

St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead

BE SAFE, BE A LEARNER, BE RESPECTFUL

Newsletter 2.24

Friday 16 February 2024



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members

As we embark on the sacred journey of Lent, we are reminded of the profound significance of this period in the Catholic tradition. Lent is a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal, during which we walk alongside Jesus Christ on his path to Calvary. It is a season of introspection and spiritual growth, where we are called to examine our lives, deepen our relationship with God, and cultivate a spirit of selflessness and service. As members of the Catholic school community, we embrace the Lenten season as an opportunity to embody the values of compassion, sacrifice, and love that Jesus exemplified throughout his ministry. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity, we strive to emulate Christ's teachings and heed our call to serve others with humility and generosity. Together, let us journey through Lent with open hearts and minds, seeking to embody the light of Christ in all that we do.

Last week we had the pleasure of hosting the Catholic Schools Office HSC and RoSA High Achievers Assembly. **Ms. Jacqueline Wilkinson**, Assistant Head of Schools, CSO, presented the awards on behalf of the Diocesan Leadership Team. As the new principal it was wonderful to have such a large representation of future leaders attend. The outstanding achievements of these students is testimony to their commitment to learning and the supportive staff at the College.

On Tuesday 6 February, St Mary's had the honour of receiving two staff awards at the Catholic Schools Opening Mass, 'Called to Serve'. Each year, staff from the Maitland Newcastle Catholic Schools come together at Sacred Heart Cathedral to open the school year with Mass. Prior to the Mass, a small number of highly prestigious awards are given to individual staff or schools.

Both **Ms. Katrina Brennan** and **Ms. Nicole Abel** received an award for 25 years of distinguished service to Catholic Schools. Ms. Brennan is the Year 10 Leader of Wellbeing Engagement and English teacher, and Ms. Abel is Technologies teacher. Both ladies are highly respected and valued for their contributions to the College.

Please refer below to my letter of welcome to new parents and carers on 6 March. I look forward to getting to meet our families on this evening and see this as a marvellous opportunity to collaborate on the future of our College.

Blessings

Brett Donohoe
Principal





ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
GATESHEAD

14 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to extend a warm invitation to you to attend a special Parent and Carer Information Evening at St. Mary's Catholic College. This gathering presents an invaluable opportunity for us to come together as a community and collaborate on the future of our College.

As your new College principal, I look forward to listening to your insights, ideas, and aspirations for St. Mary's as we strive to empower every student to reach their full potential. Your presence and contributions will begin the process of gathering key information to support us in building upon the remarkable progress already achieved and help shape the direction and priorities of our school into the future.

Details of the evening are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, 6th March
Time: 6:00pm – 7:00pm (tea and coffee will be available starting at 5:45pm)
Location: St. Mary's Catholic College Cafeteria

Should you be able to attend please email Debbie Carter Debbie.carter@mn.catholic.edu.au by Monday 4 March as this will assist the College in catering.

I sincerely hope that you can attend this meeting. It will be a great way to get to know you, build community and ensure our time together at St Mary's gets off to a great start.

Yours Sincerely,

Brett Donohoe
Principal

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Principal:		Brett Donohoe		Ministry Coordinator:		DeAnna Addicoat	
Assistant Principal Learning and Teaching:		Cathy O’Gorman		Admin Coordinator:		Rebecca Morrice	
Assistant Principal Wellbeing:		Benjamin Frize		Admin Coordinator:		Rebecca Morrice	
LEADERS OF LEARNING:				LEADERS OF WELLBEING:			
Religious Studies:		Elizabeth Quinlan		Year 7:		Sharon Smith	
English:		Georgina Lindsay		Year 8:		Maryanne Murray	
Mathematics:		Tania Eastcott		Year 9:		Ruth McCrae	
Science:		Michelle Lund		Year 10:		Katrina Brennan	
HSIE:		Belinda Flood		Year 11:		Daniel Beckett	
Creative Arts/LOTE:		Morag Aitchison		Year 12:		Gerard Cushan	
PDHPE:		Stephen Burns		School Counsellors:		Amanda Pilley	
TAS:		Clint Crispin		Learning Support Coordinator:		Alex Kenny	
Sport:		Annette Morgan		Learning Support Coordinator:		Chris Stevens	
LEARNING TECHNOLOGY:		Shane Abell		“BEYOND THE GATE” PASTORAL SUPPORT:		Joanne Relf	
CAREERS ADVISOR & VET COORDINATOR:		Paula Finlay		GIFTED EDUCATION MENTOR:		Louise Henderson	
SPC/JUNIOR VINNIES COORDINATORS:		Louise Henderson Louse Hatcher		PEDAGOGICAL MENTOR:		Tracy Carpenter	
FACULTIES:							
RELIGIOUS STUDIES:		ENGLISH:		MATHEMATICS:		SCIENCE:	
Elizabeth Quinlan		Georgina Lindsay		Tania Eastcott		Michelle Lund	
DeAnna Addicoat Joanne Meagher		Elisa Milajew		Sharon Smith		Rebecca Morrice	
Ruth McCrae David Luschwitz		Tracy Carpenter		Kieren Knight		Katrina Piper/Amy Lavis	
Louise Henderson Elisa Milajew		Gemma Hughes		Kerri Hogan		Anna Matthews/	
Karennna Andrews Wayne Caruana		Renaë Turvey		Alicia Lang		Tracey Flack	
Elizabeth Savovski		Katrina Brennan		Benjamin Frize		Shaun O’Regan	
Kyle Clarence		Gabrielle Turnbull		Gerard Cushan		Gerard Cushan	
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION:		Emma Grealy		John Hepworth		John Adams	
Paul McKay		Maria Griffen		Prue Owen/Michelle Manditch		Leah McGovern	
Richard Faulkner		David Luschwitz		Cologne Lane			
		Celia Kemeny		Penny Cook			
				Christina Hookway			
HSIE:		CREATIVE ARTS/LOTE:		PDHPE:		VET:	
Belinda Flood		Morag Aitchison		Stephen Burns		Paula Finlay	
Maryanne Murray		Martin Speirs		Annette Morgan		Fiona Edwards	
Natasha Convery		Ruth McCrae		Daniel Beckett		Vanessa Dews	
Joanne Meagher		Louise Hatcher		Jade Williams		Kristopher Eames	
Paula Finlay		Carol Paterson		Brittany Avery (Compass)		Clint Crispin	
Karennna Andrews		Cathy O’Gorman		Jacqui McInherny		Renaë Turvey	
Tarryn Wilson (WHS)		Gabrielle Turnbull		Melanie Schultz			
Daniel Houston		Adele Weekes		Anne-Maree Artis			
Vanessa Dews		Elizabeth Marsh					
Daniel Matzen							
Kyle Clarence							
Nikki Lorenz							
Rosemary Laughton							
		TEACHER/LIBRARIAN:		LIBRARIAN ASSISTANT:			
		Ros Dunn		Melissa Watt			
LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS:		PRINCIPAL’S SECRETARY:		RECEPTION:		STUDENT SERVICES:	
Janice Lawrence		Debbie Carter		Lola Romanelli		Zora Velich	
Charisse Bekens		FINANCE:		Petty Sofianos		Stephanie Leard	
Jenni Whitehead		Helen See		Kayla Bevan		Jodie Warburton	
Gemma Thorpe		April Bisegna		Annette Ryan			
Michelle Bergin		IT:		FOOD TECH/HOSPITALITY ASSISTANTS:		CANTEEN:	
Nicole Brinkworth		Jonathan Tickle		Christine Shaw		Deb Tserepas	
Heaton Quick		Rod Allan		Michelle Russell		Fiona Fowler	
Lisa Turner				Maisie Harrison		Nicole Suprano	
GROUNDSMEN:		SCIENCE LAB ASSISTANTS:				ON LEAVE:	
Steve Howlett		Sharon Butler				Phil Dollisson (to 01.25)	
Ian Lucietto		Christine Kearns				Prue Owen (to 07.24)	
Michael Rush						Helen See (Term 1)	

