



Term 1 Friday 20 March 2020 Volume: 48 No: 4

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Harmony Day Saturday 21 March "IT'S ALL ABOUT LEARNING
AND HAVING HIGH EXPECTATIONS
OF OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER"

Dear members of the St Columba's Community

"It's all about learning and having high expectations of ourselves and each other".

Fly like an eagle!

Once upon a time, there was a great mountain, where an eagle's nest rested. The nest contained four large eggs. One day an earthquake rocked the mountain causing one of the eggs to roll down the mountainside to a farm in the valley below. The hens on the farm after much discussion, decided to protect and care for the egg until it hatched. When that day came, the egg cracked open and a beautiful baby eagle was born. But the hens, looking after it knew only how to raise chickens, so the little eagle learnt to be a chicken.

The eagle loved its home and family but its spirit yearned for more than the farmyard. While playing with the other chickens, it looked up to the sky and saw a group of mighty eagles soaring above.

"Oh!" the eagle cried, "I wish I could fly high in the sky like those birds."

The hens and chickens cackled with laughter, "You cannot fly with the eagles. You are a chicken and chickens do not soar in the sky".

The little eagle kept looking at the eagles far above and dreamed of joining them, but every time it spoke about the dream, the other chickens laughed and said it was impossible. And the little eagle believed them and after a time, stopped dreaming and settled down to live its life as a chicken.

The moral of this story is that, you become what you believe you are. So if you dream to fly like an eagle, follow your dreams, not the words of a chicken.



The Dove

Say no to bullying!

St Columba's Catholic College actively seeks to provide students with a stimulating learning environment that is safe. It is a fundamental right of everyone in our College community to feel safe. It is the right of everyone to be able to come to school each day without fear of being intimidated, humiliated or threatened verbally or physically with harm. Bullying denies this right to members of our College community and as such bullying is not accepted in our College.

St Columba's Catholic College holds the following expectations of all members of our College community.

- We behave, speak and treat one another in respectful ways.
- We understand that everyone is different, and we respect those differences,
- We look out for one another, and offer our support when others need our help.

What is bullying?

Bullying is made up of different behaviours intended to deliberately hurt, threaten, frighten or exclude someone by physical and non-physical means over extended periods of time. An individual or group may direct these behaviours towards another individual or group.

Someone is bullying another person when:

- They **repeatedly** verbally abuse a person or group by calling them unpleasant names, by writing them nasty notes and or messages (electronically or by hand) or by using unpleasant gestures.
- They **repeatedly** physically harm a person or group or physically intimidate them by threatening physical harm or by destroying/taking their belongings without permission.
- They **repeatedly** encourage their friends or people they know to verbally, physically threaten a person or group; or ask them to harass, embarrass, ignore or exclude that person or group from activities.

Bullying may take one, two, or all these forms. **Repeatedly** means that they do these things to that person or group the majority of the time they talk about them, see them or spend time around them.

Research has shown that bullying has negative, long-term consequences for all involved. Such consequences include:

- **For victims** constant feelings of rejection, low self-regard, fear, an inability to solve problems with others in acceptable ways, relationship difficulties, and problems with achieving full potential academically and socially.
- **For bullies** an increased risk of criminal behaviour.

As such, bullying behaviours have no place at this College.

May God bless you always, Mr Paul Ryan Principal



The Dove

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

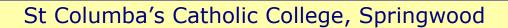
House Badge Ceremony

It was with great pride that we celebrated a historic House Badge Ceremony two weeks ago, led and designed by our Year 12 Student Leadership Team. Each student in the College was issued with a house badge, and this badge must be worn each day as part of the College uniform, except on Thursdays where the sport uniform is worn. Students who were absent need to see Ms Muscat or Mr Gawthorne to collect their badge. The ceremony concluded with this statement from our College Captain Mollie Bauerhuit:

Today, our Year 7 students have been initiated into their houses. With this restored sense of belonging, may you take pride in not only your College community but also the house to which you now belong. Wear your house badges with pride and allow the qualities of courage, mercy, hope, liberty, service and compassion define you as a student here at St Columba's.















