



# CAROLINE CHISHOLM COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 4 Issue 2 2018



**Faith Courage Tolerance**

## College Phone Numbers:

General Information Ph: 4737 5500

School Fees Ph: 4737 5520

Enrolment Enquiries Ph: 4737 5506

Uniform Shop Ph: 4737 5522

Email: [carolinechisholm@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:carolinechisholm@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Website: [www.cccglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cccglenmorepark.catholic.edu.au)

Caroline Chisholm College

90-98 The Lakes Drive

Glenmore Park NSW 2745



## Padre Pio Parish

34-38 William Howell Dr

Glenmore Park NSW 2745

Ph: 4737 9735 Fax: 4733 8245

Email: [parish@padrepioglenmorepark.org.au](mailto:parish@padrepioglenmorepark.org.au)



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Friends, Staff and Students of Caroline Chisholm College,

We have now entered the season of Lent, a time of reflection, penance and preparation for the commemoration of the greatest moments in our faith: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In listening to the words of our Bishop Vincent, I am praying that this period of 40 days will be blessed by a deepening of our faith and our commitment to bringing God's love to the world in small and big ways.

As I indicated in our first newsletter of the year, we are launching our agenda for the next three years that will shape every aspect of the college's and our students' lives. Over the coming weeks, I will write to you about these developments and I invite your engagement and feedback with these plans. It is important that we are open to discussing these plans because, ultimately, they will affect the quality of learning and life here at the college.

It is my privilege to present the 5 Transformations Agenda to our community. The world is changing, and our college must adapt and respond in ways that remain true to our mission, whilst also giving the students in our care every opportunity to grow and thrive in this changing world. I am immensely proud of the teachers and support staff of the college who, every day, approach their work with energy, optimism and creativity. I am also very grateful to our parents who entrust us with their most precious children. I look forward to engaging with our community about these five exciting transformations in learning at Caroline Chisholm College.

In the first instalment, we will outline the reasons why transformation of Caroline Chisholm College is necessary.



## Why 'transform'?

Our college Mission Statement declares that the college will provide young women with "a quality Catholic education which promotes a passion for learning, develops skills for living and inspires an ongoing search for meaning." Just like in 1838, when Caroline Chisholm arrived in Sydney, our nation and our world are undergoing dramatic changes: socially, environmentally and economically. Our college is committed to preparing our students to thrive in this changing world and to become active agents of justice and creativity in their communities.

If we were to continue 19<sup>th</sup> Century educational practices that only focus on students memorising facts from a textbook, or rewriting answers given to them by the teacher, we will not develop a passion for learning, develop skills for living or inspire an ongoing search for meaning. This is why learning must be **transformed**.

Our '5 Transformations' agenda acknowledges the profound shift that has occurred in Australian and global culture, a shift that has been facilitated by technology and by a radical growth in connections and in access to knowledge networks. Our students are already deeply engaged with this connected, knowledge-rich world. By transforming the experience of learning, we can harness this



## CAROLINE CHISHOLM COLLEGE

awesome power to build our students' capacity to learn, create and adapt to this fast-changing environment. At the same time, we must help our students discover and nurture their character strengths, so that they can develop the emotional intelligence and mental toughness to remain healthy and face uncertainty with confidence, hope and creativity.

As we serve the Gospel, our college is called to be the yeast that brings forth an abundance for the students in our care (cf Matthew 13:33). As a ministry of the Catholic church, we are guided by God's spirit, like the prophets in the Bible, to discern a way forward by studying the signs of the times (cf: 2 Peter 1:21).

The debate about 'what works' in education has been settled and the questions about how young people learn best have been authoritatively answered. What remains is the courage to bring about the change that our students need and deserve. This is not an agenda about specific technologies or classroom practices that may help students get better results in examinations, but a declaration of our agreed, shared understanding of the principles that should shape ALL learning at the college. In this sense, this is a clarification of the values of learning, the attitudes and concepts that inform each decision about the curriculum at Caroline Chisholm College.

The 5 Transformations will build on the excellent learning already happening at the college, and are based on our best understanding of the educational, social and spiritual needs of girls in Western Sydney. The transformations will provide the tools, capabilities and values to allow our students to flourish, and position Caroline Chisholm College as a leader in the field of education.

In our next instalment of the 5 transformations, I will share our understanding of the local and global context that demands so much of our young people.

Please join with me in praying for the work of the college as we face these transformations with faith, courage and trust in God's providence.

Loving God,  
You told the apostles to push out into the deep.  
Grant us courage as we build a future for our students and our college.  
Bless our teachers with the energy and hope to devote their creative energy to our students.  
Bless our parents with the knowledge that all we do is for the care and flourishing of our students.  
Bless our students with hope and deep trust in your love for them.

