

# Delany News



**Term 1 Issue 1**

**14 Feb 2019**

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **Monday 18 Feb**

Pupil free day/Staff development day

### **Tuesday 19 Feb**

Year 9 Parent information evening (6-7 pm)

### **Wednesday 20 Feb**

EMU & ELU  
Parent information evening (6-7pm)

### **Friday 22 Feb**

College Swimming  
Carnival- Granville Pool

### **Tuesday 26 Feb**

Year 11 Parent information evening (6-7pm)

### **Wednesday 27 Feb**

Year 6 Learning day (St Oliver's, Holy Trinity Primary & Holy Family Primary)

Dear Delany Community,

I welcome our new Year 7 cohort, their parents and all new families with children in other year groups. We are so pleased that you have chosen Delany College as the school for your child. I also welcome our new staff for 2019;

- Stephanie Rodrigues (Mathematics)
- Dominic Charter (HSIE/RE)
- Lucas Matto (Science)
- Lillian Treanor (English)

Other staff changes include Mr Robinson being seconded to work at the CEDP office with Ms Cook taking on the curriculum leader position. She will answer any questions you have regarding subject choices, timetabling and supporting students with their learning.

We have taken the time in the first week of school to deliver the school goals for 2019. Students have been asked how they can achieve the Literacy, Numeracy and Formation goals set by the College. In Literacy, our aim is to improve reading and writing at or beyond a student's grade level. This requires not only teacher assistance but students practicing the reading and writing strategies at home. We made some significant gains last year, as indicated in NAPLAN and PAT-R, and we are planning to achieve better results this year.

Our Mathematics teachers are working with all students in developing skills in problem solving. This includes strategies defining the problem, taking steps to use different approaches to find a solution and then justify their relation. For many of our students, worded maths problems are more difficult and our aim is to support their thinking in achieving a regular success rate.

Our Formation goal is very much linked to the Gospel of Luke, which is the gospel of the year. We will examine Luke and how his message can be enacted in our lives everyday.

Further to this our teachers will be focusing on two priorities for 2019; *Design Thinking* and *Know my impact* on student learning. *Design Thinking* has been around for some time and at Delany, we are working with a consultant who has already trained our leaders last year with the view that staff will be trained on Monday, 18 February – our first staff professional learning day (pupil-free day). The elements of Design Thinking provide a structured approach to thinking through a problem and finding the best solution. It reinforces the idea that the person is at the centre of the solution process and the outcomes should always have a positive impact.



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

We will plan for students to undergo the training later in the year to support them in making correct choices while they engage with the learning process.

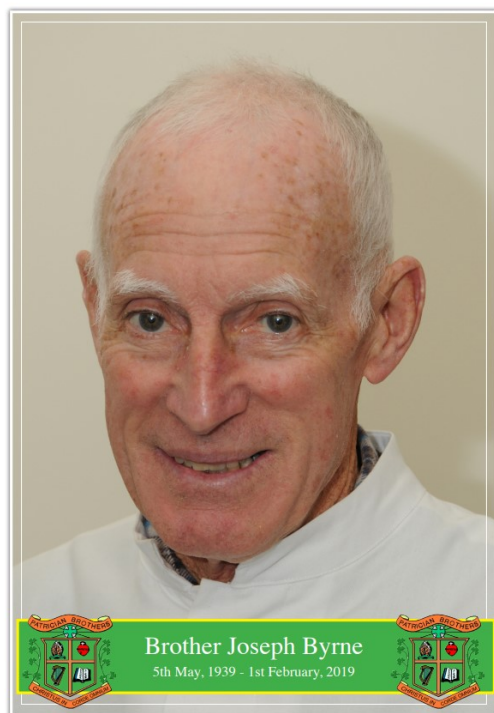
Secondly, teachers have been asked to constantly reflect on their impact in the learning process. The school's professional learning program will endeavour to provide the time and processes to enable this to happen. This will be an ongoing enquiry process that will ensure the best learning opportunities for our students.