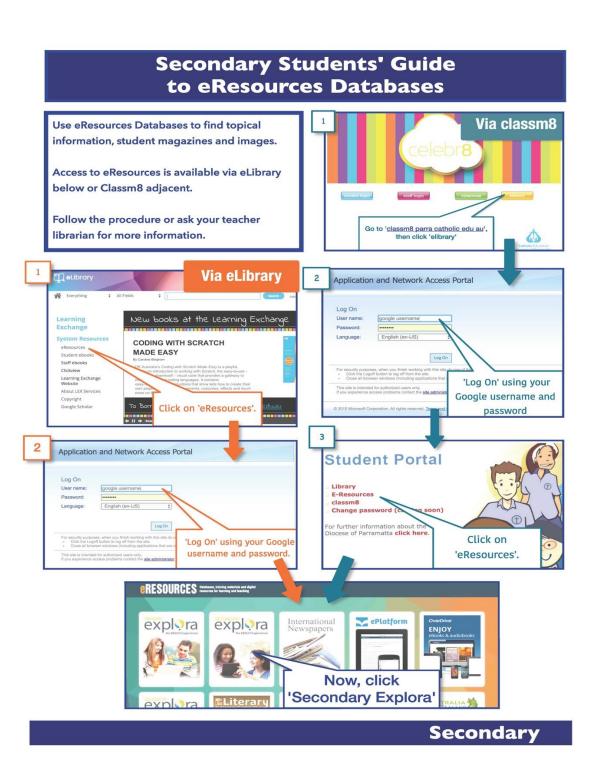


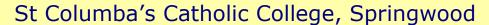
Ms Carol Muscat & Mr Ross Gawthorne Assistant Principals





FROM THE LIBRARY

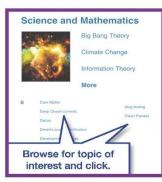




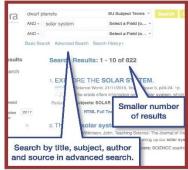


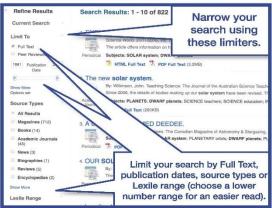
Secondary

There are three ways to search for a topic of interest, you may browse, or do a basic search or an advanced search.





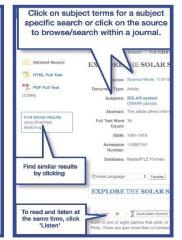














CEDP Wheelers eBook Platform

CEDP's K-12 student reading platform







learning exchange



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eMagazines

Digital eMagazines



Parents information guide

Discovering Information for Students



Searching for Information



Search your elibrary catalogue to

Looking for authentic articles



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FROM THE OFFICE

SCHOOL FEES REMINDER

Thank you to the families who have finalised payment of the first instalment of the 2020 fees. The due date for payment was Wednesday 18th March, 2020. Thank you also to the families who have commenced their Flexible Payment Plan arrangements.

N.B. If you were on a payment arrangement for 2019 (except Flexible Payment Plan or Salary Sacrifice) it is important that you contact me so that I am aware of your intentions for the 2020 fees.

Please be advised that unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Principal, the Business Manager or me, fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states "all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued."

If you are having difficulties with the payment of your school fees, I encourage you to contact me on 4754 8902 or rvion@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss payment options. The Catholic Education Office is committed to supporting families experiencing genuine financial hardship. Please be assured of complete confidentiality when discussing financial issues.

The school fee collection process has commenced on overdue accounts that have not been addressed as above.

School fees can be paid by Bpoint (Direct Debit), Bpay, Postbillpay, EFTPOS, Credit Card, cash or cheque.

Withdrawal of a Student: A full terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before a parent/guardian terminates the Student's enrolment. If sufficient notice of termination of the Student's enrolment is not given, the parent/guardian is to pay the School one term's school fees including any Diocesan Fees applicable. This amount reflects the School's financial loss associated with the Student's withdrawal without sufficient notice of termination. Exceptions to this policy include family relocating due to employment placement, a student gains full-time employment or commences an apprenticeship. One other exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment.

