time. It is estimated that 50000 soldiers received a billy can for Christmas in 1915.

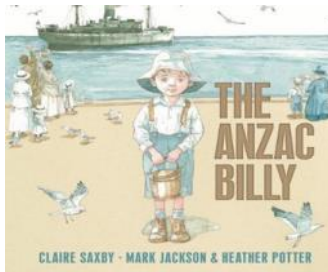
This book is based on a true story and you can read more about it here from the Australian War Memorial:

<https://www.awm.gov.au/articles/blog/anzac-christmas-hampers>

Thank you to our primary classes who listened to this story with genuine interest and shared some interesting insights of their own.

A few reminders from the library for Term Two:

- Primary students must have a Library Bag with them on borrowing days to ensure books are not destroyed in school bags by leaking drink bottles etc. Please ensure you know which day your child comes to the library.
- Secondary Students please check if you have any Book hire books at home that you are no longer using, even those from previous years can still be returned.



## SECONDARY

The 2019 **'Beat the Cold War'** initiative has kicked off!

This year we will be collecting the following items from students; Blankets, Beanies, Scarves, Gloves, Blocks of soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Towels, Deodorant & Sanitary pads.

***'A little bit of Mercy makes the world less cold and more just'- Pope Francis***

**BEAT THE COLD WAR!  
2019**

Collections commence: Term 2, Week 1  
Final collection: Term 2, Week 8

*'A little bit of Mercy makes the world less cold and more just'*  
- Pope Francis

عدنا إلى المدرسة لنبداً الفصل الثاني وما زالت أجواء الأعياد في بالنا. احتفل الجميع بقيامة المسيح ومعها مارسنا العادات والتقاليد منها تلوين البيض المسلوق وعمل المعمول بالجوز والتمر. أما الآن، بدأنا في القسم الابتدائي دراسة مواضيع متعددة منها:

صف الروضة: "حاجاتي" و لماذا نحتاج الى المسكن.

الصف الأول: "العائلة".

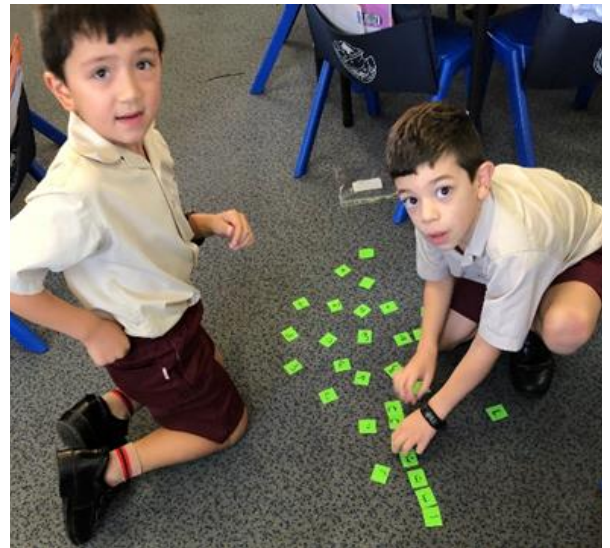
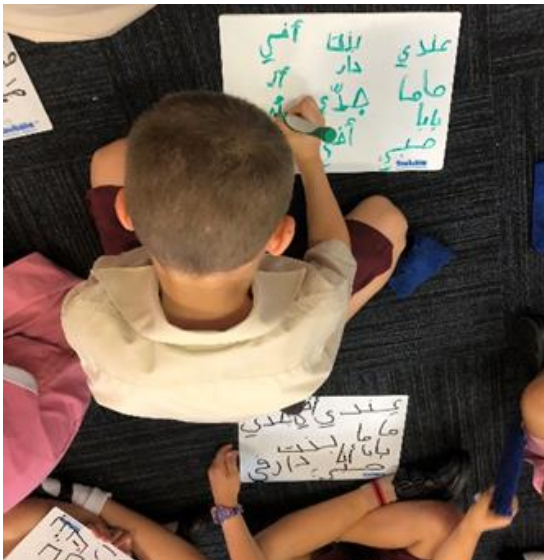
الصف الثاني: الأعمال والمهن .

الصف الثالث: الحاجات وخاصة الحاجة الى الرياضة والاصحاب.

الصف الرابع: "محيطي" - الحي والمدرسة .

الصف الخامس: "العائلة" - تقرأ القصص المشوقة منها قصة جود لتتعرف على ضرورة مساعدة بعضنا البعض في البيت.

