

# ST CHARBEL'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Issue 12

Term 3, September 2018

## Principal's Message - Rev Fr Maroun Youssef

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The College is extremely proud of the graduating Year 12 class of 2018. A graduation mass and awards ceremony gave us the opportunity to recognise their hard work and commitment so far to their academic studies. Watching these fine young men and women as they farewell the school community to begin a new chapter in their life, I am left wondering about what they will grow to be in the years ahead and the impact that they will have on our world. At St Charbel's College we are constantly committed to ensuring the moral purpose of a strong Maronite faith and tradition are inherent in each student, whilst at the same time ensuring that every student receives the very best education possible. These core values underpin all that we do. However, education alone does not make for a good person, but education in the context of a strong Maronite Catholic faith brings with it a commitment to justice, equity, fairness and service to others. I want our students to always remember that the skills young people need for future success are constantly changing as technology, flexibility, and new economic forces transform workplaces at an astonishingly rapid rate. But more importantly, the basic attitudes and character traits needed to succeed such as teamwork, initiative and generosity will never change. Ask any employer and I'm sure they will tell you that they'd hire a "giver" over a "taker" any day as they are so valuable to have on a team.



It is my great hope that our Year 12 graduates become more than educational success stories, I pray that through their years at St Charbel's College, they will reach beyond their potential in every area of endeavour but at the heart of their lives they will continue to use their Maronite faith to make a difference in our world and to the people they meet.

Furthermore, I would like to assure them that the College community wishes them every success over the coming weeks as they prepare for their HSC examinations.

On another note, I wish to offer congratulations to Jennifer Boutros for receiving the 2018 Archbishop's Award for Student Excellence. Jennifer's leadership and contribution to the Religious life of St Charbel's College was recognised by Archbishop Anthony Fischer at a beautiful ceremony attended by Jennifer's teachers, family and friends.

I wish everyone a restful and happy term holiday and look forward to seeing all the students re-energised for the final term of the year.



On the 6th of September, the Year 9-12 Arabic classes visited his Excellency, Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay and the Maronite College of the Holy Family in Harris Park.

The aim of this trip was to ask Bishop Tarabay very important questions about the Maronite Church and its culture in a different country and also to share our experiences with fellow Arabic students, make new friends as well as express our love for our Lebanese heritage.

In the morning, we met the Sisters from the Maronite College of the Holy Family, Sister Irene the Superior and Sister Margaret the Principal, as well as the Arabic Coordinator Mrs Safi and some of the school's Arabic students. We took part in an activity with the Arabic students answering riddles in Arabic that they had prepared for us. We were given some beautiful souvenirs to remember our visit and we had an amazing morning tea with all the students in the playground. After this, we prayed the Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary in Arabic.

I enjoyed being able to share my Lebanese Maronite Catholic faith, and its deep roots with the Arabic language, with the students. Soon after, we ate lunch at the church's cafeteria with the students. Once we had finished, we went up to the Bishop's office to meet with him. I had the honour of introducing our students to him. We all had the opportunity to ask Bishop Tarabay important questions about the Maronites in Australia, and the challenges we face as a minority in a multicultural society. He answered our many questions insightfully and inspired us to remain close to our Maronite Catholic faith, ethos and traditions.

This visit was extremely enjoyable, as it gave us the opportunity to have a one on one encounter with our Bishop and we also met other Arabic students who had the same ideals. I loved being able to share my love for the Arabic language and Arabic culture with other students learning the same language. Although we all knew Arabic is one of the hardest languages to learn, we could all agree that being literate in the language had many benefits for us in the future.

The Arabic students would like to thank the Arabic Department in St Charbel's College and the Maronite College of the Holy Family for organising such a meaningful, enjoyable excursion.





## Visual Arts Excursion—4 September 2018

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of September, students in Years 9 and 11 Visual Arts boarded a train to the Art Gallery of NSW to view the Archibald Prize and the Public Collections. Arriving at St James, students walked through Hyde Park stopping to view and appreciate the Fountain, bringing back memories of their Year 7 Visual Arts assignment. We then continued to the Art Gallery. The students admired the works of artists who had worked tirelessly to exhibit their work in the Archibald Prize. A favourite of the teachers was the work of Del Kathryn Barton's *Self-Portrait* and Noel Thurgate's portrait of Elizabeth Cummings. After a short recess, we then tackled with time as we wandered through the Historical Collection admiring the works of the Australian Impressionists as they documented the growing nation of Australia. After this, we continued to appreciate artworks of the 1800's, namely the religious artworks with precision and detail. Then we continued to the Modern collection where students witnessed Australian Cubist, Post-Impressionist and Surrealist works. Much fun was had in the Contemporary collection where students were able to engage with the artworks. Students explored the artwork of Ernesto Neto, *Just like drops in time, nothing* 2002, stockings suspended from the ceiling and the room filled with the aroma of spices. The work was designed to test the sensory experiences of the viewer. Students also engaged with an installation inspired by interiors and steel poles. The students sat at the tables and benches and enjoyed the experience. Afterwards, we had lunch together and caught the train home. Overall it was an immensely enjoyable day with a plenty of learning opportunities.



