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6 November 2018

REFLECTION



FROM THE PRINCIPAL Mr Warren Bath



By the time our next newsletter arrives our Seniors will have graduated from Seton College. With less than two weeks before their time at the College is over, I encourage them to cherish every moment and ask you to keep them in your prayers as they make the most significant transition of their young lives. The 2018 Seniors are a beautiful

cohort, so well-loved at the College, and we hold them very close as they prepare to take their first real steps as young adults into the future. They will be greatly missed.

The wonderful feeling of momentum and spirit continues at Seton College, with our smash hit "Grease" bringing the house down at the Seton Expo followed not a week later with a fantastic show of support by your community at our Inaugural Awards Evening. With more than 400 people at both events the Leadership Group and I are delighted by these recent successes: your engagement and feedback are a clear sign that the doors of reciprocation must always be open with our valued community because it is only in this spirit of collaboration that your children – our students – can achieve their personal best. Both events should inspire us all – educators, families and carers, students - to keep improving, keep engaging, and keep working together.

Brilliance and joy are just two words that spring to mind when I reflect on these recent events. We have so much to celebrate. Our students are highly capable. They endeavour. They accept the mantle of what is expected and hoped for them as young learners. And everything they undertake at Seton College is learning: teamwork, focus, discipline, commitment, respect for self and others, and the value of application and good old hard work! Expo, Grease, and the Awards Evening remind them that their efforts are valued and valuable and are building blocks towards becoming true contributors in the real world.

Special thanks to Mrs Helen McNamara, Mrs Anna Weir, Miss Karen Chandler, Mrs Caroline Sarra and to our members of the Community Engagement and Consultative Committee (CECC) for their invaluable support with these terrific events.

My best wishes to our Seniors for this very last phase of their schooling. I look forward to celebrating your Graduation on the 15th and to sharing my thoughts and hopes further with you on that very special night.

Seton College - Priority Support External Review

On November 19, 20 and 21 a Priority Support External Review will be conducted at Seton College. The review will be conducted by a four-person panel of experienced educators. The panel will use their visit to deepen their understanding of the information provided and source further evidence. This will involve in-depth conversations with school and community representatives and observing school activities, including classes in action.

The purpose of this external school review is to provide the school with independent feedback about how the school is progressing in its improvement journey. The external school review will provide a unique opportunity for representatives from the school community to engage in strategic conversations about school improvement with a panel of educators.

The external school review is designed to intrude as little as possible into the normal day-to-day operations of the school, in the period leading up to and during the actual review.

At the conclusion of the review, the panel will then work with the school community to develop the school review report. Moving forward, this report will inform the development of a Strategic Renewal Plan and School Improvement Plan at the College.

Over the coming week, we will be contacting several members of our College community to be involved in the review. If you would like to be involved in providing the panel with feedback about your experiences at the College and have availability to meet with the panel for approximately an hour on the morning of Tuesday 20 November, please email Claire Fitzsimon cfitzsimon@bne.catholic.edu.au to register your interest.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Mrs Helen McNamara



Dear Parents and Carers

I want to express how wonderful it was to work with such an amazing group of staff and students to produce the recent Inaugural Awards Night. We would like to thank the entire community for the support of this inaugural event that showcased student successes in 2018.

The students were so professional and easy to work with in their practice sessions and on the evening. They looked amazing as they confidently accepted their various awards and struck their poses for the professional photography. For those who could not attend, the Awards recognised those who have applied themselves along with academic excellence. It is worth noting that students who do their best no matter what their best might be can be recognised in next year's Celebration of Success.

I think that it is apt that I share with the entire community the address filmed by Sister Marie Cantwell DC for the night. Sister Marie was the Principal of Seton College between 1976-1981 and again in 1987- 1994. Marie was invited to make the Keynote Address and was disappointed not to be able to attend due to a previous engagement. We were however able to film the following clip. We understand the importance of maintaining connections with the Daughters of Charity who along with Father Dennis Power built Seton College up from the foundations and whose legacy is deeply honoured. I thank her for taking the time to make this recording. I hope that you enjoy it!

