

Delany News



Term 4 Issue 5

15 December 2016

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Our very best wishes to you and your families.

Events in January 2017

Friday 27th

Staff Development Day

Monday 30th

First Day of Term 1

All students to attend



Dear Delany community,

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to acknowledge the work and efforts of the Delany teaching and support staff. These are men and women who are compassionate and true professionals. In addition I would like to thank the school leadership team in providing the direction and encouragement throughout the year. Finally, I would recognise the partnership we have with our parents who continually support and promote the work that we do at Delany College.

Changes for 2017

One of the major changes to occur in 2017 is the start and finish times for the students. The expectation is that students arrive at school by 8:30am as the day begins at 8:45am with students heading straight into Period 1. There will no longer be early finish on Thursday. Students are dismissed each day at the same time of 3:05pm.

Leaving staff

We wish all the following staff our best wishes hoping their future endeavours are fulfilling and exciting:-
Mrs Joan Benson - Administration, *Mrs Karen Armin-Grimm* - Career Teacher, *Mrs Marianne Samyia* - Teacher, *Mrs Valentine Alexis* - Stage Leader, *Mrs Joyce Ison* - Stage Leader, *Mr Stephen Clark* - Teacher, *Mrs Pamela McCauley* - Maths Leader, *Mrs Carola Webber* - Library Teacher, *Mr James Bunoza* - Temp Teacher, *Mrs Renee Azar* - Teachers Aide, *Mrs Jessica Cimino* - Temp Teacher, *Mr Paul Cooper* - Temp Teacher, *Ms Natalie Dumycz* - Temp Teacher, *Ms Rannia Katrib* - Temp Teacher, *Ms Alison Kirk* - Temp Teacher, *Ms Frances Moli* - Temp Teacher and *Ms Sharlene Mourched* - Temp Teacher. We particularly recognise Mrs Joan Benson for her loyal and dedicated career spanning 37 years at Delany College.

God bless
Mr Robert Muscat
Principal

DELANY WINS ANZAC SCHOLARSHIP

On 8 December, The Hon. (Shayne) Maxwell Shayne Mallard, Member of the Legislative Council, visited the school and addressed students in Years 9 and 10. He announced the exciting news that Delany College has won an opportunity for a student to travel to Anzac sites in Europe in 2017 as a representative of the NSW Government. The student will travel to significant Australian battlefields in Belgium and France on a 12 day tour of the Western Front, along with students from other schools. Our student will also attend commemorative events in the town of Ypres in Belgium, acknowledging 100 years since Australia lost 38,000 men in battle there. Mr Robert Muscat, College Principal, identified this opportunity a number of weeks ago and directed the HSIE Faculty to complete the application process. We are very pleased at the successful result.

Students in Years 10 and 11 in 2017 who are enrolled at Delany College may apply by submitting an original piece of work about why it is important to commemorate Anzac Day. If shortlisted, students will then explain their work to a Panel (chaired by Mr Muscat) who will select the successful student. Details of how to apply have been communicated to the students. Information can also be found at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/parra.catholic.edu.au/delany-student-site/>

It is important that interested students submit their work by the due date and have parental permission to travel to Europe, should they be successful. I encourage every student currently in Year 9 or 10 who is interested in the story of Anzac to apply.

Mrs Jennifer Venhuizen
HSIE Leader of Learning



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

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

As quickly as a new year begins we suddenly find ourselves at the end of it!

THE DELANY COMMUNITY

The Delany community has been a rich and exciting place of action since late January this year. During this time we have welcomed a new cohort of Year 7 students, farewelled an outgoing cohort of Year 12 students, and seen a few other students enter and leave the community. With every change the community changes in small and subtle ways, and this cycle continues year in and year out. With these in-coming and out-going students are also the families who are newly inducted into our school or say goodbye after many years of attachment. A school is a dynamic environment for every associated person. We thank every parent, student and family member for your support of our Delany community and especially look forward to a challenging and engaging 2017.

THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Congratulations to the many students who were recognised with awards and prizes at our End of Year Academic assembly last week. This time is an opportunity to recognise some fantastic and persistent efforts, and we also encourage all students to work towards their personal best.