Sadly, Brother Joseph Byrne, who after several weeks of very poor health, passed away on the morning of 1 February 2019. He served the Granville, Fairfield and Blacktown communities during his sixty-two years in the ministry of the Patrician Brothers. Grant eternal rest unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Lastly, I take this opportunity to welcome back everyone from the holidays and wish all families a fruitful year ahead. If anyone has any concerns or issues they would like to raise, feel free to contact the College via the College Office and we will endeavour to address you on these.



God bless,  
*Mr Robert Muscat*



Brother Joseph Byrne was born to James and Annie on the 9 May, 1939. He hails from County Wicklow in Ireland. He came to Australia on the P&O Liner *Himalaya*, arriving in Sydney in December 1957. For many years he was known by his religious name as Basil before reverting to his baptismal name of Joseph.

For the greater part of his first thirty years in Australia Joseph served in the boys' primary schools of Granville, Blacktown and Fairfield, fulfilling multiple roles, but mainly as teacher and principal. His terms as primary principal: Blacktown, 1968 and 1969; Granville, 1975 to 1980; and Fairfield, 1981 and 1982. His longest posting was at Granville (1958 - 1967 & 1970 - 1980). In 1984 he took a year's study leave after which he made a transition into parish work as a pastoral associate.

His initial pastoral work was in the parish of Blacktown and from 1997 he was an active member of the parish pastoral team in the parish of St John's Riverstone.

As well as being advanced in the spiritual domain, Joseph had a great commitment to physical fitness also. He was a regular and good golfer, squash player, and a keen cyclist, even cycling to Melbourne on one occasion!

Poor health required Joseph moving into Rosary Village Aged Care, Yennora, in June 2018. He was comfortable and happy there until his health seriously deteriorated in early January 2019. He died in his sleep on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> February. He had ministered as a Patrician for sixty-two years.

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

I extend to our entire community a very warm welcome and return to Delany College. In particular I welcome all those who are new to our community - the year 7 students and families, and the many other students and families who have joined us this year. I trust you will experience a welcoming and vibrant College community, and I encourage and invite students and families to get involved in the various activities that are run at Delany.

### **The Delany community**

The beginning of this year has been an impressive one. Congratulations to our students who have arrived ready to learn and engage in classes, who are equipped with pens, books and an IT device, and who are dressing to a high standard. Mr Muscat, myself and other staff have moved through the classes throughout the first weeks and we are equally impressed with the attitude of our students - there is an air of calm, engagement and learning. It has been, overall, a very positive start.

### **The academic community**

Learning begins on Day One.

Year 12 students simply pick up from where they left at the end of last year. Students begin their second term of the HSC course, and they will walk back into work and assessments. If your child, like my baby girl, is now preparing for the 2019 HSC I suggest you keep talking with him or her, encouraging, gently pushing and celebrating the achievements and experiences of this exciting (but at times overwhelming) year.

Students in years 8 to 11 are familiar with our expectations, and our new year 7 students (and other new students) will quickly learn how things work here at Delany. I encourage you to ask your child what they learned during the day, what was the best or funniest experience, who's in their friendship group, and how you can support them in their learning.

### **The Patrician community**

On Wednesday 13 February the College celebrated our opening Mass for 2019. We joined with Holy Trinity Primary to ask the Holy Spirit to stay close throughout the year. I think it's a very positive experience for our students to be immersed with the primary students! These young students bring an energy that is irresistible and a hum that makes you smile. This is the Holy Spirit at work already.

### **Thank you**

From the beginning of this year all schools in the Parramatta Education system have been implementing a new student information system. There have been a few bumps along the way. You may have received, or may yet receive, a message (SMS) informing you that your child is absent from school. If you receive this message and you believe it is incorrect (or you are worried) please contact the school immediately. I thank you for your understanding.

As I have already written, our students have made an excellent start. I acknowledge that this is a result of your work and support of your children - the haircuts, shopping for clothes, books, pens and pencils, lunchboxes... the list goes on. Education works best when families and schools work together.