**Mr Greg Elliott**  
**Principal**

### DIARY DATES

**Year 7 Items, Year 8 Items, Year 9 Items, Year 10 Items, Year 11 Items and Year 12 Items, Whole School Items**

Tues 27 Feb	Year 8 Medieval Incursion	Thurs 8 Mar	Year 10 Stitches & Craft Show
Wed 28 Feb	Year DAT IKEA Excursion		Public Speaking - Zone
	Triathlon Championships	Mon 12 Mar	Open Night for 2019 Enrolment
Thurs 1 Mar	Triathlon Championships	Wed 14 Mar	Year 11 Agriculture Excursion
Fri 2 Mar	Year 10 Vietnam Veterans Presentation		Year 9 The Great Big Science Show
	Public Speaking Round 1	Thurs 15 Mar	Year 12 English Studies - Taronga Zoo
Tues 6 Mar	Year 10 & 11 Study Skills Session	Fri 16 Mar	Year 9 Agriculture Camden Show
Wed 7 Mar	Year 7 Symphony Orchestra Excursion		Public Speaking Final



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

### College Service Hours

Service hours for college activities are noted on the semester report. Each semester we are pleased to acknowledge the exceptional service to the college of many of our students, some with extraordinary hours of service. From time to time, students ask if they can have service to outside organisations (or primary schools) noted on their school reports. While we applaud students' volunteering in any capacity, we do not feel the place to acknowledge this is on the college report. The college report records and acknowledges service to the college or an activity conducted through the college (such as the St Vincent de Paul (Christmas Hamper Appeal). It would be more appropriate for the outside organisation to organise its own recognition of the volunteer work.

### Personal Fundraising

At Caroline Chisholm College, we have a strong focus on social justice and raising the consciousness of students to those in less fortunate situations. However, there is a limit to the amount of fundraising we can reasonably ask the college community to participate in. As a college, we have decided on priorities for fundraising over the whole year. In Lent our particular focus is raising money for Caritas projects. Throughout the rest of the year, the six house groups have allocated weeks to raise money and educate students about their particular charitable causes. Each year we have many requests from organisations and students to raise money for other causes. While they are very worthwhile, we have a general policy of not allowing fundraising other than for those causes officially supported by the college.

However, we do have a policy which supports individual students' commitments to causes which are compatible with our ethos as a Catholic school and to which they would have some strong personal connection. Consequently, if students wish to undertake individual fundraising, they would need to apply in writing to **Mr Elliott, Mrs Scollard** or myself, outlining the reason for the fundraising, the nature of the fundraising and the duration of the fundraising. In practice, I would expect this type personal fundraising for a charity to occur in the college for no more than one week. It would also be something undertaken by the individual students or their friends, for example, selling cakes. We would not, for example, run a whole-school mufti day for an individual student's cause. There would also need to be an educational component whereby the student used the occasion to inform students about the nature of the cause which is being supported. We would also need to take into account how many individual fundraising efforts were happening at a particular time. In particular, we would need to avoid clashes with official fundraising times for Caritas (in Lent) and the House initiatives, at various times in the year. It should be noted that personal fundraising would only be approved for a charitable cause, not, for example, for a dance school, sporting team or similar thing.

### Doing the Right Thing

Congratulations to **Shanelka Perera** (7 Kenny), **Courtney Hamilton** (8 Gilmore), **Rosemary Edgar** (8 Jackson) and **Christine Muscat** (9 Gilmore). They have been selected to receive a \$5 canteen voucher for college service.

### Appreciation of Honesty

Students at Caroline Chisholm College regularly display outstanding honesty in returning items they find on the college grounds. Often these can be of quite substantial value. Students handing in found items receive a certificate of appreciation. I would like to congratulate the following students who have handing items in over the last fortnight: **Chloe Barnes** (7 Gilmore), **Shanelka Perera** (7 Kenny), **Chloe Gill** (7 Wright), **Gabrielle Xinos** (7 Wright), **Elise Barbara** (8 Jackson), **Rosemary Edgar** (8 Jackson), **Jade Ronald** (8 Jackson), **Hayley Wacker** (9 Wright), **Abrielle Hooker** (10 Gilmore), **Jade Ellison** (11 Wright),

*Mr Greg King - Assistant Principal*

#parentsmatter



### TERM 1 2018 PRC MEETING & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We're pleased to confirm details of our Term 1 Meeting on Monday 5 March 2018.