Split Accounts: Please note that the College does not recognise 50/50 split of accounts. Enrolment signatories are joint and severally responsible for payment of fees. This means that both enrolment signatories are equally responsible for the payment of 100% of the total amount owing on the school fees account and not a proportion of it. If you have any questions regarding this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sibling Discounts: Reconciliations to external sibling discounts are regularly conducted by CEDP. If your circumstances change regarding sibling discounts, please notify me immediately. Failure to do so could result in an increase in fees throughout the year and your current payment arrangement may not cover the balance of your account.

Roselee Vion

Senior Officer - Finance and Fees



The Dove

STUDENT NEWS



Year 12 Primary Industries student. They have done a wonderful job preparing our Steers for the Easter Show competition

CAREERS NEWS

UAC Applications Opening - Advice

All semester 1, 2021 courses will be available from August.

Early bird applications will close at midnight on **Wednesday 30 September** and offer rounds and other deadlines will remain the same as previous years.

Although not all courses for 2021 will be available, we encourage students to choose any 2021 course to complete their application and come back later to review and change their preferences as courses come available.

Schools Recommendation Schemes will close earlier this year. Mark midnight on **Sunday 20 September** in your diary as the new closing date for SRS.

All dates will be available on UAC's website from 1 April.



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UAC Medicine and Medical Sciences Advice

Reminder - Registration for UCAT is open now and closes at midnight on **18 May 2020**. Entry into undergraduate medical degrees is highly competitive and the selection process is rigorous. Special entry requirements for medicine and medical science courses in 2021 at the

University of Newcastle, University of New England, the University of Sydney, UNSW Sydney, Charles Sturt University and Western Sydney University for 2021 are now available. View the information on <u>UAC's website</u>.

University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT)

<u>UCAT</u> is an admissions text required for entry into most medical, dental and some clinical sciences degree programs. Students interested in these courses need to check the <u>course description</u> to see if the course they're interested in requires them to sit UCAT.

The best universities to study medicine in Australia

<u>Medicine courses</u> are typically a four to six-year program and sometimes it requires relocation. A medicine degree can lead to a career as a medical or general practitioner. <u>The Good Universities Guide rankings</u> are designed to highlight a universities' specific strengths, offering insight to support and guide decision-making when choosing a university. View the rankings in terms of how each university performs overall, or you can narrow down by field of study and state.

We looked at which universities with undergraduate medicine degrees performed best in graduate salary, full time employment and student support.

Medicine Graduate Salary

The following rankings revealed the median salary of university graduates. <u>The University of Western Australia</u> scored the highest graduate salary with \$76,000, followed by <u>The University of Notre Dame with \$75,000</u>.

https://www.australiancareersservice.com.au/industry-news/the-best-universities-to-study-medicine-in-australia

ACU Community Achiever Program

The Community Achiever Program (CAP) was previously named the Early Achievers' Program (EAP).

The program offers future students who are active in their community early entry to their undergraduate course of choice. It also provides opportunities to enhance leadership and volunteering skills.

If you're successful in applying for the CAP, you could receive an offer to study with us as early as August.

https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/admission-pathways/i-volunteer-regularly

University Of Wollongong Early Admission Important Dates

Opens 20 July

Closes 14 August

Early Admission is UOW's early offer program for Year 12 students. We'll assess the results you've got so far and can reward you with an early offer for your chosen degree (or degrees) before you sit your first exam.

More dates to watch are here:



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https://www.uow.edu.au/study/high-school/uow-early-admission/important-dates/ What you need to know is here:

https://www.uow.edu.au/study/high-school/uow-early-admission/

UOW Scholarships 2020 Directory

Do you need help financially? Have you done well academically? Maybe you are an elite athlete? Whatever your situation, a scholarship can help you succeed at university. Studying can be expensive. We have a wide range of scholarships available to you which can assist with living costs, text books or that can contribute towards your fees. https://www.uow.edu.au/study/scholarships/domestic/

UTS - The Galuwa Engineering and IT Experience

Closes 1 June 13 to 17 July

Years 10, 11, 12. The 5-day program attracts students who are interested in the fields of engineering or IT, as well as those who have an aptitude for maths, creative thinking and problem solving and are unsure of which career path to follow. The free program features interactive hands-on workshops, site visits with industry partners, cultural activities, information about career paths. Participants hear inspirational talks from students, cadets & professionals.

https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology/what-wedo/galuwa-engineering-and-it

Early Entry - Macquarie University Applications open in Term 2, 2020

Macquarie has a new early entry program on the way! Following feedback and consultation with schools and students, we are launching a new early entry program very soon.