I look forward to seeing you at our various functions during the year.

St Patrick, pray for us.

*Mr Anthony Blomfield*  
*Assistant Principal*

## The Academic Community

On Wednesday 6th February we held our annual High Achievers' assembly. We dedicate the first assembly each year to recognising the achievements of the previous years' HSC class. Although the focus is on the HSC results of students, we also acknowledge and celebrate that students have successfully been offered positions at universities, TAFEs and colleges, have gained full time employment, and who are commencing traineeships and apprenticeships. It is a teacher's privilege and joy to see students move out to the "real world" and get going with their lives beyond school.

Attending the assembly were Madeline Zaher, Rasha Abouhalka and Helin Celik. During the assembly Madeline spoke about her experiences throughout the HSC year, advice for students, and her plans for 2019. It was fantastic to have the opportunity to celebrate these students achievements.

*Ms Megan Cook*  
*Curriculum Leader*



### **Consultation for Refugee Camp in my Neighbourhood 2019**

Council will hold an open community consultation session on 20 February to inform the planning and development of the Refugee Camp in My Neighbourhood Project for 2019. Interested individuals, community organisations and schools are warmly invited. For more information or to RSVP please contact: [marika.kahle@cumberland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:marika.kahle@cumberland.nsw.gov.au).



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Welcome back to all our families from 2018 and a big welcome to our new families to the school. 2019 has already been a success with our students diving into a range of formation opportunities from the onset.

On the first day back of school, Year 7- 10 students participated in a formation workshop. This allowed them to consider the formation goal for this year :

*Students and staff apply the concepts of community, dignity and reconciliation, embedded within the Gospel of Luke, to all of their relationships, both within and beyond the classroom.*

As we turn our ears towards the Gospel of St Luke this year, we consider how we can implement the values of dignity, community and reconciliation into our relationships with each other. Luke gives us deep insight into the plight of those on the margins. We take inspiration from St Luke in his focus on those who society ignores or undervalues. This year we ask ourselves “ how can we be the hands and feet of Christ to those on the margins?”

With this in mind, students were introduced to a number of opportunities and experiences that await them over the coming year including work with Caritas, St Vincent De Paul, The Delany Foundation and involvement in Social Justice Forums. We encourage our students to involve themselves in this vast array of faith formation opportunities in 2019.

On Wednesday, we celebrated our Opening School Mass with Holy Trinity Primary School. As we welcomed new staff and students to the school we celebrated the great faith community we have at Granville. Thank you to all the students and staff who helped with the organising of the Mass from both Holy Trinity Primary and Delany.

There are a number of liturgical celebrations in the upcoming weeks. We would love for the families of our students to join us in celebrating these key moments in our Church calendar. As the dates approach, we will let our school community know via the newsletter and social media so that you can attend with your child.

Last week we welcomed Maryanne Takchi ( Year 12 Formation Leader) back from World Youth Day in Panama. At our college assembly she reflected beautifully on her once in a lifetime experience. I have included her reflection below for you to enjoy. Maryanne represented Delany College with grace and dignity. She was a wonderful ambassador for the College and the Diocese.

*Mrs Karina Stow*  
*Religious Education Coordinator*

## World Youth Day 2019 Reflection



"I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" **This theme was given as an opportunity to reflect on your vocation and being at the service of God and others.**

On the 15th January I was one of 172 pilgrims from the Parramatta diocese representing my school and parish for world Youth Day. Our pilgrimage started off with Mission work in Mexico. While Mexico is a poor country, it's Churches & Cathedrals were absolutely breathtaking. The walls and dome are completely coated ornate sculpture in gold leaf and plaster, including saints and dancing angels. Our lady of Guadalupe is the patron saint in Mexico. We were privileged enough to visit this. One of the world's most revered shrines, Our Lady of Guadalupe is surrounded by museums, the tranquil grottos and of course, the famous tilma imprinted with the image of the Virgin Mary and worn by Saint Diego. I encourage you all to take time to read the story of Juan Diego's encounter with Mary as this really touched my heart.