Click here to watch Sr Marie Cantwell's Speech

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYktkanRxuk

We wish all the Senior Students a special Graduation evening on Thursday 15 November.

UNIFORM

A reminder that students still have a number of weeks of school left and they need to be respectful of the way in which they wear

the school uniform. A particular focus on correct footwear and school socks would be appreciated.

LAST WEEK FOR SENIORS

Monday 12 November: Normal school day and clean up

Tuesday 13 November: Dreamworld ExcursionWednesday14November:Year11& 12WorkExperience

Thursday 15 November:

- Year 12 Reflection Day at the College Red Frogs, Head Space and a Motivational Speaker. Graduation practice Periods 5 & 6.
- Year 11 Leadership Day.
- Year 12 Graduation at the Dormition of Our Lady Community Centre, Greek Orthodox Church, 269 Creek Road, Mt Gravatt at 6.30pm sharp.

Friday 16 November: Final Assembly begins at 9.15am. All Welcome.

I hope everyone is early to bed and resting up, ready for the last days of the school year!

Helen McNamara

FROM THE APRE Mr Joe Tracey



When we celebrate Remembrance Day, at churches at schools and at cenotaphs across this wonderful land, we remember that others laid down their lives so that we might be able to live with the freedom that we now enjoy. But the price was steep. There are some who have in recent years questioned whether we should continue

these ceremonies of remembrance. After all, there are not too many veterans left from the first Great War and we are gradually losing to the aging process those who fought in the Second Great War. The questions seem to ease when we become aware of the loss of life in countries like Afghanistan. This is the centenary of the end of the 'War to End All Wars'. We must always remember: Lest We Forget.

JINGLE BELLS! JINGLE BELLS! THE SHOPS ARE FULL OF CHRISTMAS STUFF. EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK. WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT TIME.

HOWEVER, MANY FAMILIES WILL ACTUALLY STRUGGLE TO HAVE A CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR. PARENTS OUT OF WORK, THE BILLS TO PAY GETTING HARDER, CHILDREN UNABLE TO HAVE A DECENT MEAL.

WE CAN HELP THEM YOU KNOW!!!

OUR ST VINNIE'S HAMPER APPEAL HAS BEGUN. BRING TINNED FOOD, TOILETRIES, PACKETS OF SOUP OR CAKE MIX, ANYTHING YOU THINK WILL HELP A FAMILY. PLEASE CHECK THE DATE!!! NO FOOD THAT IS OUT OF DATE PLEASE.

EACH PASTORAL CARE CLASS HAS BEEN GIVEN A 'FAMILY' TO BUY FOR. LET'S MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS OF

2018 THE BEST WE CAN FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OTHERS.

THANK YOU.



Joe Tracey

FROM THE APA Miss Karen Chandler



Consistency of Teacher Judgement (CTJ)

On the recent pupil free day, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) district panels across the state met to review and confirm interim placement of Year 12 students based on their achievements in Authority subjects.

Thank you to Mr Paul Devlin and Mrs Suellen Conroy for your work in preparing student work for submission to the district panel.

On campus, our teaching staff participated in a professional development day. The ongoing process of planning learning and teaching cycles, engaging with the curriculum and assessing student work builds teacher capacity. Strategies allowed for implementing the Australian Curriculum and Excellent Learning and Teaching. The CTJ day was twofold: a focus on preparation for changes to the Queensland Certificate of Education commencing in 2019 for Year 11 students and to use student data to develop the Term 4 monitoring tool writing analysis tasks for Year 7 – 10 students.

Outlines of Learning

Proposed Outlines of Learning for each class is available on the Microsoft Teams site. These outlines are designed to give students, parents and carers clear understanding of what students will be learning and what students need to demonstrate in order to be successful. Classroom teachers have communicated these outlines and subsequent assessment to families via email. Continual dialogue between home and school is essential. If there is a particular outline of learning you are yet to receive, please visit the relevant Teams site, or make contact with the classroom teacher. Assessment calendars are also available via the student portal and should be recorded in student diaries.

