

Delany News



Term 2 Issue 2

19 May 2016

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Events in May

Friday 27th
Debating Round 6
6.30-10.30pm

Cancer Council
Morning Tea

Tuesday 31st
Western Sydney Uni
Information Day

Events in June

Monday 6th -
Wednesday 8th
Year 9 Immersion

Thursday 9th
Holy Cross
125th Celebrations
St Mary's Cathedral

Year 12
Business Study
Excursion

Monday 13th
Queen's Birthday

Dear Delany Community,

Late last term the new learning spaces for Year 9 and 10, as well as a senior study space, were officially handed over by our builders. It means that students from Years 7 -10 are engaged in a dynamic learning environment. The technology rich spaces, with agile furniture, accommodate the flexible learning approach we have adopted at Delany.

Teachers are able to plan for learning opportunities that replicate real world workplace experiences. For example, students are charged to work in teams to find solutions for problems and/or create products. The skills and aptitude required to work in teams are explicitly taught, as one would expect, to work cohesively and effectively. The concepts addressed are analysed using skills that include critical reflection and cognitive organisers.

Delany College is in a fortunate position as not only having acquired contemporary learning spaces but that we have developed the learning frameworks that support effective teaching and learning.

God Bless
Mr Robert Muscat
Principal



Stage Five students (Years 9 and 10) completed their move into their "new home" at Delany College this term, and are currently enjoying the space, the technology, and the expanded learning opportunities such amazing learning areas provide.

Late in Term 1, Years 9 and 10 attended tours of their new areas, and then were invited to name their new learning spaces.

Year 10 suggested that their space be called Kildare, named after the Irish county of which Daniel Delany, founder of the Patrician Brothers and namesake of our College, was Bishop.

Kildare is divided into a number of zones. The largest is Kildare Central, where students come to "Headquarters" - our meeting place. Central is fitted mainly with wheeled desks and chairs, but also boasts three media-scape areas where students can airplay their group's ongoing work

onto monitors. Central also contains a Tutorial room and two "Genius Bars", also complete with monitors and airplay capability.

Adjoining Central are two large spaces. The Seminar Room is ringed with glass-boards for student use, and furnished with university-style seat-desks to enable quick reshaping of the area. The Learning Lab, which contains wheeled-desks that can be raised to accommodate students who are standing as they work, or lowered for when students prefer to work seated.

The jewel in the Kildare crown is the area students have named "Google", which is furnished with scattered side tables between multi-coloured lounges and ottomans.

In naming their space, Year 9 suggested Carlow, the Irish county which was home to the first school initiated by Bishop Daniel Delany.

Carlow is quite a different configuration from Kildare. It consists of one large open space containing multiple zones furnished with wheeled chairs and desks, "university-style" seats, and desks and chairs that can be raised and lowered. It also houses media-scapes and "Genius Bars".

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Delany College in the tradition and spirit of the Patrician Brothers
"Pride, Persistence, Passion!"

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Nestled between Carlow and Kildare is the senior study area of Tullow, named for the town in Ireland where Daniel Delany was first stationed as a priest. As well as lounges, ottomans and tables in the central area, it has a tutorial room for small-group study, and a larger glass-enclosed study area which accommodates senior class groups.

The learning in each space is supported through multiple large, networked television monitors to which students can project their work, and multiple glass-boards for students to brainstorm and organise their thinking and learning. The senior study also has a bank of computers for senior student use.

The spaces were carefully designed to support students as they learn to communicate, collaborate, think critically and create - the capabilities which are not only important for them as learners today, but will be essential for them as they become the citizens and workers of tomorrow.

By Mrs Rosemary Bellamy

YEAR 7 DEBATERS

Congratulations to our Year 7 Debaters - a great win against Xavier College on Friday night!



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Speaking in public with an audience in front of you is one of those challenging situations - one that makes your heart pump and palms sweat.

On Friday evening, 13 May, I had the pleasure of attending the round of Debating hosted at Delany College. Our teams from years 7 to 12 were facing stiff competition from Xavier College. In all we had 18 students on the debating teams, and another 15 students who were in some way supporting and assisting the teams.