We're still looking for students who are doing well at school and involved in service, leadership and extra-curricular activities within their community.

Be the first to know what's happening at Macquarie, including when this new early entry program open for 2020 entry by providing your details below. Plus, we'll keep you up updated on our events and activities. Visit here and complete to stay up to date:

https://www.mq.edu.au/study/admissions/entry-requirements/domestic/macquarie-entry/global-leadership-entry-program

Apply here: https://www.mq.edu.au/study/admissions/entry-requirements/domestic/entry-schemes-and-pathways/macquarie-leaders-and-achievers/how-to-apply

ACU Elite Athlete and Performer Program – Plan ahead

The Elite Athlete and Performer Program (EAPP) is designed to give students who are top sporting or artistic performers the tools they need to achieve balance across their active and academic lives.

The program comes with a range of benefits, including:

- adjustment factors to your entry score
- academic support (deferred exams, extensions, special considerations)
- access to travel grants and scholarships.



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https://www.acu.edu.au/student experience/student life/elite athlete and performer program

How to apply to US & UK Universities

Monday 23 March. 6pm

Woollahra Library Double Bay, 451 New South Head Road Double Bay

Applying to US and UK Universities. Suitable for Students from year 9-12, Parents and Careers Advisors RSVP to deb@uscollegeconnect or:

 $\underline{https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/us-uk-university-application-information-presentation-tickets-\underline{97959755265}$

Free UCAT Bootcamp

Free 2 hour UCAT Bootcamp: Please visit <u>MedEntry.edu.au</u> under "Free Resources" tab. Available to parents, students and Careers Advisers. In this session, Dr Ray Boyapati, Gastroenterologist, Monash University academic offers sample UCAT mini test, medical interviews, admission process, life as a medical student, and career as a doctor. Watch it from the comfort and convenience of your own home! Please visit: MedEntry.edu.au

TAFE

Essential Energy Apprenticeships

If working outdoors and in a team environment is appealing to you, an apprenticeship with us may be the perfect way to kick start your career. During your apprenticeship you will work towards a trade qualification while learning on-the job. Your apprenticeship journey will be supported by a great crew and a professional training team.

Our apprentices live and work right across regional, rural and remote NSW – we currently have apprentices in more than 50 towns, from Albury to Tweed Heads, to Broken Hill and many places in between.

https://www.essentialenergy.com.au/careers/apprenticeships?fbclid=IwAR15NDniwqTy8_Dl6SYsRWXApDKKqY4AOnxLxBwZLr1RFmdvD44WK47fLvc

Essential Energy Apprentice Campaign 2021 - Expression of Interest

Essential Energy is part of a growing and evolving industry, set to experience great change and opportunity in the years ahead. At Essential Energy, we operate the electricity distribution network in regional NSW, supplying electricity to more than 800,000 homes and businesses. We are a customer focused organisation, passionate about safety and delivering satisfactory outcomes to our shareholders.

https://www.essentialenergy.com.au/careers/current-jobs?job=500410

Maxima - Set yourself up for life with an Apprenticeship/Traineeship

Apprenticeships and traineeships are a combination of paid work and structured training over a period of 12 to 48 months, depending on the qualification. At the end of your apprenticeship or traineeship, you will have the advantage of a nationally recognised qualification and practical, on-the-job experience.

https://maxima.com.au/apprentices-trainees/apprenticeships-traineeships/



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ARC Group Training - Business Traineeships

ARC are here to make career development easy! We offer Business Traineeships for recent school leavers wanting to start their career in the Business world. As part of your traineeship, you will work full time in an office junior role, undertake a Certificate III in Business and get PAID! For more information call us on 02 8833 3999 or email your resume to: recruit@arcgroup.com.au https://arcgroup.com.au/

COLLEGES

JMC Academy @ YES2020 Youth Engagement Summit

19 March

Karen Markakis (Director of Marketing of Marketing and Brand will be on the panel at the Year 13 Youth Engagement Summit (YES2020). JMC are looking forward to the presentations, the After ATAR III report and meeting like minded people.