As we prepared for our mission work we were all sent to different places I was lucky enough to visit the Jesuit school. It was heartwarming to be able to witness the dedication that all the staff and volunteers had towards their country and students. The children were so excited to see us and we spent time talking and playing with them. After being in Mexico for five days we set off to Panama, where World Youth Day Week began. It was amazing to see people from all over the world gather together to share our faith with one another. We had an opening mass with the Archbishop of Panama where he welcomed everyone from across the world. It was amazing to be able to interact with people from other countries sharing our national chants and songs. We had Adoration with Pope Francis then an overnight sleep out which lead us to the final mass with the Pope Francis. This was absolutely amazing to be able to have witnessed Mass amongst millions of people with Pope Francis. There he announced the next World Youth Day which would be held in Lisbon Portugal 2022. I encourage all students to consider in participating in such a beautiful experience in developing our Spiritual growth. To end our pilgrimage we headed to Texas for three days to reflect on what was life changing experience.

I would like to Thank God for giving me this opportunity to experience this amazing Pilgrimage. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Delany College Community and in particular, Mr Muscat and teachers for supporting me throughout the lead up of this pilgrimage. I am very grateful for everyone who helped me to get there. It was such an amazing experience that has changed my life both spiritually and emotionally, that I will forever cherish.

*Maryanne Takchi*  
*Year 12 Formation Leader*





Houston Airport



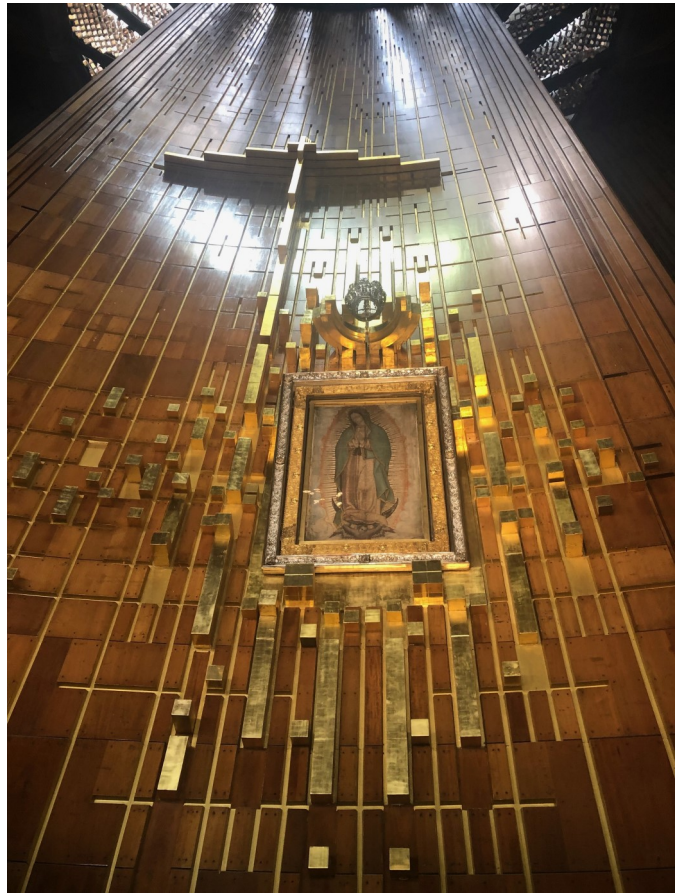
Puebla Sign



Capilla Del Rosario Chapel  
Santo Domingo Cathedral Mexico



Our lady of Guadalupe



Our lady of Guadalupe- The famous tilma



Our lady of Guadalupe statue



The greatest Pyramid of Cholula, Mexico



# FROM THE PEDAGOGICAL LEADER

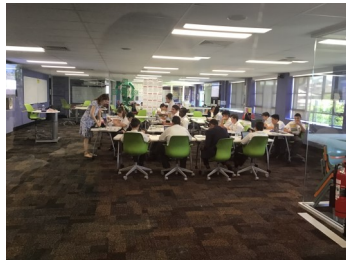
## LET'S MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT IN 2019

