



Term 1 – Week 7 and 8

Upcoming Events and Reminders

- **Tuesday 15 March:** Year 9 Retreat for classes 9.1, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6 at Winmalee Christian Conference Centre
- **Wednesday 16 March:** Year 9 Retreat for classes 9.2, 9.3, 9.7, 9.8 Winmalee Christian Conference Centre
- **Thursday 17 March:** Cross Country Carnival (Periods 4-6)
- **Friday 18 March:** Year 7 Retreat at the College
- **Monday 21 March:** Opening College Mass (rescheduled)
- **Tuesday 22nd March:** Year 11 Earth and Environmental Excursion
- **Wednesday 23rd March:** Year 11 Study Skills Workshop
- **Wednesday 23rd March:** Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Excursion (10.4, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7)
- **Thursday 24 March:** Year 10 Commencement Formal, Penrith Panthers
- **Thursday 24 March - Friday 1st April:** Year 12 Half Yearly Assessment Period
- **Thursday 24 March:** NAPLAN Practice for students in Year 7 and Year 9

News and Other Information

Parent and Carer Communication

In addition to keeping parents and carers informed about what is happening at the College via Skoolbag, SMS, the College website and the St Columba's Facebook Celebrates page, we will also be distributing this fortnightly communication called 'News and Events'. This document will highlight key information for parents and carers as part of a regular communication tool. If you have any feedback, you are invited to let us know via the College email address on stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au

New Staff and Leadership Positions

We are pleased to announce the following staff in new leadership positions at the College:

- Mr Michael Milgate- Head of Learning
- Mr Greg McDonald- Leader of Learning PDHPE and Sport

We are also delighted to welcome two new members of staff to the St Columba's community:

- Mr Rodney Staples- Japanese teacher
- Mrs Elizabeth O'Toole- English and HSIE teacher

Opening College Mass



Unfortunately, our Opening College Mass needed to be postponed due to wet weather. It is rescheduled for Monday 21st March, commencing at 9:30am. Parents are warmly invited to the mass and to a morning tea following the mass. If you would like to attend the mass and/or morning tea, please rsvp through this [link](#).

Concerts in the COLA

On Wednesday and Friday this week our Year 12 Music students will be hosting concerts in the COLA at lunchtime. All students are encouraged to attend and enjoy the musical performances and support our young performers.

Procedure for students leaving early

Please be reminded of the following information that is in the Student Diary (page 13) regarding procedures for students leaving the College early. These procedures ensure that students are able to be dismissed efficiently and without delay.



If a student has a planned appointment, they need to leave for they are to:

- o present a note to their Homeroom Teacher and Leader of Wellbeing for signing during Homeroom that morning.
- o near the time of needing to leave, students show that note to their classroom teacher who will dismiss the student.
- o students report to Student Services with the note and they will be signed out.
- o if returning to the College, students need to return to Student Services to sign back in.

If a student feels sick or is injured at the College, they are to:

- o see their teacher if they are in class, or report directly to Sick Bay
- o Sick Bay staff will assess the situation and make contact with parents and carers
- o under no circumstances are students to contact parents by phone to sign them out

Masks

Students must continue to wear masks on school buses, and if travelling by train. Please ensure your child continues to carry a mask with them if they travel by this form of transport.

Update on Building Works- The Bus Bay

Despite the rain the last few weeks, the work on building the undercover area of the Bus Bay continues. We look forward to this structure being completed and ready for use during Term 2.