2019 Booklists

Last week you received an email outlining Booklists for 2019. The supplier, Sequel, has created two videos to watch on either their Facebook page or website that follows the registration process. Please note: **online orders are due by 11th November.**

See the below links to the registration videos:

https://sequelbooks.com/general-information/overview/50/

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SequelBooks/videos/

Remarkable moments

Around the College recently: Year 8 Textiles, Year 9 Design and Technologies, Year 11 Maths A and Year 11 Certificate I Agrifood Operations.



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

The First Images from our Inaugural Awards Evening



It's no secret to any of us that Seton College students are highly capable of really wonderful results, and the momentous events of Term 4 afforded us the opportunity to join together in recognition of the fruits of effort, so much talent, and a community that is inspired by love, work, and a common goal: the best for each child. There is so much inspiration to be found at our College!

Some Spectacular Moments from Grease



As Seen at Expo



Have you connected with our Facebook page? You will notice a change to our look and to the interaction between the College and our members: as close to real-time engagement that can be attained so that our dialogue can be current, like a conversation.

And what are your thoughts concerning our new electronic billboard? A few technical ticks in that machine are sorted and we are delighted with the images! Take a moment to enjoy those bright smiling faces and absorb the messages they portray: friendships and connections, student leadership, listening to students, readiness for the future. These messages underscore our marketing slogan that Seton College is <u>So</u> <u>Much More</u>.

Our long-awaited new website is very close to delivery. Final touches are underway and the edits from our video shoot over a number of days this term are keenly awaited. Our student video stars performed brilliantly on and off camera during this project which has been challenged earlier in the term by wet weather and, more recently, by the heat, and indeed the real-life tedium of filming! There is a lot of "hurry up and wait" on a film shoot and for all the perceived excitement of being involved, behind-the-scenes demands great patience and a buoyancy of spirit that our students demonstrated in spades. They were the consummate professionals!

Behind the Scenes at our Video Shoot



POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS Support Network and Social Group

Wednesday 21 November, 2-3 pm

There's an old saying that 'it takes a village to raise a child'.



Rarely is this more apparent than in the support of school-aged children on the autism spectrum and their families. The notion of strength in families and communities is what Positive Partnerships is all about. (From the Positive Partnerships Website.)

Seton College would like to invite you to a Support Network and Social Group for parents and carers raising young people with Autism on Wednesday 21 November in the Mother Seton Chapel at the college from 2pm – 3pm.

This engagement session aims to connect parents, carers and College staff by providing a community of support and an opportunity to socialise. It will also involve a short information session that focuses on the material delivered as part of Positive Partnerships – ASPECT (Autism Spectrum Australia).

The following topics have been planned for the event:

- Relationships;
- Resources for social stories;
- Teaching students with ASD about diversity and understanding differences.

An email will be sent shortly from SMTE Mount Gravatt with the subject "Positive Partnership Event". For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday 16 November via the link contained within that email.

Visit the Positive Partnerships Website

http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/

The Positive Partnerships website is an invaluable, well-produced store of information for parents and carers of children with autism. A series of regular webinars are featured on this website, with the next live webinar, on Wellbeing and Resilience, occurring on Tuesday 13 November, 12pm AEDST. Visitors can also access an archive of webinars on topics such as transitioning, sensory processing, friendships, sexuality, health and hygiene, and technology use.

Resources available on the website also support topics that will be discussed at Seton College's Positive Parenting Event of November 21. The "Whole School Approach" to education is particularly pertinent to our parents and carers, and reflective of the teaching and learning strategies in place at the College. Relationship building for the child with autism and, indeed, for parents, carers, siblings and other family members is an issue very much at the heart of all those concerned. Working together, sharing tips and experiences, fighting isolation and learning to provide or access specific support for all involved is key to developing and maintaining a model within your family that best negotiates the complex dynamics of autism.