Del Kathryn Barton, *Self Portrait*



Noel Thurgate, *Elisabeth Cummings in her studio at Wedderburn, 1974 and 2018*



Ernesto Neto, *Just like drops in time, nothing* 2002



On the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, Year 9 and 10 Photography classes boarded a train for Newtown. When we arrived we walked the streets together to appreciate and document the mural art that is sprawled through the backstreets of Newtown. Students were able to develop their skills in composition using their cameras and capture the style of Urban Street Photography and Landscape. Students had to find an appropriate location and experiment with subject positioning, camera angles and depth of field using their DSLR camera. Year 10 students task was to find examples of degradation within the landscape and document it using their knowledge of composition, camera angles and depth of field.

Students were able to navigate the streets easily and worked in groups to get the perfect shot. An enjoyable day was shared with both classes.

Below is a sample of the Year 9 students 'Street Portrait' photographs and Year 10 Landscape photos.



Portrait of John Moussa by Charlize Mansour



Portrait of Leo Ayoub, by Rita Toulani



Landscape shot by Chanelle Hazim



Portrait of Charbel Yazbeck by Rita Toulani



Landscape shot by Chanelle Hazim



The Poetry Recitation Competition Grand Final was held recently and was a huge success. Congratulations to all the finalists and the stage winners! The stage winners were, Sophia Al Hamaty, Celina Lahood, Elena Haddad and Jamie Chidiac. Well done! Thank you to the staff and parents who supported the competition. The big winner is the increase in student interest in reading poetry. The competition will now be an annual event and more exciting competitions will be held next year!



Classes have been visiting the Healthy Harold van in residence at the school for the last two weeks of term. The students have been learning about topics such as nutrition, hygiene, healthy eating etc, all of which are vital to student education and support their learning in the school curriculum.



There have been concerning incidents regarding Kiss and Go recently, including heated arguments between parents overheard by students and impatient parents speaking disrespectfully to staff on duty. It is really important that parents set a good example for their children and model the correct way of dealing with unpleasant situations. Occasional delays and mishaps are part of life and should be allowed for when planning after school appointments. I would like to commend the students on their hard work this term and thank them for their beautiful manners shown when I encounter them in the playground or classroom. I wish everyone God's blessings and a safe and happy holiday!

### Year 3 First Holy Communion Parent Meeting

Year 3 parents recently joined us for our First Holy Communion parent information night. Thank you to all who attended. A special thanks goes out to Year 3 teachers, Arabic staff, Joanne Mansour and Br. Youhanna for all their help.

Please see a list of the important information from the night.

### **Year 3 retreat 19<sup>th</sup> October**

Children will be attending a retreat here at school in the MPH.

Agenda for the day:

Theme: The Road to Emmaus

Bible readings & reflection

Eucharistic Adoration with Father Maroun and Brother Youhanna.

Students' rosaries will be blessed on the day.

### **Family Mass 28<sup>th</sup> October**

Mass begins at 10am

Please be reminded that there is no teacher supervision on the day

### **Communion Preparation and important information**

Gowns to be collected from 3A's room on Friday 26th of October at 2:30 pm.

The Communion Date: 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2018 (Sunday) at 2pm.

Students need to be at school and meet in the Multipurpose Hall at 12:00 pm.

Children are asked to wear the following, as well as their gowns.

BOYS: black shoes, white shorts, white socks

GIRLS: white shoes (open toes acceptable) and small white flowers in hair if required

**NO MAKE-UP and ACCESSORIES ARE TO BE WORN**

No veils, tiaras or halos permitted.

The total cost of the communion package is \$200 and needs to be paid to the accounts office by 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

Students are not required to attend school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

### Stage 2 Poetry Finals

We were overwhelmed by the standard of the students' poetry recitals. Thank you to the students and parents for all their hard work.

### Uniform and Hats

Thank you to all the students who come to school every day in the correct uniform. As the weather begins to heat up, it is important that all students have a school hat.

A reminder to students to wear their winter uniform with their tie and correct jumper/jacket.