Introducing..... Our new staff members



L to R:

Top: Wayne Caruana (RE), Brett Donohoe (Principal), Maisie Harrison (Food Tech Asst), Celia Kemeny (English)

Middle: Alex Kenny (Counsellor), Michelle Lund (Science), Lil Marsh (Music), Heaton Quick (LSA)

Bottom: Annette Ryan (Admin Reception), Chris Stevens (Learning Support), Nicole Suprano (Cafeteria), Lisa Turner (LSA)

Ministry

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, preparing us for Easter, the most important time in the Church's calendar. The marking of the ashes on our foreheads or on our palms on this day is a public expression of our faith and humility. It is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

St Mary's Catholic College community shared an intimate Ash Wednesday liturgy, allowing students to be involved in the readings and running the ceremony. It was a meaningful start to the season of lent.

Ashes were distributed, with many students and staff reverently receiving the placement of ashes into their foreheads or palms—a reminder to all of us of the Lenten promises we will make in our own lives.

Lent is the time of year that we are reminded of those vulnerable communities who do not have access to the basic needs of human life. As part of our almsgiving promise, St Mary's bands together to raise money for Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Project Compassion is very close to our hearts, and we would love your help to reach our fundraising target! Your generosity makes a huge difference to the lives of those less fortunate – thank you!

Caritas Australia uses education, humanitarian aid, and development work to help people become agents of their own change.

At St Mary's

We pledge to be a community

Living the Truth,

Leading with Courage,

Learning for Life.

We will strive to Lead,

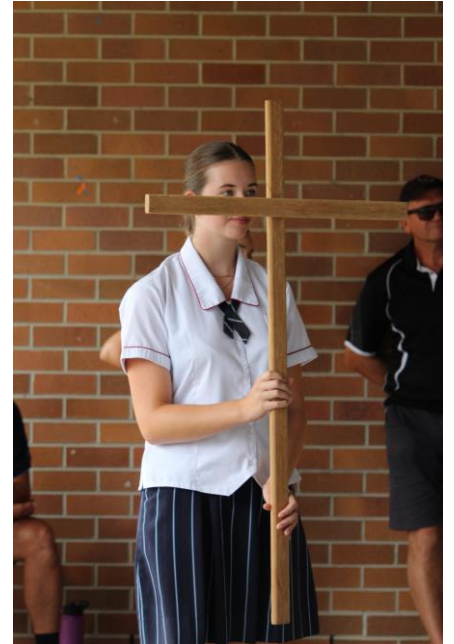
In the spirit of Christ,

By being Ready to Serve.

DeAnna Addicoat
Ministry Coordinator



Ash Wednesday Liturgy 2024



An invitation to Year 12 Parents & Carers, HSC & ATAR Information Evening Monday 26 February 7pm The Josephite Centre



Assistant Principal – Learning & Teaching

Welcome back for 2024!

As we commence the academic year there are several items I would draw to the attention of students and families. Firstly, let's take a look at the success of our 2023 cohorts, followed by several matters relating to the upcoming academic year.

2023 Academic Awards Assembly

Our Academic Awards Ceremony, celebrating the achievements of students from the 2023 Academic Year, was held on Wednesday 7th February 2024. Joined by **Mrs Jacqui Wilkinson**, *Assistant Head of Primary Schools, CSO*; members of our HSC Class 2023: **Tia Pezet, Matilda Brown, Lily Quinn, Lachlan Macnamara, and Ava Knight**; and joined by family members and our senior students, we came together in The Josephite Centre to celebrate the successes of our 2023 Year 10 RoSA and HSC students. Please see below for a summary of results:

Diocesan Awards for 2023 RoSA

These awards are for students who completed Year 10 in 2023 and, therefore, became eligible for the Stage 5 RoSA Academic Achievement Award. The RoSA is a Record of School Achievement awarded by NESA, the NSW Education Standards Authority, to students of Year 10 once all Stage 5 Courses have been successfully completed. The Diocesan Award for RoSA is presented to those who students who attained 6 or 7 'A' Grades across their pattern of study in Year 10.

The recipients of the Diocesan Academic Achievement Awards for St Mary's Catholic College, Gateshead are:

Oliver	Beath
Tobin	Blackwell
Camila	Corredor-Marchesini
Kai	Dodds
Dylan	Dunkley
Victoria	Owen
Claire	Rayner-Howson

Acknowledgement of HSC 2023 High Achievers

The following students gained **First in Course** across the Diocese in the **2023 Higher School Certificate**:

Course Name		FIRST NAME	SURNAME
Biology		Ben	Dezelak
Studies of Religion 2 Unit	Equal First	Ben	Dezelak
Ancient History	Equal First	Ava	Knight
History Extension	Equal First	Ava	Knight
Community & Family Studies		Lachlan	Macnamara
Society and Culture		Tia	Pezet
Studies of Religion 1 Unit		Tia	Pezet
History Extension	Equal First	Lily	Quinn
Retail Services Examination		Sharlah	Ticehurst

ATAR Awards

Awarded to our 2023 HSC students who gained an ATAR of 90+ or above:

Bronte	Carrigan	97.45
Tia	Pezet	94.85
Matilda	Brown	94.85
Ben	Dezelak	93.7
Lily	Quinn	93.35
Lachlan	Macnamara	93.1
Greg	Fabrianov	91.4
Sharlah	Ticehurst	90.35

Diocesan Awards

Our final acknowledgement are the Diocesan Academic Awards for the following:

Award	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	ATAR
Studies of Religion II (Equal First)	Ben	Dezelak	93.7
Studies of Religion I	Tia	Pezet	94.85
Outstanding Academic Achievement	Bronte	Carrigan	97.45
Top In State - 1st Place in State for Community and Family Studies	Lachlan	Macnamara	93.1
Top In State - 1st Place in State for Retail Services Examination	Sharlah	Ticehurst	90.35

As a community, we congratulate all members of the HSC class for the resilience and determination they have displayed throughout the HSC, and it was a privilege to welcome them back to our community for the celebration.