Another important aspect of academic work is effort. This includes persistence to projects and problems, grit to keep going when times are tough and passion to give it your best shot. Last Friday in each year group many students receive Academic Effort awards to recognise hard work throughout the year. Congratulations to all our recipients.

THE PATRICIAN COMMUNITY

The Patrician community never sleeps! Last Friday evening Mr Muscat, Mrs Stow and I attended the end of year Patrician network meeting and dinner. This meeting gives us the opportunity to discuss with other Patrician school leaders and the Patrician Brothers community all the great things that are happening in our school. We continually learn from each other and are buoyed by each others' successes. I always walk away feeling the incredible passion of the Brothers for education in their schools. For example, in the room were five past, present or future Principals of Holy Cross College Ryde. We pray that the foundation on which all our schools are built remains strong and continues to flourish and grow.

We pray for a safe, peaceful and blessed Christmas for every member of our Delany community, and for a new year that begins our best ever year.

St Patrick, pray for us.

Mr Anthony Blomfield
Assistant Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Where has 2016 gone? Sometimes this season of Advent becomes a reminder to us that the year has passed us by once again, that it's nearing the holidays, that we need to get a move on with our Christmas shopping. And amidst the putting up of Christmas trees, the candy canes, the photos with Santa and the endless lines at shopping centres, it becomes really easy to forget the true meaning of Advent, which is to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus.

But what does that mean? Quite simply, it means we reflect on the story of Jesus and how we invite Jesus into our own lives. The nativity story is one we have heard time and time again. However, there's a part of the nativity story that we seem to skim over quite quickly, we race to the part where Jesus is born, which is completely understandable, but sometimes its good to take a step back and remember how he came to be born in a stable.

Mary and Joseph were journeying towards Bethlehem from Nazereth, about a 110km journey. That's the same distance as from here in Granville to the Blue Mountains. Now imagine, Mary, 9 months pregnant, a Joseph walking this barren terrain of Judea in the heat. In Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph seek refuge. Knowing that her baby is about to arrive, Mary knows that it is only the kindness of a stranger that will ensure her baby is safe and sheltered. Many turn them away, but one sympathetic innkeeper opens the door. And thus our Lord Jesus Christ is born in a stable in a manger.

This area of Judea, now known as Israel is no stranger to those who still seek refuge. 45,711 refugee's have continued to seek refuge in Israel since 2015. They have had to endure harsh landscapes, some walking as far as Mary and Joseph to seek safety for their families.



Here in Australia, we know the face of the stranger. The Mary's and Joseph's come to us in many forms, holding out their hands and asking for kindness to survive. We hear numbers and headlines like "12000 Syrian refugees taken in " or 49 out of every 10000 people are homeless", but do we see the Holy Family in these headlines, in these numbers? Do we think about all those who have turned them away? Do we see ourselves as the innkeeper who opens our door and invites in Christ?

In this Christmas season, who are the Mary's and Joseph's in our lives? Who are those people who have been turned away time and time again, only for us to recognise that it is through them that Christ is Born.

God Bless

Mrs Karina Stow
Religious Education Co Ordinator

YEAR 7-11 AWARDS



PRINCIPAL AWARDS Year 7 - Rita Ghrbian, Year 8 - Isabella Shamoun, Year 9 - Maryanne Takchi, Year 10 - Madeline Zaher, Year 11 - Wesley Swalah Mcdahrou with Mr Robert Muscat



YEAR 7 AWARDS - 1st - Elissa Miraziz, 2nd - Rita Ghrbian, 3rd - Indiana Kit Cortes with Mr Robert Muscat and Mrs Valentine Alexis



YEAR 8 AWARDS - 1st - Isabella Shamoun, 2nd - Reegan Roebeck, 3rd - Toaila Liutai with Mr Robert Muscat and Mrs Joyce Ison



YEAR 9 AWARDS - 1st - Marie Peralta, 2nd - Joshua Abad, 3rd - Tavishi Peiris with Mr Robert Muscat and Ms Sarah Guillaume



YEAR 10 AWARDS - 1st - Helin Celik, 2nd - Madeline Zaher, 3rd - Chelsie Valencia with Mr Robert Muscat and Mrs RoseMary Bellamy