Welcome to the 2019 school year and may I extend a very warm welcome to our new students and their families. As a community of learners we are all thrilled to know that you have selected our school for your child and rest assured the Delany staff will always aim to do our very best to promote learning. Over the past week I have most certainly witnessed the dedication and professionalism of the Delany College staff as they impart invaluable knowledge, skills and understandings to the students in their care.

Our students have also made an excellent effort and positive impression. Evidence of learning has been reflected across all cohorts, with nearly all students being prepared with the relevant equipment necessary for them to meet student outcomes. Please take the time to ask your child what they have learnt throughout the day and encourage them to discuss their progress

**LET'S MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT IN 2019.** At Delany we have high expectations in regards to school attendance. Make 2019 the year when your child doesn't miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren't at school or don't stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. This includes being at school *on time, ready to learn and with the right equipment.*

It is important to teachers that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving. We definitely appreciate your support in this partnership and if you have any questions please contact the relevant teacher or of course, myself.



*Ms. Sharon McManus  
Pedagogical Leader*

## 2019 SCHOOL FEES

A huge welcome to our returning and new families to Delany College. Your 2019 fees are in the process of being dispatched so you should receive them soon. The due date for the first term fees is **20 March 2019**. Please contact me if you believe you will be unable to settle your account by this date. My direct phone number is Ph 8633 8107 or Christine Ph 8633 8111.

From time to time, some families might experience financial challenges. With this in mind, I take this opportunity to remind you that confidential fee support is available through:

- \* Discounts for families with multiple siblings in our school
- \* Flexible payment plans
- \* Hardship Concession policies for families in need

- \* The Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- \* The Byallawa Co-contribution Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families

### Jacaranda Bundle

There are a number of students that still require the Jacaranda Bundle. To help our families we will now be accepting payments at school and will then forward on to Jacaranda once receipted. Please use the following code when making the payment 01521-900-90004-8116 - Student Name and Year.

### Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund

A huge congratulations to the recipients of the Scholarships this year. This year 2 students received a full scholarship and 1 student received a 2 Year scholarship along with up to \$750 to assist their families purchase uniform Items.

If you have children coming into year 7 next year and believe fees may be a challenge for your family please contact us to see if you meet the criteria for the Bishop Manning Scholarship.

*Sheryl Temu  
Senior Finance Officer*

## Monday Mindfulness

What is mindfulness?

Mindfulness is a form of meditation that promotes an increased awareness of what is going on in relation to your feelings and physical sensations as well as in your surroundings.

Why practice Mindfulness?

There is significant and growing evidence of the benefits of mindfulness practice including: overall improvement of well-being; enhanced resilience; improved focus and working memory; reduced rumination and stress and decreased emotional reactivity. It has also been associated with improved self insight and empathy. Mindfulness forms an important aspect of treatment for anxiety, depression and anger management.

Come along to Monday Mindfulness!

Delany College would like to promote this valuable tool to students by introducing 'Monday Mindfulness', a brief lunchtime group each Monday from 1.30-1.45pm run by the counsellor. This will allow students to come together to learn to practice mindfulness with the aid of guided meditations from different sources including the 'Smiling Mind' program.

Want more information?

Please speak to our counsellor, Kate Roberts. You can email her on [kroberts2@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kroberts2@parra.catholic.edu.au)

*Kate Roberts  
Counsellor*

# The Truth About Valentine's Day

This Thursday, February 14, we celebrate Valentine's Day, often associated with chocolate, roses and love. But why do we truly celebrate this occasion?