At this time, I take this opportunity to extend a congratulations to all our 2023 HSC students. As a cohort, the HSC class of 2023, only our fifth at the College, achieved:

29 x Band 6s were achieved across multiple subjects including Biology, Business Studies, Community and Family Studies, Drama, Legal Studies, Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Standard, Mathematics Extension1 (E4), Music 1, PDHPE, Visual Arts, Retail Services, Society & Culture, Studies of Religion – 1unit and 2 Unit.

11 students were placed on the **2023 HSC Distinguished Achievers List**.

99 x Band 5s were also achieved by the cohort.

In addition to these excellent results the following achievements deserve recognition:

Kayla Penfold – Nomination for Art Express & Nomination & Inclusion in First Class Exhibition (which opened this weekend)

Bronte Carrigan – Nomination for OnStage (Drama)

Charlie Barnett – Nomination for InTech (IT Timber)

William Hooper – Nomination for InTech (IT Timber)

Congratulations to all students and staff at the College, who have supported one another across the last five years, particularly the three years of the pandemic, as we continue to develop our senior school community. The dedication and commitment of students, mentors, teachers, and support staff, to being the best we can be, is to be celebrated!

To Year 11 & 12 students, I remind you of our conversations. We have spoken of eating the elephant one bite at a time – taking small steps on a long journey. I encourage you to learn from the class of 2023 – work with your teachers, build trust and good relationships, small “bites” each day, and know that you have many people here, at St Mary's, who will support you on your journey.

To Year 10, I encourage you to aim for excellence this year – be inspired, not daunted, by those that have gone before you – and push yourselves to create your own story and achievements. We wish you every success for 2024!





SMCCG Senior Study Guidelines – Attention Year 11 and 12!

At St Mary's we are committed to providing quality study time to students when they are not in a timetabled class. Study Lessons are scheduled into the senior study space, classrooms and/or library. Students understand that this is time to be taken very seriously, and that they are to come to the sessions with clear study goals. Study Lessons provide a time for completing classwork, preparing study notes, working on major works where applicable, and meeting with mentors or peers for the purpose of learning.

The following norms were agreed upon by staff and students, and are in line with the College Mantra – ***Be Safe Be Respectful Be a Learner***

- Each student has the right to a quiet, respectful environment for learning
- Opportunities for individual and group study will be provided
- Groups are to remain respectful of others when collaborating on tasks
- Each student is a unique individual and has autonomy and choice in the way they choose to learn and study
- With rights comes responsibilities – including ownership/maintenance of the study environment

Student Rights

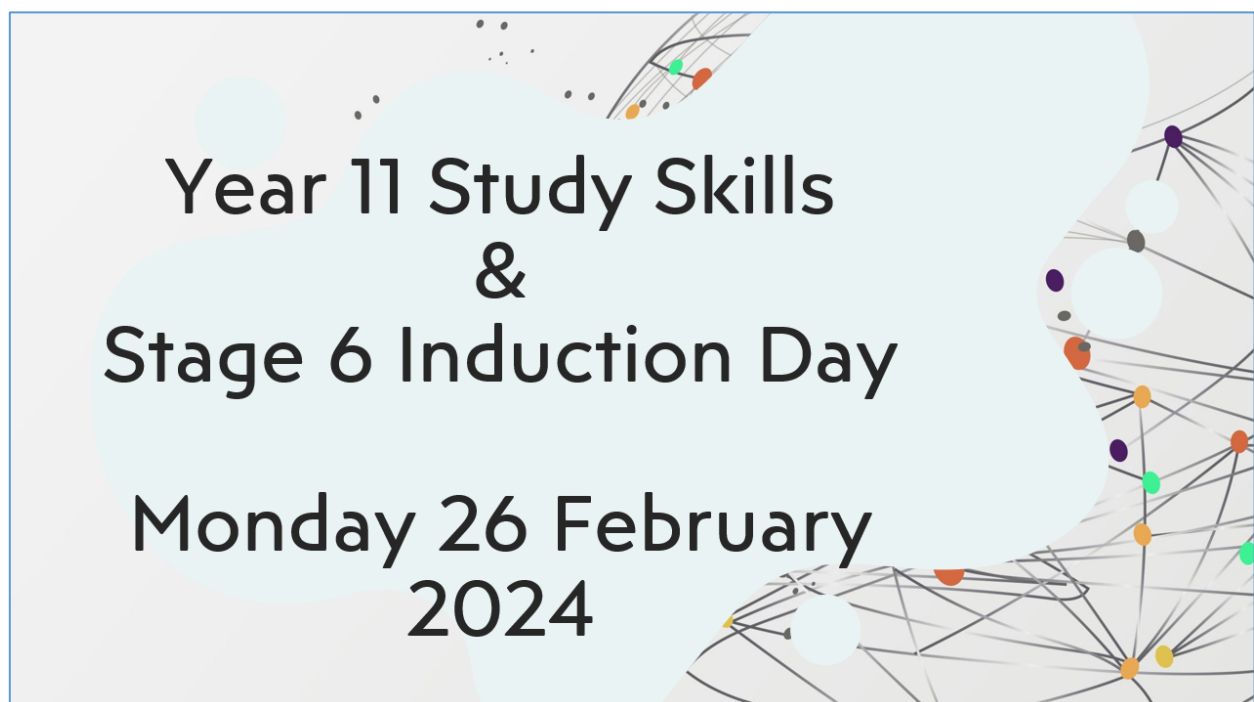
- Each student has the right to a quiet, respectful environment for learning
- Students may use earphones for listening to a video/online resource
- Students may have access to studying in an outdoor space (when timetabled in the senior study space)
- Students have the right to be autonomous in how they wish to use this time, so long as it is for the purposes of learning and/or wellbeing (eg mindfulness activity or Mentor-Mentee conference)

Student Responsibilities

- Students will arrive to the Study Period on time and ensure that they are marked present for the session.
- Students are responsible in maintaining work habits that align with the college mantra - *Be Safe Be Respectful Be a Learner*, showing respect for others by doing their part to create an atmosphere that supports learning.
- Students are responsible for cleaning and maintaining L7 senior study area
- Students are responsible for adherence to the Mobile Phone Policy.

Cathy O'Gorman

Assistant Principal – Learning & Teaching



Congratulations – Year 11 Major Award Winners



Congratulations extend to:

Holly Hayes - All-Rounder Award; Annabel Brown - Citizenship Award and Elleni Pedonese - Principal's Award

Assistant Principal - Wellbeing

School TV - Support for parents to start the school year



Support for parents to start the school year

SchoolTV has a range of relevant topics to support parents/carers at the start of the school year including:

School Transitions – which focuses on starting a new school, transition to high school as well as moving up a year. It also has a **Special Report** on Starting Year 7;

Friendship and Belonging – support for parents and how parents can support children and young people to navigate the ups and downs of friendships;

School Refusal – helping parents understand this complex situation and how to support their child/young person.

Each topic has short video clips with leading specialists, articles, fact sheets and resources.

Careers Corner

In my role as Careers Adviser, I can offer assistance and guidance throughout the year to Years 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents. Some general areas of support include:

- Resume Writing
- Interview Techniques
- Preparation for Casual/Part time work
- Study skills.
- HSC course selection, Tertiary study, Vocational Study and Career Pathways.

- **Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) -Year 11 and 12**

The links below takes students step by step through the UAC process of applying, ordering preferences, ATAR etc.

<https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/year-11-and-12-students>

Students are encouraged to read this information on more than one occasion, as, the more they become familiar, the better chance of understanding the process and the opportunities. Throughout the year, students will receive emails as reminders of upcoming events and resources from the Careers Office. Information sessions will also take place throughout the year during lunchtime, to minimise disruption to class time.

Throughout the year UAC update key events from institutions. Students can filter their search and register for webinars or be informed about Open Days. I encourage Year 11 and 12 students to subscribe to the UAC newsletter.

<https://www.uac.edu.au/key-dates>

UAC also provides resources to assist parents in guiding their young adult children in the planning stages of post school study: <https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/parents>

- **UCAT- Year 12**

The UCAT ANZ Consortium is the operating name of a group of universities in Australia and New Zealand who use the UCAT ANZ test for their **medical, dental and clinical sciences degree programmes**. The test helps universities to select applicants with the most appropriate abilities and professional behaviours required for new doctors and dentists to be successful in their clinical careers. It is used in collaboration with other admissions processes such as interviews and academic qualifications. <https://www.ucat.edu.au/about-ucat-anz/ucat-anz-test-cycle/>

Key Dates:

Bookings open	Tuesday 5 March 2024
BOOKINGS CLOSE	Friday 17 May 2024 at 11:59pm AEST
Late bookings close	Friday 31 May 2024 at 11:59pm AEST
Final booking deadline	Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 11:59pm AEST
Testing period	1 July - 9 August 2024

- **White Card – Years 10 and 11** (The *Work Health and Safety Induction Certificate Course*)

The *Work Health and Safety Induction Certificate Course* is offered to any Year 10 or 11 student who is interested; however, it is a **compulsory** course for any student wishing to participate in **work experience** in the Construction industry or any Year 11 student studying **VET Construction**. This one-day course will run at St. Mary's in Term 1.

Students will be asked to complete an expression of interest form, so we can confirm numbers. An information session about the course will occur next Wednesday 21st February, those interested students are expected to attend.

Ms Finlay
Careers Adviser

Mathematics at St Mary's 2024

Welcome to the new school year St Mary's students, parents and caregivers. As many students have noted this year, our Mathematics classes have been named after famous Mathematicians.

Classes for Years 7 to 10 labelled as:

MAT.T – is named after Terence **Tao**. He is an Australian mathematician, who was born and raised in Adelaide and by the age of 21 he received his PhD from Princeton University, USA. He is currently a professor of mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he holds the James and Carol Collins chair. In 2006, Tao was awarded a Fields Medal in 2006, which is acknowledged to being the "Nobel Prize of Mathematics".

MAT.A - Archimedes of Syracuse is considered the greatest mathematician of ancient history, and one of the greatest of all time. Archimedes anticipated modern calculus and analysis by applying the concept of the infinitely small and the method of exhaustion to derive and rigorously prove a range of geometrical theorems. These include the area of a circle, the surface area and volume of a sphere, the area of an ellipse, the area under a parabola, the volume of a segment of a paraboloid of revolution, the volume of a segment of a hyperboloid of revolution, and the area of a spiral.

MAT.F – Leonardo **Fibonacci**, was an Italian mathematician from the Republic of Pisa, considered to be "the most talented Western mathematician of the Middle Ages". One of his famous mathematical patterns is known as the Fibonacci sequence, where each number is the sum of the previous two numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, ...

MAT.G -Marie-Sophie **Germain** was a French mathematician, physicist, and philosopher. Her work on Fermat's Last Theorem provided a foundation for mathematicians exploring the subject for hundreds of years after.

MAT.H - Hypatia was a mathematician who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, then part of the Eastern Roman Empire. Not only was she a mathematician but a philosopher as well. She taught as the head at a school, her subject was the knowledge of Plato and Aristotle. She is the first woman to make valuable contributions in the field of mathematics.

MAT.J - Creola Katherine **Johnson** was an American mathematician whose calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights. The 2016 film "Hidden Figures" portrayed her substantial mathematical work with NASA.

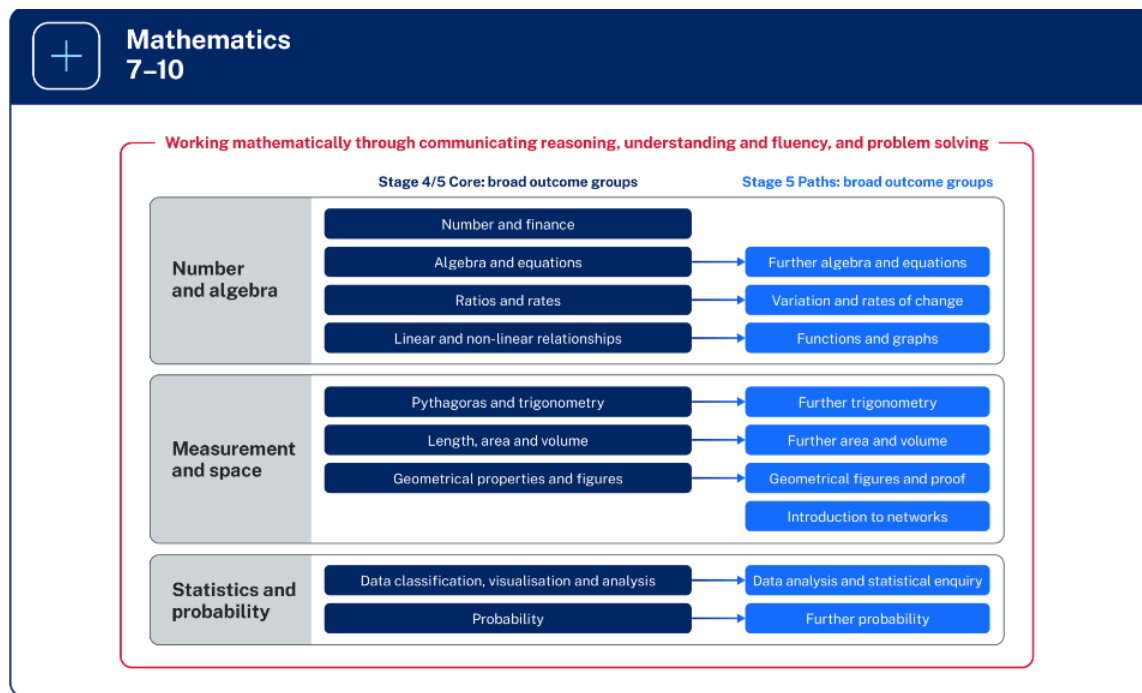
MAT.P- Pythagoras of Samos was an ancient Ionian Greek philosopher, polymath and the eponymous founder of Pythagoreanism. Since at least the first century BC, Pythagoras has commonly been given credit for discovering the Pythagorean theorem, a theorem in geometry that states that "in a right-angled triangle the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the two other sides" : $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$.

Our Year 7 Maths classes at the start of term are based on English streaming, and these Maths classes will be restreamed later this term. The Mathematics Faculty will monitor student learning in the Maths classroom, monitor achievements in class tasks as well as in common tasks. From the demonstration of skills and knowledge. There will be some class changes this term based on demonstrated skills and knowledge, to ensure that students are placed in classes that best match their learning needs and styles. Please be assured that all students have the same opportunities as their peers in following the curriculum with a variety of strategies for each student to learn and progress.

Our Year 8, 9 and 10 classes have already been streamed based on each student's progress last year. Year 10 are currently completing their Stage 5 courses- 5.3, 5.2 or 5.1 level, while Years 7, 8 and 9 have started the new NESA syllabus courses for Stages 4 and 5.

For these new courses the syllabus follows a **Core–Paths structure** which is designed to encourage aspiration in students and provide the flexibility needed to enable teachers to create pathways for students working towards Stage 6. The aim for most students is to demonstrate achievement of the Core and as many Path outcomes as possible by the end of Stage 5.

The Core outcomes provide students with the foundation for Mathematics Standard 2 in Stage 6. Students who require ongoing support in completing all Stage 5 Core outcomes may consider either Mathematics Standard 1 or the Numeracy CEC course in Stage 6. Pathways in Stage 5 will be carefully planned to ensure some students have the opportunity to engage with Advanced and Extension courses.



Our Year 11 and 12 Stage 6 courses for Numeracy, Standard, Advanced and Extension are underway. Students will be working towards completing mandatory assessments.

At St Mary's our students will continue to have access to digital resources such as Mathsonline, HotMaths or Edrolo to assist with their Mathematics learning.

May the year be filled with curiosity, perseverance, and success in the world of mathematics. Whether it's solving a challenging problem or grasping a new concept, every achievement is worth acknowledging. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the Mathematics Department.

Tania Eastcott
Leader of Learning - Mathematics



Library Matters

And we are off and running! The Library is in full throttle with book hire being run off its feet, with class sets of textbooks disappearing into school bags and novels being dispersed in English classes. Our fantastic Library Assistant has been working at “110%” getting our students all sorted with their resources for the year.


This week we have had some great events in the Library, from a PINK party to the launch of Library Lovers' Day. Lots of fun and enjoyment has been had by all. Next week we will be celebrating with SWIFTY week, from friendship bracelet making to trivia. There will be something for all Swifty fans.

This week sees the launch of the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge and we encourage all our new Year 7 cohort to keep the challenge going. Each year we celebrate with at least one student receiving the Premier's Medal and I hope we can continue that tradition. To receive the medal, a student must complete all challenges from Kindergarten onwards. Pick up a permission note and a reading log from the Library. (It is important that all Year 7 students complete the permission note, as it will enable me to link their Secondary school record to their Primary school record. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Dunn in the library.

Remember that in addition to our physical library collection we have access to approximately 20,000 audio and e-books via the SORA collection. If you are new to SORA use the instructions below to check this out.

DISCOVER SORA

[HTTPS://SORAAPP.COM/LIBRARY/CENETAU](https://soraapp.com/library/cenetau)
ACEN Digital Library : Catholic Schools: Maitland Newcastle Diocese



1. On any device go to:
<https://soraapp.com/library/cenetau>

2. Click on the drop down menu and select 'ACEN Member Collection'

3. Click on 'Sign in using ACEN Member Collection'

4. Log in using your school username and password.


5. Select the explore icon on the bottom tab to browse collections.

6. Select a title and click on Borrow to read.

Or download the SORA app.

1. Ignore 'Find my school' and use the setup code 'cenetau'.

2. Then follow the instructions given adjacent.





Your Library team for 2024: Teacher Librarian: Mrs Rosalind Dunn (Mon, Tues, Fri) Teacher: Mrs Rosemary Laughton (Wed, Thurs) and Library Assistant: Ms Melissa Watt

Rosalind Dunn
Teacher-Librarian



St Mary's Catholic College Gateshead Annual Swimming Carnival INFORMATION -2024 Thursday 22ND FEB (week 4) Lambton Pool

**DRESS UP
IN YOUR
HOUSE
COLOURS**

Know what house you're in and it's colour

KENNY = BLUE
SMITH = RED
SIMPSON = YELLOW
CHISHOLM = GREEN

**ENJOY
THE
DAY
HAVE
FUN**

**HOUSES WILL BE ALLOCATED AN AREA IN THE
GRANDSTAND with House Captains**

The swimming carnival is a compulsory school day. ALL STUDENTS
WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO THE LAMBTON POOL after ROLL CALL.

Roll call will occur at the beginning (at school) and at the end of the
swimming carnival day, approx. 2:30pm.

**ALL STUDENTS WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO and FROM LAMBTON
POOL after ROLL CALL on – Thursday 22ND feb 2024**

All students must remain at the carnival until the end of the day /
and students will be in their cohorts across the huge stand/ covered
area at the carnival. All students will be transported as indicated
back to school for normal buses.

Students who wish to be collected from the pool at the end of the day
must be signed out by a parent at the end of the day.

ON THE DAY :
ENTER YOUR EVENTS ON THE DAY OF ST MARY'S CARNIVAL

Two types of Races will occur as follows :

- 1. Pathway to Diocesan Level which will move on to NSWCCC level.**
- 2. General races for all students to gain points for their House**

There will be a mass participation race during the carnival – this gives everyone a chance to cool off, get wet and swim at least one lap in their own time for points toward their house (1 lap = 1 point)

DO NOT BRING
SKATEBOARDS, IPODS, OR other Personal equipment that could get damaged or misplaced.

**Remember to SLIP SLOP SLAP!! WEAR A HAT,
SUNSCREEN, APPROPRIATE SWIMMERS,
SHIRT AND BRING A TOWEL**

Wear clothes that match your house colour, points for your house if you dress up.

Appropriate competition swim wear must be worn, **swim wear is one piece or** a T-Shirt must be worn for sun protection around the pool when not swimming / racing. Both male and female competitors must comply due to sun protection guidelines.

The canteen will be open to students with limited options, and timeframes due to Covid restrictions on the day. Allocated times will be arranged for each of the years to purchase certain foods. There will be a St Mary's allocated area/ line, do not breach this or the canteen will be off limits.

IN CASE OF WET WEATHER:- A decision will be made on Wednesday, prior to the carnival.

- Non -Pathway : Same strokes and races for points only.**
- We will run with the Pathway structure to acquire the various Age champions.**



- Any student that gains 1st or 2nd in any Pathway race they will move on to our Diocesan Championships, now at The Forum on the 6th March

****SPECTATORS – PARENTS****

Opposite side of Olympic pool – only limited seating available.

- Parents will have a limited space to attend and watch their child/children. Bring a chair in case.
- If Parents attend, you are asked not to mix directly with the St Mary's students in the stands or move from their allocated area, to try and access their child.
- Please ask our liaison staff member near the entry and they will access your child for you, and they will meet you at the entrance.
- We ask all parents and students, to follow the rules presented at the pool and from St Mary's Sport Coordinator.

DIOCESAN SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

6TH MARCH -2024

VENUE : FORUM

**(Selected students from our carnival -as follows:
First 2 x competitors in all strokes, male & female)**

*Many thanks for your support,
Yours in Sport*

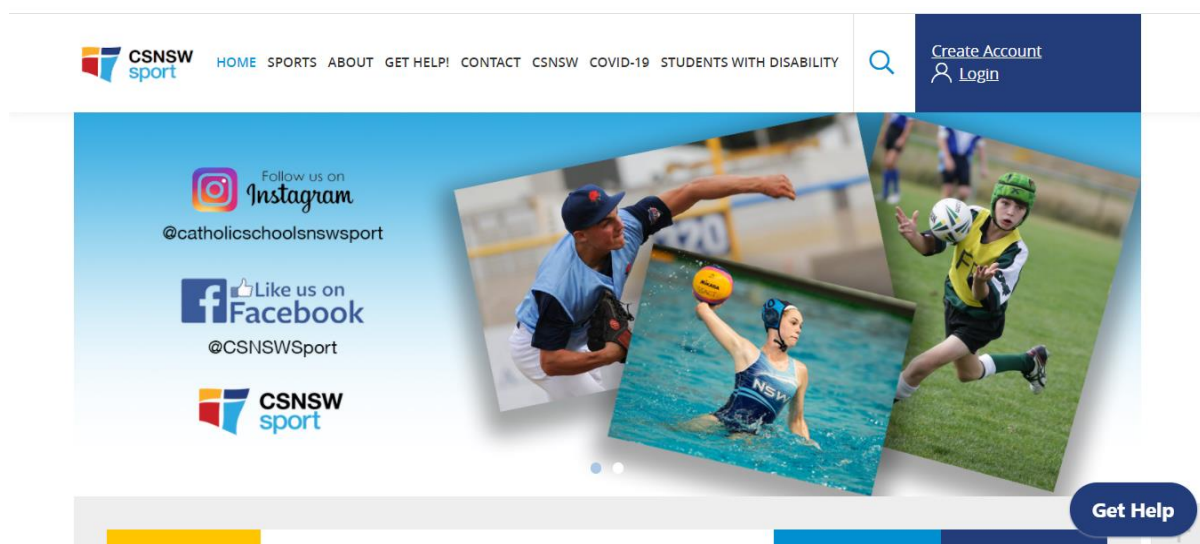
Annette M

Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Sport Website

There is a Diocesan specific website for Sport that has all the dates for Diocesan sport as well as general information about the sports.

- The Maitland Newcastle Secondary Tile allows parents to view basic information for secondary pathway sports including Diocesan event information and details, Diocesan results, the diocesan sports calendar and important notices for sports including wet weather information. The sports that are on the Diocesan website include swimming, athletics, x country, netball, league, football, touch, AFL and gala tennis, golf & basketball. All other sports have information on the csnsw.sport website as students apply directly to NSWCCC for these.
- Any further questions beyond the sport specific information on this website should be directed to your school sport coordinator.
- **No parent should register their child for any sport without seeing the school sport coordinator. Sport Coordinators approve all pathway sports before progressing.**

Step 1. Go to csnsw.sport website



Step 2. MN Secondary Tile

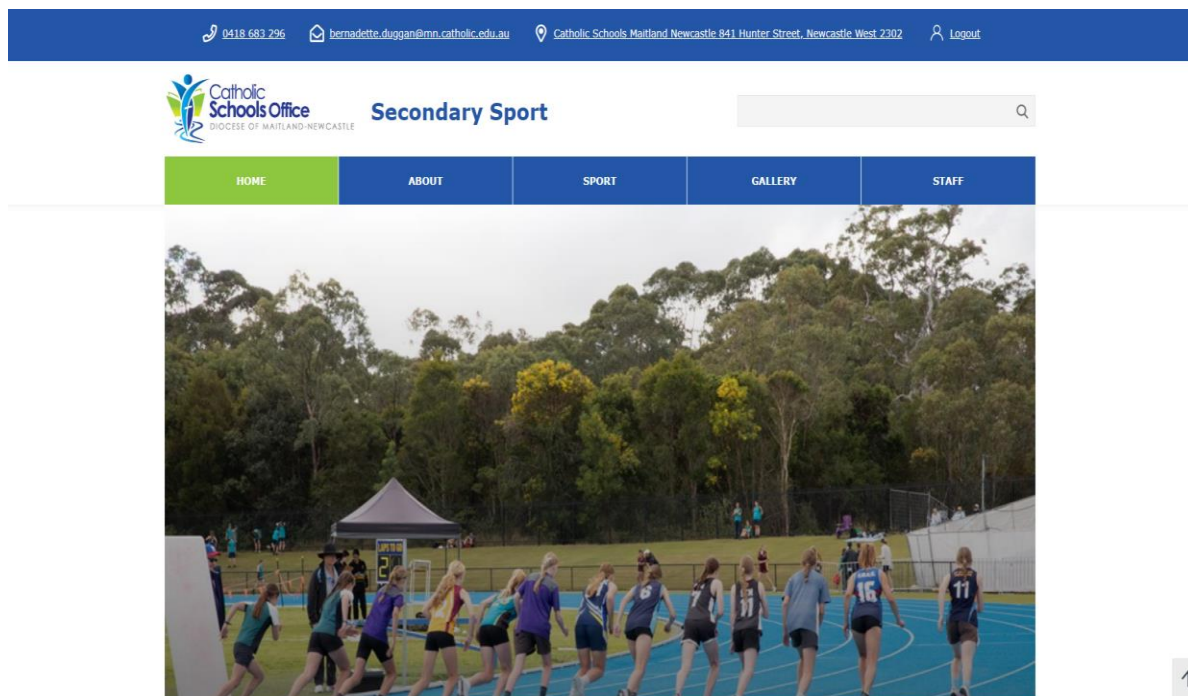
Scroll down to the Diocesan/Associations section of the home page and select the Maitland Newcastle Secondary Tile



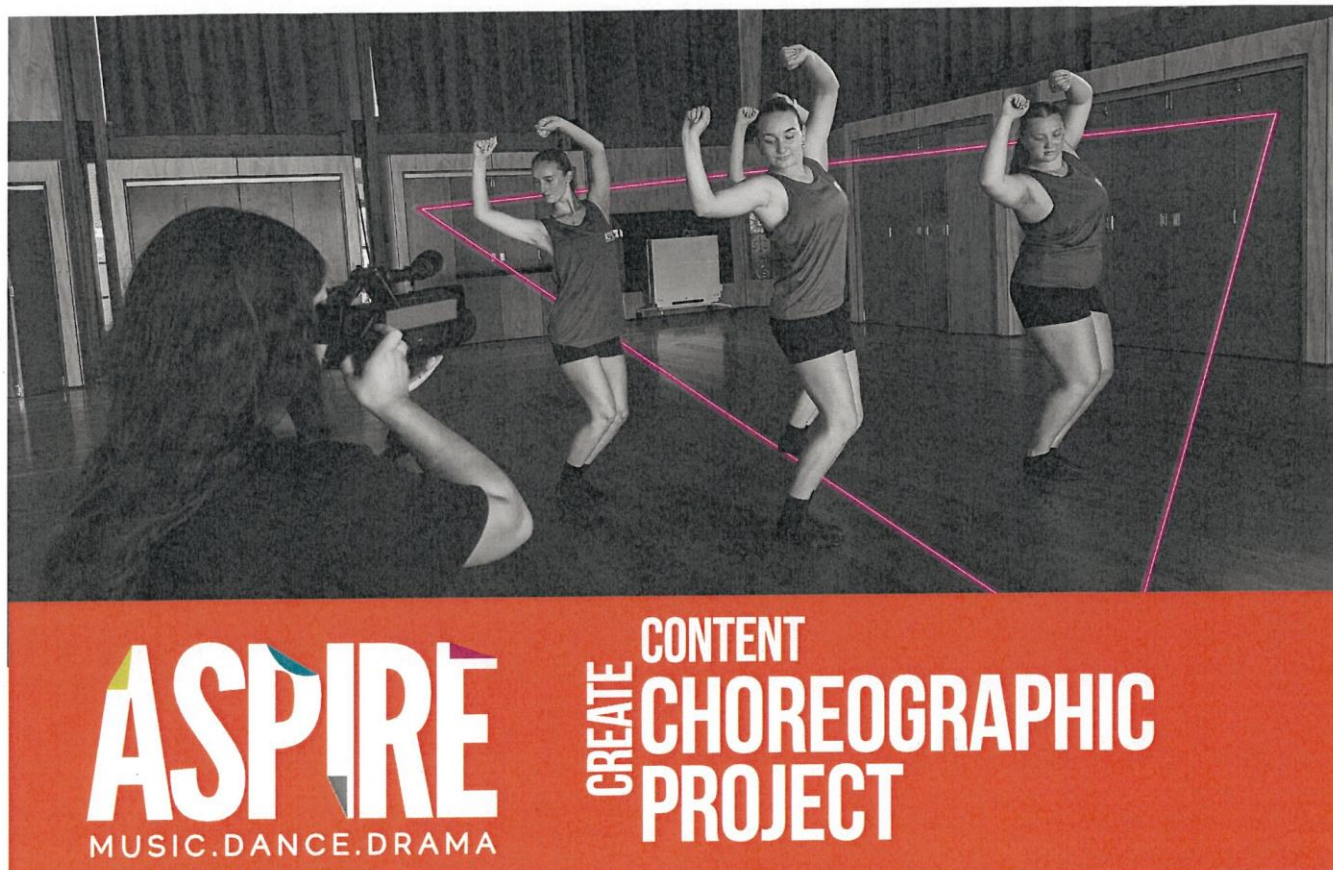
Step 3.

You are now on the MN Secondary Sport Website.

<https://csnsw.sport/maitland-newcastle/secondary/home>



A promotional graphic for Windale Junior Rugby League. On the left, the text 'PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE' is written in large, bold, green letters with a distressed texture. Below it, 'PLAYRUGBYLEAGUE.COM' and 'TO REGISTER TODAY' are written in white. In the center is a large green and white logo featuring a stylized eagle with its wings spread, perched on a yellow and black shield. Below the logo, the text 'WINDALE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE' is written in bold, black letters. On the right, a young girl with brown hair, wearing a green and white Windale jersey, is smiling and holding a green water bottle. She is also giving a thumbs-up. Social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube are at the bottom right.



Spend two days creating a choreographic artwork to be filmed and edited by a professional director and videographer. You will work as groups and solo alongside Aspire's Dance Director, Lauren Harvey to achieve a unique piece to use for show reel and content purposes.

Due to the filming nature of this workshop, participants must be prepared to feature in other student's videos as well as the possibility of social media sharing.

The program will be delivered by Aspire Dance Director, Lauren Harvey and will take place at Top Rock Studios, 29 Beresford St, Newcastle West.

This opportunity is open to students in years 7-12. Students must have a genuine interest in and flair for dance.

Students can register for the program by filling out an application form [here](#).

Please note places are limited and will be given on a first come first served basis.

Scholarship places are available for students in genuine need of financial assistance. Please contact Anne Atkins for further information via anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au or 02 4979 1331

PROJECT DATES

COST

Tuesday 9 April 2024 - Wednesday 10 April 2024

9.00 am – 3.00 pm

\$185.00



Follow ASPIRE on social media for updates and photos.

ASPIRE



ASPIRE

CONCERT BAND

WHO IS IT FOR?

The ASPIRE Concert Band is a Diocesan ensemble for students in Years 5-12. It is suitable for students who can at least play at a 1st grade (AMEB) level as well students of a more advanced ability, 4th grade (AMEB) and above. The ensemble is not suitable for beginner students.

Instruments include: Flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, french horn, euphonium, tuba, mallet/auxiliary percussion and drum kit. The band is not suitable for string or piano players.

Students must know how to read traditional music notation.

The concert band will be playing a variety of repertoire including traditional concert band music, music from television and film, rock and pop music and music specifically composed for concert bands. There will be performances and events the concert band will be part of.

WHEN ARE REHEARSALS?

There will be 3 rehearsal per term (total of 11 hours per term):

- 2 regional rehearsals - (Central and Upper Hunter)
- 1 whole day rehearsal at St Pius X High School Adamstown

These rehearsals will be after school hours, 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm and will only involve the students from that area.

Please see the ASPIRE website for the rehearsal dates.

WHOLE DAY REHEARSAL:

There will be one full day rehearsal each term held at St Pius X High School, Adamstown. All students are to attend this rehearsal.

REGIONAL REHEARSAL:

You will be able to attend rehearsals at your closest school:

- St Pius X High School Adamstown
- St Catherine's Catholic College Singleton

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

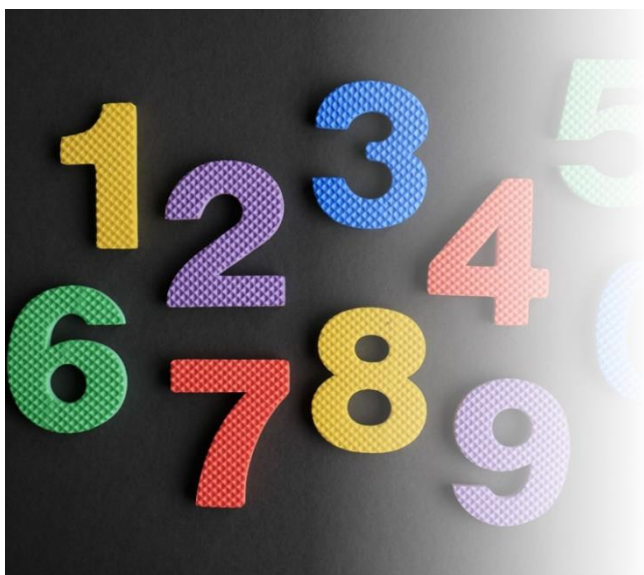
There is no cost to be involved in the Concert Band. Students will receive a ASPIRE T-shirt. Sheet music will be provided.

REGISTRATION

GO TO THE ASPIRE WEBSITE TO REGISTER FOR THE ASPIRE CONCERT BAND: <https://aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au/>

*You will have to use your student login details (the details you use for school) when submitting your registration. Other email addresses will not work.

Contact jessica.lopez@mn.catholic.edu.au for more information.



Attention
Years 7 & 9!

NAPLAN 2024

**Wednesday 13 March
- Monday 18 March**

Meet the Principal!

We are inviting you to meet our new Principal Mr. Brett Donohoe, enjoy some tea and coffee, while you get to know him, and fellow parents.

Date: Wednesday, 6th March

Time: 6:00pm–7:00pm (tea and coffee will be available starting at 5:45)

Location: St. Marys Catholic College Cafeteria

Please RSVP 49444803



CALENDAR Term 1 2024 - Week 3 (A Week)	
Fri 16 Feb	Newsletter 2.24
Sat 17 Feb to Tues 20 Feb	JJAM Retreat – College Leaders
Week 4 (B Week)	
Tues 20 Feb	Extended PLM – students will be released at 2.40pm. Supervision of students and bus duty as normal.
Thurs 22 Feb	Swimming Carnival
Week 5 (A Week)	
Mon 26 Feb	Year 12 HSC Information Evening
Tues 27 Feb	Year 11 Study Skills Day (at St Mary's)
Wed 28 Feb	Year 12 Food Tech excursion
Fri 1 March	Newsletter 3.24 Year 7 2025 Enrolment period opens
Week 6 (B Week)	
Tues 5 March	Extended PLM – students will be released at 2.40pm. Supervision of students and bus duty as normal.
Wed 6 March	Year 10 Immunisations Family Welcome and Meet the Principal – Café – 5.45pm for 6pm start – please register at admin@gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au or 4944 4800
Fri 8 March	International Women's Day
Week 7 (A Week)	
Tues 12 March	College Tours from the TJC commence 5pm Year 7 (2025) Information Evening – TJC – 7pm – please register at admin@gatesheadsm.catholic.edu.au or 4944 4800
Wed 13 March	NAPLAN Testing window
Thurs 14 and Fri 15 March	Surfest
Fri 15 March	Surfest Newsletter 4.24
Week 8 (B Week)	
Mon 18 March	NAPLAN Testing window – continued Year 10 Formation Day
Tues 19 March	NAPLAN – catch ups Year 8 Formation Day Year 7 & 8 Da Vinci Code Day at Bishop Tyrrell Extended PLM – students will be released at 2.40pm. Supervision of students and bus duty as normal.
Wed 20 March	Year 9 & 10 Da Vinci Code Day at Bishop Tyrrell
Fri 22 March	Athletics Carnival - Glendale
Week 9 (A Week)	
Tues 26 March	Year 10 PPEP Talk Year 7-11 Conference Bookings open
Thurs 28 March	U14 Boys Rugby League Newsletter 5.24
Fri 29 March	Good Friday – Pupil Free
Week 10 – (B Week)	
Mon 1 April	Easter Monday – Pupil Free
Tues 2 April	Year 11 Biology & Geography excursion Year 10 MS Testing Round 1 Year 7-11 Conference Bookings close
Thurs 4 April	Year 7-11 Parent Student Teacher conferences – 3.30pm to 7.00pm
Fri 5 April	Year 7-11 Parent Student Teacher conferences 8.00am – 2.00pm – Pupil Free Day
Week 11 – (A Week)	
Tues 9 April	Combined Schools ANZAC Event
Wed 10 April	Science & Engineering Challenge Hunter Water incursion
Thurs 11 April	Year 10 Luna Park excursion
Fri 12 April	Newsletter 6.24 End of Term 1
TERM 2 - Week 1 – (A Week)	
Mon 29 April	Return to school for Term 2