On the 14<sup>th</sup> of September, the Year 5 students had their Spirituality Day. The theme of the day was, "Walking in Someone Else's Shoes." The day began with a special Mass, celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. The students then put their values into actions by learning to serve others. We had the St Vincent de Paul Society leading the day, by teaching our students how to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor, with love, respect, justice, hope, joy and by working to shape a compassionate society.

The Primary school also celebrated the Feast of the Exaltation of the Glorious Cross by attending a whole school Mass. The feast marks the beginning of the season of the Glorious Cross, which is the last liturgical season of the Maronite Calendar.

The Feast originated after Saint Helen found the True Cross of Christ buried under temples in Jerusalem and brought above the ground. The cross of Jesus is a symbol that is known around the world. In the time of Jesus, the cross was used as something to punish people, but today we see the cross as a symbol of God's love being so great that He gave His life for us.

The students were reminded that the Holy Cross is the instrument of our salvation. They were also asked to light a candle to celebrate this great Feast Day and to thank Jesus for sacrificing His life for us and gifting us eternal life.





Please encourage your children to return the library books for the end of the term and continue to ensure your child brings their library card to school everyday, to enable them to borrow books from the library.

A reminder that our library is open from 8.00 until 4.30 o'clock every school day.

On Tuesday **16th October 2018 Yorke Education books will be selling Year 12 textbooks from 9.00 am – until 11.30**, to students in the Library.

Many thanks to the library staff - Mrs Wakim, Miss Yammouni and Mrs Akkari and to teachers for their positive work and participation in the library programs. We have been 'Springing into Reading' this term in the library to celebrate the beautiful gift of Seasons given to us by God. Thank you to all the students who contributed to making our library even more colourful this term.

The City of Canterbury-Bankstown is running some wonderful holiday activities this term across their libraries. You can find out more here:

<https://www.cbccity.nsw.gov.au/events/School-Holidays-at-our-Libraries>





## REMINDER

**It is of utmost importance that  
the photography and  
video permission form is  
returned to the school ASAP.**

**facebook**

The College is ensuring that many events and messages are being advertised through our Facebook page. Please take the time to check us out. Additionally, there are times pictures of students are used. If you do not wish for your child's picture to be used please inform the College by emailing your request to [info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stcharbel.nsw.edu.au)

*All parents are invited to send any details or pictures of their children's exceptional honours in activities like: arts, music, sports, and so on!*

**Morning Supervision**

Access to the College grounds will be centralised through the 'Kiss and Go' and Monastery gate from 8am only. There will be **NO** supervision for any students prior to 8am, for their own safety and wellbeing. Also please be mindful that it is dangerous to use the driveways to U-turn.

**Ethnic School Classes**

Ethnic School Classes are available for students. Classes are held every Friday 4.30 – 6.30pm

**UPCOMING EVENTS****September:**

**Fri 28** Last Day of Term 3

**October:**

<b>Mon 1</b>	<b>Labour Day</b>
<b>Mon 1 Oct-Fri 12</b>	<b>School Holidays</b>
<b>Mon 15</b>	<b>Staff Professional Development</b>
<b>Tue 16</b>	<b>Students Commence (Term 4)</b>
<b>Thur 18</b>	<b>HSC Commences—9 Nov</b>
<b>Fri 19</b>	<b>Year 3 Spirituality Day</b>
<b>Tues 23</b>	<b>College Open Tour Day (Bookings Only)</b>
<b>Wed 24</b>	<b>Year 12 2019 Report Interviews</b>
<b>Fri 26</b>	<b>Year 11 Spirituality Day</b>
<b>Wed 31</b>	<b>P&amp;F Mini Commonwealth Games Day</b>



Kids@Weldon



Kids@Weldon



Kids@Weldon

Weldon Children's Services is offering a before and after school care program at St Charbel's College which commenced. Weldon has been operating before and after school programs and vacation care programs for families for more than 30 years. The St Charbel's program is running on-site from the Multi-Purpose Hall.

Information about our onsite program can be provided by contacting the Weldon Head Office at:

Telephone: 8741-0500

Email: [kids@weldon.com.au](mailto:kids@weldon.com.au)

- The hours of operation will be as follows:
- Before School Care: 6:30am until 8:20am (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays)
- After School Care: 3pm until 6:30pm
- Vacation Care: 7am until 6pm

Our programs offer a range of activities suitable for school aged children. We provide breakfast in the mornings and light nutritious snacks in the afternoons.

The school office have enrolment packages and information about our programs.

[Kids @ Weldon:](#)



Before & After School Care Contact Details:

**Centre co-ordinator:** Mary Azzi

**Centre Number:** 0418 735 976

**Email:** [stcmcs@weldon.com.au](mailto:stcmcs@weldon.com.au)