#### Details are:

**Speaker:** Mrs Danielle Cronin, Chief Governance & Strategy - Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

**Time:** 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

**Where:** Patrician Brothers College, [100 Flushcombe Rd Blacktown](#)

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

This is a link to the online registration form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/bzqk63Sr4HfDnhKk1>



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL (LEARNING AND TEACHING)

### LEARNING IS HARD!

This year the College has introduced the metaphor of the learning journey – it is being used explicitly with the Year 7 students but it is highly relevant to all students. The metaphor of the learning journey reminds us that learning is a process, a journey. This journey involves a lot of preparation and planning. It also involves a hard climb up a steep mountain. The climb reminds us all that learning is hard ... it is painful ... it is a struggle. It involves hard work and challenge.

Sometimes at school, students will wonder if they can make it and the difficulties and the questions will overwhelm them and they will feel like giving up, sitting down – perhaps even sliding back down the mountain to safety.

But as the metaphor of the learning journey reminds us, this is **NORMAL!** Learning is hard – and everyone will make mistakes and get things wrong. But that's what learning is!

If students come to school already knowing all the answers, if they can already do all of the tasks, if their answers are already perfect ... then we are probably wasting each others' time! Despite what you may think, teachers love it when their students don't know the answer and love it when their work isn't yet perfect – because that allows us to **TEACH** them something new. If the girls always know the answer, then there is nothing we can teach them. If the climb is not painful and challenging, then they will never learn anything new or master any new skills – they will not grow as a learner.

Be reassured that even if the girls don't know the answers, even if they don't think they can master a topic or a subject, the teachers know how to help – **the teachers WILL help**. The teachers at Caroline Chisholm are excellent! They are passionate educators who know how to help every student succeed.

The aim of the learning journey is to keep climbing – to acknowledge the difficulties and the confusion ... and then **keep going**. Students should be encouraged to embrace the learning journey, knowing that the climb will be hard, but knowing that they can and will succeed. Hard work leads to real success and a great sense of achievement and pride.

## ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### Year 7, 8 and 9 Assessment Plans

The Year 7, 8 and 9 Assessment Plans have now been published on our college website. They are designed to provide students and parents with information to assist their understanding of assessment and reporting approaches for Year 7, 8 and 9.

Learning across Years 7, 8 and 9 is ongoing and incorporates a range of class activities and tasks used to assess student knowledge and skills. Assessment of this learning contributes to the grades allocated to students in the reporting period.

Key elements of Year 7, 8 and 9 assessment include:

- Student performance expressed as A-E grades
- All tasks, activities and homework can potentially be assessed to gauge student performance
- Students continually have the opportunity to improve their grades
- A common task will occur each term or semester according to the subject.

This approach to learning and assessment places students at the centre of the assessment process. It allows them to receive feedback and advice throughout their learning that will aid them in future tasks. It promotes an environment where students have a greater understanding of how to develop their skills and knowledge. Academic achievement is best served by a growth mindset; this growth mindset is at the centre of our approach to learning at the College. Students who see their learning as ongoing challenges and view failures as learning opportunities are better placed to increase their achievement. Ongoing feedback, and the chance to act on it, allows students develop a growth mindset rather than remain fixed in their attitude towards their learning.



## Year 10-12 Assessment Handbooks and Calendars

All Year 10-12 Assessment Handbooks and Calendars are now available on the college website. The handbooks contain important information about our Year 10-12 Assessment Policy and the Procedures and information about what students need to do if they are absent on the day of a formal assessment task. All students should take the time to read the assessment information and should create a personal assessment plan for this year. Plotting assessments on a calendar will help students to stay organised and will give them a sense of control over their own learning.

*Mrs Deborah Scollard - Assistant Principal*

## “ONSTAGE” SHOWCASE OF EXEMPLARY DRAMA WORKS FROM THE 2017 HSC

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February the Year 11 and Year 12 Drama students travelled to the Seymour Centre for an evening of theatre. This was an invaluable experience for senior Drama students as it provided them with an understanding of the standard of the exemplary performances required for the Drama HSC. Students were also able to view the exemplary Design and Critical Analysis Individual Projects including Costume Design and Director's Folio. The students came back to school inspired and excited about their own works this year and ahead in 2018.



*Mrs Sara Lemaire – Drama Teacher*

## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

It's been a busy start to the year, with the Library literally being the coolest place in the school this summer. Many students have joined us to catch up on work, research, study or work together and simply to enjoy the comfortable environment and take time to read.