الصف السادس: "موقعي في الزمان" - حيث يدرس عن النهار والليل وعن مفردات الوقت والزمان.



What great Term 1 its been for sport at St. Charbel's College. We have been able to provide new and exciting sporting opportunities for students throughout, whilst achieving lots of success.

Firstly, the high school boys competed in Junior, Intermediate and Senior Basketball. Both Junior and Intermediate went through the season undefeated, unfortunately the Junior Boys lost in their Semi-final, whilst the Intermediate Boys suffered heartbreak with a buzzer beater in their Grandfinal.

On an individual level we congratulate George Zakhia for his efforts at the NSWCCC Swimming Championships and Jerome Azzi on his recent football experience whilst touring Germany and Spain. Other notable efforts include Antonio Taouk, Daniel Antoun, George Zakhia, Jason Zoghaib, George Matar, Jared Younan, Charbel Sassine and Charlie Deghaim for representing Christian Brother Sports Association in rugby league at the Sydney Independent Catholic Colleges Rugby League Tournament. Well done to all!

As for the Girls we competed strongly in Junior and Intermediate Volleyball, Year 7-9 Aussie Rules and Senior Touch. The Senior Girls Touch lost gallantly in the Grandfinal against strong opposition whilst the Intermediate Girls Volleyball team won a thrilling Grandfinal against arch rivals HSC.

On an individual level congratulations to Eliane Chidiac for making the Sydney Catholic Colleges Senior Touch team, she has been a regular member of this team over the years, so well done Eliane.

More recently, St Charbel's just competed in CBSA and SCC Cross Country Carnival, whereby we took 34 students to Queens Park, Queens Park. It was a fantastic day whereby the effort and attitude of all was amazing. Special mention to Alexia Melhem and Jonathan Zoghaib for making it to the NSWCCC Cross Country Carnival. I'd also like to mention Christian Chiha, Michael Chalhoub and Makayla Makdessi from the Primary school who stepped up and competed against high school students in the cross country event. Well done to all!

Finally, what a success we've had with our Extra Curricular Sporting activities. We started with Football Pathways Australia 'Choose Football' program which was an instant success, hence we decided to have our first ever Football School Holiday Program over 3 days in the recent holidays, which averaged 35 children plus. We have continued with the 'Choose Football' program this term and are also working on next holidays program. We will also commence our first ever 'Play Basketball' program this term in conjunction with the highly regarded No. 1 Draft Pick Basketball Academy. This program has been a sell out, so we hope to see our kids having fun and developing their skills.

For any information regarding sports don't hesitate to see me or contact me.



**Important dates to remember:**

**Friday 7 June** – Pupil Free Day

**Monday 22 July** - K-12 Parent Teacher Interviews

**Tuesday 23 July** – Pupil Free Day

**Term 3 Commences Wednesday 24 July**

Please advise any changes to student or parent contact details and/or medical conditions etc to the Administration office or to [info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au) to ensure all student and parent data is correct.



**Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134**

Office: (02) 9745 1170

**CHESS!!**

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Charbel's College (Punchbowl) is held on Fridays from 1:25pm to 2:05pm, starting on 3 May 2019.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email [enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au](mailto:enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au) for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

## **SCHOOL FEES**

The second instalment for school fees is due on 24-May-2019. Payments may be paid in cash, cheque, EFTPOS, credit card or directly into the College's bank account.

For all parents who are using the direct payment method into the College account, please ensure when completing your online payment, that the recipient field description is filled with your **Family code** in order to allocate these payments to the correct families.

Arrangements may also be made via Centrelink.  
Bank  
account details are: BSB: 032-068; A/C 57-1383

## **Woolworths Earn & Learn**

The Woolworths Earn & Learn is back for another year! Please collect stickers and return to the College or at Chullora & Bankstown Woolworths.

Happy Collecting!



# May 2019

Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat      Sun

		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> <i>Mothers</i> <i>Day Mass</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> <i>Mother's</i> <i>Day</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> <i>NAPLAN tests</i> <i>commence</i>	<i>15</i> <i>NAPLAN</i> <i>testing</i>	<i>16</i> <i>NAPLAN</i> <i>testing</i>	<i>17</i> <i>NAPLAN</i> <i>testing</i>  <i>Year 8</i> <i>Spirituality</i> <i>Day</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> <i>Year 10</i> <i>Allwell</i> <i>Testing</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> <i>Year 10</i> <i>Spirituality</i> <i>Day</i>		