Even as a spectator it's a nervous event. I found myself sitting and listening to the two opposing Year 7 teams argue over the topic "That all schools should be co-ed". Our three team members won the night by the narrowest of margins - congratulations Aljim, Noa and Brayde! Most importantly all speakers receive feedback about their individual and team performances, with tips and techniques to improve.

As you would have read in the last issue, the Mock Trial season is also under way and the Year 10 & 11 team will be in competition again on Thursday 26 May. Similar to debating, this is a high-pressure, careful listening and fast thinking task. The Mock Trial competition has been running for many years (even I participated when I was at school) and provides students a small window of insight to court formalities and proceedings.

Another event that was launched last week was the Delany College *Monsignor McGovern Portrait Prize*. This competition is open to all year 5 and 6 local Catholic primary school students. Last Friday Ms Broue and two year 10 students visited one of these schools to provide a workshop on portrait painting. The competition will culminate with an exhibition and prize awards evening on Tuesday 26 July at 5.30pm (next term). More information will be provided as the evening approaches.

MONSIGNOR MCGOVERN PORTRAIT PRIZE
2016
For Year 5 and Year 6 Students

Opening and Prizes: Tuesday 26th July

Organised and Supported By: Delany College, Granville

Also since our last newsletter we celebrated a Mothers' Day Mass on Friday 5 May. This was a wonderful opportunity for the students at Delany to share in our Catholic faith with their mums, aunties and grandmothers. It was a genuine pleasure to meet many of our community parents at morning tea at the conclusion of Mass.



Students with their mothers at our Mother's Day celebration.

Subjects and content sometimes overshadows school life. Learning, however, is not restricted to the classroom when students take the many and diverse opportunities that are available to them at Delany. I strongly encourage students to take these opportunities to try something outside their comfort zone.

I would also like to invite and encourage our parent community to join in. Come and be amazed as you watch your children prove that learning is not only about words and numbers, but skills and talents that they will take beyond the classrooms to use in their working and family lives forever.

See you at our next event!
St Patrick pray for us.

Mr Anthony Blomfield
Assistant Principal



CURRICULUM

YEAR 11 2017 SUBJECT SELECTION

From now until the end of this term Year 10 will work through a process to choose their subjects for Year 11 2017. All Year 11 students must select 12 units for the Preliminary course.

At Delany College, we pride ourselves on the great variety of subjects open to our students. As part of the Year 11 Subject Selection process, we provide a teacher mentor for each student who assists in the process. Students must consider if they wish to obtain an ATAR to enable them to go to University. This does impact on the courses they can select.

A very important piece of advice to all students. Choose subjects you are interested in and where you think you can achieve. You will be more likely to be motivated to learn and succeed in the HSC.

As parents, how can you help your teen decide on subjects for Years 11 and 12? The following web site has some great practical advice.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/year-10-subject-selection>

These tips talk about balancing choices based on your teen's strengths, while keeping their options open.

Many students now use Year 11 and 12 to get a head start on a traineeship or an apprenticeship, or gain other valuable industry experience. The following web page has some great advice for students wishing to peruse this pattern of study.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/vocational-education-at-school>

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns during this time.

Mr Mark Robinson
Director of Teaching and Learning

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONATIONS

On Thursday May 7, five Year 12 students visited the Australian Red Cross to donate blood. The process overall can take up to an hour as you are interviewed and your blood tested to ensure you can donate, then you are taken through to donate blood. By donating blood, our students were able to help at least 3 different patients and contribute to making up to 22 different products. They have made a significant difference to people's lives by making the donation. Currently, only 1 in 30 Australians gives blood, but 1 in 3 will need blood in their lifetime. Throughout the term, senior Delany College students will continue to donate to the Australian Red Cross.



By Mrs Renee McCarren

SCHOOL FEES

School Fee statements have now been issued and are due by 30 May 2016.

THE BEST OF THE FEST

Delany Year 12 excursion to The Best of the Fest by Sydney Writers Festival and Bostes at the Sydney Theatre Company. Speakers included Peter Evans director of Bell Shakespeare Company, singer songwriter Paul Kelly, author Alice Pung, journalist Stan Grant, filmmaker Eva Orner and Nobel Prize winner Peter Doherty.