In Italian this week, Stage 4 and 5 explored the origins of Valentine's Day, understanding the legend that Saint Valentine, otherwise known as San Valentino in Italy, is in fact the patron Saint of Rome, and of newly weds and engaged couples.

San Valentino was martyred, executed as a result of his role as a priest performing marriages for Christian couples in secret, during a time that it was forbidden. He also spent his life during the third century, converting non-believers to Christianity. Before his death on February 14, it is believed that San Valentino left his loved one a note, signed, "your Valentine". February 14 has since been the feast day for St Valentine, and name's day for all Valentines, Valentinas and Valentinos of the world, who based on Italian culture and tradition, should receive a gift. Happy Saint Valentine's Day!



*Miss Stefani Falcone*  
*Italian Teacher*

# From Stage 4

I would like to welcome the Year 7 students of Delany College into our community. They have embraced the transition in high school extremely well, and are really beginning to find their feet. I am so pleased to be greeted by so many smiling faces each morning who ooze enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. They have not shied away from asking questions, earning merits or involving themselves in the extra-curricular activities that have already commenced for the year. They have come with the right attitude and mindset that will set them up for a successful year here at Delany College.

I have to thank the Year 7 Mentor teachers Mr Waters, Mrs McCarren, Ms Bartley, Miss Ieroianni and Mr Johnson for making this smooth transition possible. We all look forward to getting to know each of the students on a deeper level, and how they learn best, as the year progresses.



*Miss Michelle Mutabdzija*  
*Student Learning leader*



## What's happening in HSIE?

Welcome staff and student to HSIE for 2019, especially to our year 7 students and those who are new to the college. We have a fantastic year of learning experiences planned for all Delany HSIE classes. We hope you enjoy all your classes as your teachers take you on a journey through the many learning and other curriculum initiatives and opportunities available to you in HSIE.

### Sustainability Group

HSIE will be launching the first Delany College *Sustainability Group*. Students from all year groups are invited to attend this group and develop the skills to prepare themselves to actively and responsibly participate as informed citizens in the contemporary world. The groups first initiative will be to participate in Clean Up Australia Day in March.

### Stage 5 News

Students in Commerce are beginning the year with the topic 'Consumer Choice.' We have begun to explore the nature of our decisions as consumers, and how this impacts on our quality of life. The class have engaged in some deep thinking and understanding when they debated: 'Is consumerism killing the environment?' The students from opposing teams presented some very interesting arguments and rebuttals. We are so pleased at the level of learning and understanding they are demonstrating already. It is going to be a wonderful year ahead! Well done!

Geography Classes are exploring the topic 'Changing Places' by developing an understanding of the issues associated with population growth as well as the challenges urban planners face to create an urban plan which addresses the issues of population growth. Students are engaged and working in teams to showcase their learning by drafting their own urban plans and presenting these ideas to their peers. Keep up the enthusiasm young geographers!



Mrs Roubica Akkouche  
School Learning Leader of HSIE

## Year 12 VET Construction

As part of the Construction Pathways course and as a service to the college, the Year 12 VET Construction class laid a concrete pathway in the schools garden area so that teachers and students can gain access to the new shelter that was put in towards the end of last year. During the task, students further developed their skills in: levelling, excavating, setting up formwork and concreting.

Students showed great enthusiasm on the day and did an outstanding job considering this was their first time working with concrete. All students showed excellent team work and took turns at different roles throughout the construction of the pathway.

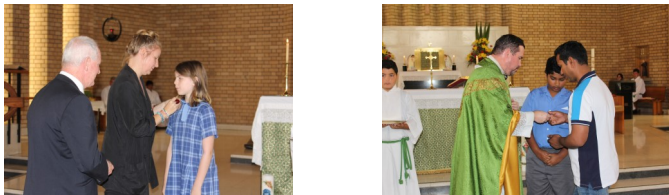
Special thanks to Frank for helping out on the day.