Congratulations to the 26 students who chose to be involved in the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge – **Haylee Vella, Shaylan Whatman, Grace Wood, Chloe Young, Gourvika Kumar, Lily Marmont, Georgia Mayor, Isabella Meekings, Carla Penza, Jesse**

**Penza, Emily Radisavljevic, Lara Roser, Azahlia Stevenson, Hira Tayyab, Aaliyah Turner, Chloe Turner, Louise Armstrong, Lauren Betts, Nilisha Buksh, Emily Farrell, Kirsten Gearin, Courtney Hamilton, Abrielle Hooker, Navsumet Kaur, Taranpreet Kaur** and particularly to **Christine Muscat** who was chosen as a winner! Christine will receive her iPad mini at a special presentation afternoon tea in Parramatta with **Mr Whitby** and **Mr Elliott**. All these girls will be recognised at our College assembly on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

It is time to get involved in this year's Premier's Reading Challenge (Years 7-9) and CCC Senior Reading Challenge (Years 10 - 12). Both commence at the beginning of March and all students will have received emails with details and to invite them to participate. Information is also available on the College eLibrary page [https://ceop.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en\\_GB/2198](https://ceop.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_GB/2198). Any questions on either challenge can be directed to Library staff in person or by email to me at [tokeeffe@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:tokeeffe@parra.catholic.edu.au)



Happy reading!

*Mrs Teresa O'Keefe - (Teacher / Librarian)*



## WELCOME MIRI AND TOMOKO

We are very excited to welcome our first term exchange students, Miri Ashino and Tomoko Hasegawa, from our sister school, Tokyo Junshin Catholic Girls High School.

Miri is being hosted by the family of Ammaleah and Montayah Astruc and Tomoko is being hosted by the family of Talira Smith. We are very grateful to both families for their generosity in taking the girls into their lives and families.



*Tomoko and Miri with our Year 12 Japanese class*

Miri and Tomoko have joined our College for eight weeks and are attending Year 10 classes. They have been enjoying a variety of lessons, getting to know new friends, improving their English and also helping out in Japanese classes. Tomoko is particularly enjoying Science and PDHPE, while Miri is enjoying Science and Japanese. The girls like finishing school on Fridays, knowing they do not have to go to school on Saturday!

Miri thinks it's funny how Chisholm students will break into dance whenever they hear music. Meanwhile, Tomoko is enjoying living in a large home in Glenmore Park and walking just two minutes to school – a big change from her two hour (one way!) commute from her family's apartment in Tokyo to school.

*Mrs Wendy Merriman - Leader of Learning LOTE*

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - CONGRATULATIONS JESSICA LIBRERI YEAR 10

### JESSICA LIBRERI TAKES ON AUSTRALIAN NATIONALS

**Jessica Libreri** began kayaking in October 2016 and has participated in numerous competitions. She has a very strong passion for her sport. Jessica trains five days a week, including two hours each session of kayaking and three days of gym work. Mid last year Jessica was asked to compete at the Australian Nationals on the 4th to 7th of January 2018 representing NSW.

From the 8th of January to the 12th of January 2018, Jess also represented the NSW side in the Open Ages Australian Nationals. Both these events were held in the small town of Eildon, Victoria, and there were hundreds of competitors across all ages. Jessica had the privilege to get this opportunity, as not many people get selected to race at these kind of events. She also took part in the race against all the Olympians and other Australian representatives. Jessica received the best advice for techniques and course constructions from these athletes.



Jess came back home to Sydney with three silver medals for NSW, (2nd in K1W teams U16, 2nd in C1w U18 and C2W U18). While she was at the event she was interviewed by 9 News of Melbourne and other media organisations. Jess has appeared in the Penrith Press where her achievements have been shared with the local community.



## ENCORE

An excursion to the HSC "ENCORE" concert was organised on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February for students taking Elective Music in Years 11 and 12 and a number of selected students from Year 10 Music.

"ENCORE" is a program of outstanding performances and compositions by students from the 2017 HSC Music examinations. It is held annually in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House.

This concert gave our students an insight into the standards for exemplar performances and composition in the HSC Music 1, Music 2 and Music Extension courses. The students gained inspiration for their major works in performance and composition, as well as musicology. It has enabled them to have a deeper appreciation and understanding of the time, effort and dedication it takes to achieve the high standards of musical works displayed at the concert.

The Music Department would like to express our gratitude to **Mrs Karen King** and **Mrs Sara Lemaire** for their additional support and guidance by accompanying our students to and from the concert at the Sydney Opera House.

*Mrs Christine Lewis - Creative Arts Teacher*





# *Distinguished Achievers' Assembly*





# YOU ARE INVITED

Caroline Chisholm  
COLLEGE



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## 2019 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open night: Monday 12th March 2018 (5:30 - 7:30pm)

Tours of the college 5:30 - 7:30

Principal's information sessions  
6pm & 7pm

Further information can be obtained on our  
website [www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au)



90 - 98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park

Enrolment packages can be obtained at the college on the night  
**4737 5500**



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catherine.waerner  
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