https://youthsummit.com.au/#e-sessions

JMC Academy Open Day

9 May

Animation, Film and TV, Music, Songwriting, Game Design, Entertainment Management, Audio Engineering and Digital Design. On the day you can take a tour of our facilities, get your hands on some of our serious gear, grab a bit to eat and learn why JMC continues to lead the way in Creative Industries education.

https://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/open-days

Qantas Group Pilot Academy

We train our pilots to the highest standards and we can draw on almost 100 years of aviation experience. We want to help shape the next generation of pilots and that's why we're establishing the Qantas Group Pilot Academy. It will open its doors in 2019 with an initial intake of 100 pilots, and once it's fully established we aim to train up to 500 pilots a year.

We expect the typical entrants to be high school or university graduates with a strong academic performance. After 18 months of classroom, simulator and real world flight training you'll graduate. The training could lead to employment with one of the Qantas Group airlines, including Jetstar.

QG04	26/08/2019 12:00pm ACST	TBA 12/10/2020 Apply for QG04
QG05	30/09/2019 12:00pm ACST	TBA 11/01/2021 Apply for QG05
QG06	30/09/2019 12:00pm ACST	TBA 22/03/2021 Apply for QG06
QG07	30/09/2019 12:00pm ACST	TBA 03/05/2021 Apply for QG07

Application Options Form here: http://www.flyfta.com/application-form



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Main site here:

https://www.qantas.com/au/en/about-us/our-company/pilot-academy.html

Kenvale College - Barista Course

38 High Street, Randwick

The course will include, but not limited to, preparing and serving tea and coffee, the origins of tea and coffee, fundamentals of using a coffee machine and milk frothing. https://kenvale.edu.au/courses/short-courses/service/barista-courses/

Whitehouse Fashion and Interior Design July Workshops - Image Styling & Photography Workshop

5 Day Holiday Workshop

13 - 17 July. 10 am - 3 pm daily

Whitehouse Institute of Design, Australia, 2 Short Street, Surry Hills

Immerse yourself in the creative experience of learning photography as Whitehouse introduces "Photography and Creative direction". You will learn fundamental aspects of a professional shoot and image styling through an intimate and hands-on approach. Initial concept development through to final shooting will all be covered.

 $\underline{https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/image-styling-photography-workshop-winter-workshop-5-days-20-hours-sydney-campus-tickets-92299055961}$

Whitehouse Design Portfolio Workshop - 2 Day Holiday Workshop

16 & 17 July, 10 am - 3 pm daily

Whitehouse Institute of Design, Australia, 2 Short Street, Surry Hills

This two-day workshop is designed to teach students the fundamental layout, design and construction methods used to present a personal creative portfolio at a professional standard and equips students with the skills and confidence to present their portfolio of creative work. This workshop is offered to support students in Year 12 or applying for further education in design and creative industries. This workshop is suitable for students, working professionals and those with a keen interest in design.

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/design-portfolio-workshop-winter-workshop-2-days-sydney-campus-tickets-92299467191

Construction White Card Courses Advance OHS

Do you need to complete a Construction White Card course for VET or Work Experience? Email us office@advanceohs.com.au Phone 02 9635 4444 We also have public courses for students at a discounted rate.

http://www.advanceohs.com.au/

GENERAL

NSW Police Force – Recruiting Information Sessions - Watch Out For These Recruitment Information Session (Parramatta) - COMING SOON

Note: You must be 18 years of age to attend this event

Saturday 4 April 2020. Time: 8.30am - 11.00am (times may be subject to change) Tickets available 8.00am 20 March 2020

Recruitment Information Session (Parramatta) - COMING SOON

Note: You must be 18 years of age to attend this event

Saturday 16 May 2020. Time: 8.30am - 11.00am (times may be subject to change) Tickets available 8.00am 1 May 2020





Recruitment Information Session (Moree) - COMING SOON

Note: You must be 18 years of age to attend this event

Saturday 20 June 2020. Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm (times may be subject to change)

Tickets available 8.00am 8 May 2020

https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment/news/information_sessions

National Computer Science Challenge - (NCSS Challenge)

27 July 2020

Years 9–12

A five-week online competition, the <u>NCSS Challenge</u> gives you the opportunity to learn and try out computer programming. We'll teach you how to program as we go along, rather than expecting you to be an expert already. If you're a seasoned coder, we have something for you too. The problems range from relatively straightforward to mind-bendingly hard.