HELPING OUT ST OLIVER'S

On Monday 16th of May, we helped Saint Oliver's with their athletics carnival. We had a lot of fun giving out the ribbons and tallying the scores. It was nice for us just to have a day out to help other schools. I am especially proud that I was chosen to represent Delany College as it shows that I am a responsible and reliable student who can be trusted to do these kind of things.

My favorite part of the day was when the Primary students had free time. They were allowed to play games and so we were able to play a game of football with them. I loved interacting with the Primary students because it made feel like a leader.

The whole day overall was so much fun. I would love to do it again.

By Charbel El Khoueiry 8.4



The students who were selected as representatives of Delany were Laura Awad, Umaru Bah, Charbel El Khoueiry and Kaylee Heuvig. Thank you students for a job well done !

By Mrs Ison

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE (ECEC) CLASS

Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) is a VET subject held weekly at our school. A mixture of schools from across the Parramatta Diocese come together for this class including St Patrick Marist College, Dundas; Catherine McAuley, Westmead; Nagle College, Blacktown; and of course, our very own Delany College!

The course is an opportunity for students doing their HSC to learn about the care of children in an Early Childhood facility (eg. Childcare) as a part of their HSC. The subject is quite informative and practical, making it ideal for those planning on venturing into Early Childhood after school. The course gives an insight as to what to expect and how to deal with certain situations.



Mrs Baldwin, our ECEC teacher, has been very supportive of us and arranged an excursion to Guildford West Children's Centre in order to learn about Safe Sleeping Practices and Nappy Changing Procedures. Through the course we have also learnt about Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), First Aid and Health concerns amongst other things.

On Friday, the 20th May, the class will be heading to the Pregnancy, Babies and Children's Expo at Homebush, to speak and learn about products, procedures and policies used by Childcare facilities.

The ECEC Class are hoping to start a Playgroup on a Wednesday afternoon 1:30 - 3:00pm. If you have a child aged 0-5 and would be interested in joining the Delany College Playgroup please email cdwyer@parra.catholic.edu.au to express your interest.

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MENTAL HEALTH - R U OK?

Currently Year 8 students during their Enrichment periods have been exploring why it is important to be able to ask such a simple question.



Knowing how to ask and when can make a difference. You are never too young to ask 'Are you ok?'

Look out for upcoming messages from Year 8 students.

By Mrs Ison

RUGBY LEAGUE

Rugby League is starting this term. Games start at 1.30pm at Whalan Reserve and training is on Wednesdays at 3.15pm.

GIRLS ONLY BASKETBALL CAMP

12 years and over.

Dates: Saturday 18 June 2016

Location: RydeX Sports Centre (RXSC) is located on the hill down from Club Ryde X Address: **724 Victoria Road, Ryde 2112.**

Time 1:45pm - 3:45pm

Cost: \$60 for the two hour camp.

PRC Parent Representative Council

Date: Monday 30 May 2016 at 7pm

Located at: Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC)
Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St (Ground Floor)
Blacktown

Topic: Special Needs Classes in Our Schools

Presented by: ASPECT Western Sydney School

WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT BEING CATHOLIC?

Delany staff and students at A Night with Jason Evert at Patrician Brothers Blacktown - What's so great about being Catholic? Catholic Youth Parramatta with Irene, Nora, Chloe, Celine, Marian, Grace, Mrs Baldwin, Miss Whiticker, Mrs Ison and Mrs Pratelli.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by Advancedlife Photography on Friday 17th June 2016. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school's unique **9 digit Online Order Code**. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed. Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

BUILDING CHILD SAFE COMMUNITIES – NEW FORMS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRACTORS

'Building Child Safe Communities' is a new initiative developed by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care. It is now a requirement that all volunteers and contractors complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering or contracting at schools, Catholic Out of Schools Hours Care and Catholic Early Learning Centres. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers and contractors by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

- **Volunteers** – please click on '[Building Child Safe Communities – Undertaking for Volunteers](#)' or access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).



Then click on '[Volunteer Form](#)' (halfway down page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are volunteering.

- **Contractors** – please click on '[Building Child Safe Communities – Undertaking for Contractors](#)' or access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).



Then click on '[Contractor Form](#)' (bottom of page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are contracting.

A new form is required:

- For each location that you are a volunteer or contractor
- If any of the details you have provided on the form change

We thank all volunteers and contractors for their continued support of Catholic Education.