YEAR 11 AWARDS - 1st - Elisar Salameh, 2nd - Divashna Kumar, 3rd - Hilary Lim with Mr Robert Muscat and Mrs Simone Pratelli



REUBEN F SCARF AWARD
Mariatu Turay



THE JOSEPH TIERNEY AWARD
Cassandra Nader



**AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE
LONG TAN AWARD**
Elizabeth Kondok



BROTHER CHARLES AWARD
Chanelle Abounader



**NSW PREMIER'S READING
AWARD**
Skye Tennant



CALTEX ALL-ROUNDER AWARD
Mathew Issa



**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY
AWARD**
Elisar Salameh



SILVER AWARD
Madeline Zaher

POST SCHOOL OPTIONS

Bol Aguer
Elizabeth Chahroura
Veronica Farah
Christopher Naydovski
Zedan Yildiz

Tori Black
Charbel Dakache
David Katrib
Calvin Taito-Tusa

Brandon Demirel
Tyreece Faasi
Bola Beshy Nakhla
Matthew Wheatley

How important is Advent this Christmas season? What can we as Christians do to prepare for this season?



Preparation for Christmas is an important theme for Advent, but more is involved. Advent gives us a vision of our lives as Christians and shows us the possibilities of life. The vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold; it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian.

First we celebrate Christ-becoming-human. We view his life and experience his presence as a human being in our history. Christ came to show us what life can and should be. He gave us true and valid principles by which we can live true and valid lives. But Jesus knew that the human heart could not live in isolation. He formed the Church around the concept of a people held together by love. In that community we discover unlimited possibilities and meaning. Alone we can do nothing. Together we find real meaning.

When Christ left this earth, he did not abandon us. He remains with us in his Spirit, the Church, the sacraments, the Scriptures and each other. He lives in community with us and keeps his vision of life before us.

When Christ comes again, his presence will no longer be hidden behind the signs and symbols of the liturgy or the words of the Scriptures. His presence among us will be revealed in all its fullness, a presence that will never end, a presence that will perfect and complete our community.



This is the "greater significance" of Advent. In these few short weeks we take in the sweeping panorama of time - from Christ's birth to his Second Coming. The season of Advent brings us the magnificent vision of life and hope for the future given to us by Christ. Advent is our time to become more involved, more caught up in the meaning and the possibilities of life as a Christian community. Thus we are preparing not only for Christmas but also for Christ's Second Coming. This means that when he comes again, we will be awake and watchful. He will not find us asleep.

Christians typically celebrate the season by lighting the ceremonial Advent candles and reading Scriptures. As the candles are lit, the Christmas story is told from its foretelling in Isaiah to its culmination in the second chapter of Luke. The Old Testament points to the promise of a Saviour.

The wreath is always in the shape of a circle to represent God's eternity, His unending nature. The evergreens symbolize life. We as Christians have eternal life once we have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Nestled inside the wreath of evergreens are five candles, each representing a significant aspect of the Christmas story. The first three candles are purple to represent preparation, the fourth candle is pink to represent joy, and the last is white to represent Christ. Each candle also has an individual meaning. On the first Sunday of advent, the candle of *prophecy* and *preparation* is lit.

On the second Sunday, family members light the candle of *proclamation*, remembering the angels who announced the Saviour.



The third week, we emphasize *anticipation*. For hundreds of years, godly men and women awaited the presence of the King. And what a joy it was for the lowly shepherds who first experienced the joyous news of Christ's birth.

After the three weeks of preparation, the joy of the coming Savior is celebrated with a pink candle. On this Sunday, we remember the *expectation* Mary felt as she had Emmanuel, God with us, pressing at her womb.

On Christmas Eve, one last candle, the white candle, is lit. Often the biggest of the five candles and centered in the middle of the wreath, this *Christ candle* marks the culmination of the promise of a coming Savior. Celebrate the occasion with family prayer time, acknowledging the light of Christ not only in the world, but also in our hearts. On Christmas Eve, as that last candle is lit, remember the words of Scripture, Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Mariam Karam and Denzel Narayan
The formation leaders

CAPTIVATE IMMERSION HELD AT DELANY COLLEGE



YEAR 7 TECHNOLOGY



This term in Technology Year 7 started a unit called Delany Dragster. By the end of the unit the students needed to create a race car made out of Balsa wood, drill holes to include wheels and sand, decorate and paint it in time for race day. In class they were asked to think of ways to ensure that their car would be faster than anyone else's and had to research different design features.