Please watch this page for details, coming soon.

https://www.sydney.edu.au/engineering/industry-and-community/high-school-outreach/year-9-and-10.html

and

https://groklearning.com/challenge/?utm_source=challenge-redirect&utm_medium=website&utm_campaign=challenge-2019

How learning a foreign language can give you a career edge

Knowledge of a foreign language is extremely valuable and can impress the hiring department of companies looking for new intakes. An additional language on your CV could be the thing to make you stand out over a pile of applications. Not only is it a useful skill to possess, but the act of learning a new language also demonstrates commitment and flexibility, which only increases your employability.

Click here and find out more.

Civil Engineering - Road Designers in Traineeship

The Road Designer in Training program is available to people looking for a career in designing roads while at the same time studying towards a Civil Engineering degree. Trainees will be working on challenging road and infrastructure projects in NSW.

For more information on when to apply and how, please contact RDITcoordinator@rms.nsw.gov.au

 $\underline{http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/about/careers/working-with-us/employment-programs/road-designer-in-training.html}$

How to Turn An Idea Into a Business (Free Workshop)

20 March 4pm to 5.30pm

Academy of Entrepreneurs, 53 Murray Street, Pyrmont

Boss UP this 2020..and start your own START-UP in Australia!

<u>Academy of Entrepreneurs</u> in partnership with <u>We Move</u> would like to invite you to our workshop to learn:

- >> How you can turn an idea into a business
- >> How to become a student to ENTREPRENEUR
- >> How to open a business on a student visa

 $\underline{https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/how-to-turn-an-idea-into-a-business-free-workshop-registration-99159654195?aff=ebdssbdestsearch}$



The Dove

Australian Federal Police Entry Level

New registration is opening March 2020

How to go about applying for entry level positions. The AFP is interested in attracting individuals who are up for the challenge – both physically and mentally for our entry level recruit – Police Officer and Protective Service Officer roles. If you want to give back to the community, align with our core values of integrity, commitment, accountability, fairness, trust and respect than you are strongly encouraged to apply.

https://www.afp.gov.au/careers/entry-level-recruit-policing-and-protective-service-officer-recruitment

Future Teachers in NSW - HSC students step-by-step guide to becoming a teacher in a NSW public school

- 1. Decide what type of teacher you would like to become.
 - **Note:** Becoming a qualified teacher in a high-demand subject area would increase your chances of gaining employment in NSW public schools.
- 2. Find out what teacher education course you will need to complete in order to become the type of teacher you want to be. You may need to study specific subjects in high school in order to gain entrance to the university degree you choose to study. Your school's careers adviser should be able to help you select the subjects you need to study.

Note: To teach in NSW public schools, you will need to complete teacher education studies at a recognised Australian university or tertiary institution. Your studies will need to meet the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) <u>academic requirements for employment as a teacher</u>. The NSW Department of Education has a number of programs on offer for future teachers to apply for a scholarship and get paid to study to become teachers of high-demand subject areas and in high-demand locations.

- 3. Apply for admission to the university course you've decided to study through the UAC.
- 4. Complete your HSC.

Note: You will need to achieve three Band 5s, including in English, to enter a teacher education university course. A few more steps after this are to be found in the link below.

https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/becomeateacher/hsc-students

Enter here to receive alerts and updates:

https://nsw.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=1b73da7775cca263240290668&id=d1e18c0728

Employment Guide Chartered Accountants ANZ

Are you seeking to inspire your students to pursue a business, accounting or finance career? Featuring hundreds of employers, offering: graduate, vacation, internship and cadetship roles in accounting, business and finance.

https://youunlimitedanz-guide.com/?cid=O~P~CareersGuide2019~CAANZ~201902

Meet People in These Different Finance Careers - Videos

Chartered Accountant

https://studentedge.org/career-life/find-a-career/chartered-accountant

Business Analyst

https://studentedge.org/career-life/find-a-career/business-analyst

Economist

https://studentedge.org/career-life/find-a-career/economist

Finance Broker



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https://studentedge.org/career-life/find-a-career/finance-broker