Mr Kieran Casey  
Teacher



Opening Mass 13 Feb 2019  
Delany College & Holy Trinity Primary





# Algebros

Who:

Students seeking help with Maths

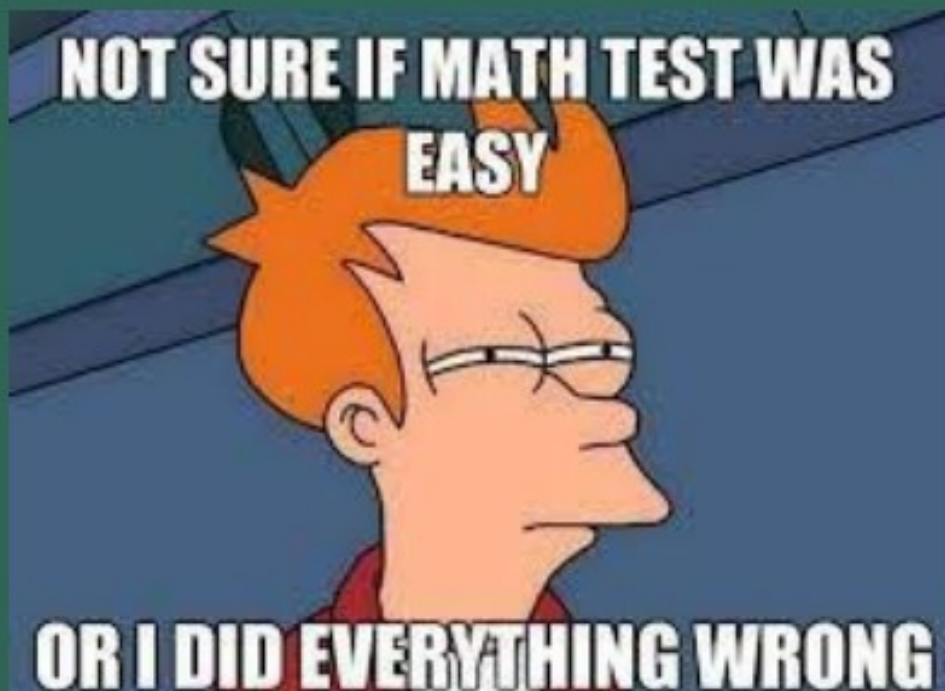
Where:

Maths Space

When:

Wednesday afternoons

3:15pm - 4:15pm







Delany College has chosen the Jacaranda Bundle *plus* as the learning solution for students in Years 7 – 10. The Jacaranda Bundle *plus* is a high-value package that provides access to 15 premium digital resources across nine core curriculum subjects (including Maths, Science, English, History and Geography). The cost is **\$114.95** per child, per year and is compulsory for students in Years 7 – 10 to purchase.

### **Step 1: Paying for the Jacaranda Bundle plus**

Payment for the Jacaranda Bundle *plus* is **due by end of March**. To complete payment visit the Jacaranda Payment Portal:

<https://parentportal.jaconline.com.au/page/delany-college>

1. Click on your child's year level and enter in the following details:  
**Student details:** first and last name.  
**Student ID details:** school provided email address.
2. The Jacaranda Bundle *plus* is pre-populated and pre-selected.
3. Click on Purchase.

Upon clicking Purchase, you will be redirected to the Jacaranda shopping cart to finalise payment. Once payment has been processed you will receive a confirmation email. Please keep this email as proof of purchase.

### **Need help using the Jacaranda Payment Portal?**

Click on **Help Tools** at the top of the Jacaranda Payment Portal home page for an instructional parent help video and parent help guide (PDF). If you are still having issues, click on **Contact** at the top of the page to speak with a Jacaranda Customer Service representative. Alternatively, please contact the College Office to p

### **Step 2: Accessing the Jacaranda Bundle plus**

Your child will receive their JacPLUS account resources within 24 hours if correct credentials are entered when purchasing. If credentials do not match, they will receive access and login details (username & password) from the College. To access the JacPLUS account please visit: <https://www.jacplus.com.au/>