The design features would play a large role considering all students were given the same piece of timber. The cars were attached to the track using a fishing line, students had a trigger that they needed to push to release the car from the starting line, cars then made it down to the end of the track in under 2 seconds using the CO2 cartridge in the back of the car.

It was great seeing the enthusiasm of the students, and their support for one another on race day. We had a few senior students offer to assist and without their help the day wouldn't have been such a big success.



[click here to see more PHOTOGRAPHS](#)

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As Christmas is a special time of the year, it's more important than ever to show people, especially the poor and needy around us, how much we care, love and value our community. This year we assisted 32 families with Christmas hampers. It was a fantastic example of team work by staff, students and parents.

I am always moved by the generosity of our staff, students and parents. Many of them have gone out of their way to make the Christmas hampers a great success. Thank you so much for all your support which is much appreciated.



I wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy New Year 2017

God bless,
Mr. Thomas

.... SEEKING MENTORS

Would you like to give something back to your community?

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta's Post School Options Team is looking for suitable employers who can offer one-on-one mentoring in the workplace for secondary students. We are seeking people employed in small businesses who would like to give something back to their community and join this valuable and worthwhile program, on a voluntary basis.

The volunteer mentor, hosts the student in the workplace for one day per week for 2 school terms (May to September, excluding school holidays). The mentor is both a personal and professional role model for the student. All mentors are provided with complimentary mentor training and receive a TAFE Certificate of Attainment 'Mentoring in the Community' for their participation.

Employers can be from any industry, as an individual in a trade area – clerical, administration, hairdressing and beauty or connected to a major employer for example, Bunnings. Or Woolworths etc.

Please consider this call for assistance so that this program can continue to supply a valuable service to students in our Catholic communities. If you would be interested in becoming a mentor or finding out more information, please contact:

Leoni Jeavons-Fellows
Leading Teacher Post School Options
0424 750 583

FREE SEMINAR FOR PARENTS



THE CYBER SAFETY LADY RAISING RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CITIZENS

- Social Media safety/privacy - Maintaining a spotless social media profile
- Keeping your child safe online - Protecting your child from adult content
- Strangers online - Cyber bullying - Online stalking - Balancing your child's screen time - Managing kids digital devices - parental controls

GUEST SPEAKER:

Leonie Smith
'The Cyber Safety Lady'

FREE REGISTRATION (ESSENTIAL):
[CLICK HERE](#)

WHEN: Monday, 27 February 2017
(6.30pm for 7:00pm start)

WHERE: Gilroy College, Marie St,
Castle Hill (parking available)

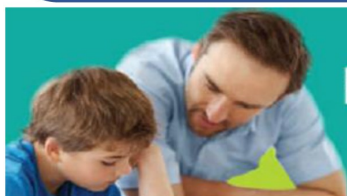
The PRC Annual General Meeting will be held
prior to our seminar.

Light supper and refreshments will be provided and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

www.prc.catholic.edu.au

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Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in learning

TRANSITION WEEK

Towards the end of Year 10 each year, students become immersed in Delany Transition Week. This involves completion of the All My Own Work units required by BOSTES for entry into Year 11, coupled with a week-long project-based learning task.

In 2016, the PBL task was to create a non-stereotypical superhero, design a costume, logo and backstory, and then market their product with the aim of becoming the next superhero in the Marvel Comics family. Superheroes included Weatherman, Power of One, Sal the Sweetie and Sue Nami.

Years 7 and 8 students, acting as judges, entered energetically into the spirit of the event, participating in all the activities.

At the end of the marketing display, the winners, as decided by the number of Year 7 and 8 "fans" joining the superhero fan club, were Helin, Madeline, Chelsie and Elizabeth with the superhero Sal the Sweetie, a character who



shot compliments from her "gun" that compelled the "victim" to pay the compliments forward.

Many thanks to Year 10 for their enthusiastic and capable completion of the task, and to Mrs Pittman and Mrs Ison for their organisation of the week.