NSW Got Music Talent - Talent Development Project Foundation - Applications Open Deadline 17 April

To apply, all performers need to submit an Online Application form and also complete the Principle & Contact Teacher Endorsement form. The TDP is open to all singers, singersongwriters, musical theatre performers, instrumentalists and bands from NSW Government high schools in years 10 to 12 (minimum 15 years old)

Auditions will be held in Sydney on Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th April 2020 at 242 Young St, Waterloo, 2017 (inside Waterloo Studios building).

Each audition will last for approximately 15 minutes. Students are required to prepare two (2) contrasting performance pieces. If you are a songwriter, please make one an original. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Alix on 02 9319 0503 or alix@tdp.org.au

http://www.talentdevelopmentproject.org.au/

How to apply here:

https://www.talentdevelopmentproject.org.au/apply-now/

Application Form here:

https://talentdevelopmentproject.org.au/forms/embed.php?id=12468

7 Paths to Computer Science Careers

Meet 7 people taking wildly different paths to a career in computer science, ending up in unexpected places

https://careerswithstem.com.au/7-paths-computer-science-career/

Youth Off The Streets National Scholarship Program

Closes 10 April by 4pm

The National Scholarship Program celebrates the talents and strengths of young people who exhibit extraordinary promise – but who lack the support and resources to fulfil their potential. Every year over 20 young people throughout Australia are awarded Youth Off The Streets scholarships. They are granted up to \$6000 each to help them pursue further education and training – and work towards a positive future.

Details and link to apply here:

https://youthoffthestreets.com.au/programs/scholarship/

John Taccori Careers Advisor

ACT JUSTLY

St Columba's Catholic College, Springwood

The Dove



Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia

Diocese of Parramatta Level 2, 12 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750, Australia

peter.williams@parracatholic.org
parracatholic.org

24 March 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Re: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Following from Bishop Vincent's advice to clergy and parishes yesterday it will be necessary to revisit some of the provisions for liturgical celebrations that were outlined in previous communications.

As you are aware the Prime Minister announced on Sunday evening (22 March 2020) certain prohibitions on activities that would result in people gathering together. In that list was mentioned "places of worship" that were to be closed by midday 23 March 2020. The proscription is around "religious gatherings."

In the Diocese of Parramatta last weekend, some parishes elected to conduct celebrations of the Eucharist with a few people inside and the bulk of people outside. That gesture was appreciated by

However, Stage 1 (as announced on Sunday evening by the Prime Minister) which has now been implemented applies to "religious gatherings" of any sort so that means that what was permitted last Sunday is no longer possible.

Masses and church buildings

Bishop Vincent has issued instructions to parishes, based on the directive of the government, that public Masses (both indoor and outdoor) must now cease. Also affected by this closure are church buildings, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for prayer and religious services.

Funerals are still permitted with a small number of attendees but if it takes place in a church building the social distancing rules must be observed. In the circumstances, consideration for a simple grave side service or using the crematorium chapel with a small number of mourners (very immediate family) is recommended. A memorial Mass when the current crisis is declared over can be held.

Weddings

Marriages are permitted to take place and like funerals the instruction is that only a very small number of people may gather and again the social distancing rules are to be observed.

It is suggested that baptism of infants not take place at this time unless the baptism is in case of emergency.

Penance

Given that the church cannot be used it places an extraordinary burden on priests as to how to respond to a request for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is suggested that each priest use his own discretion as to how to handle such requests, provided social distancing rules are to be observed.

Anointing of Sick

Individual request for the Sacrament of the Sick should be attended to in the manner described in the previous instructions issued.

Holy Week

A decree was issued from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments concerning the liturgical celebrations during Holy Week this year. Parishes have been asked to make suitable preparations these liturgies to be celebrated with the necessary restraints in place. It is anticipated that all the Holy Week liturgies will be "live streamed" from the Cathedral with Bishop Vincent.

With prayers for all those suffering at this time and imploring the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes,

Very Rev Peter G. Williams

Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia