

St Mary's College Gunnedah

October 2018 Edition



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends,

Term 4 has started very well. The HSC Exams are well underway with most students feeling well prepared and pleased with the papers. We continue offering our thoughts and prayers for them to perform well and receive the results they deserve.

This term, Year 11 students have begun studying for their HSC Year. All assessments from now until this time next year count towards their HSC results.

This year a group of St Mary's teachers have been examining data which measures the learning growth of students at St Mary's as they move from Year 9 through to Year 12. The data shows that the learning gain for St Mary's boys is less than the girls and less than boys in some other similar schools. These findings are of concern and staff have been considering strategies to address this finding. In order to assist some of the boys in Year's 10 and 9, this term there will be a trial of running a boys only mentor group. College staff have analysed data from NAPLAN and school reports as well as teacher observations to identify boys who are not reaching their potential with their learning improvement. Boys from Years 9 and 10 were invited to nominate and 38 nominations were submitted. Staff have selected 20 of those who nominated to participate in the trial. Five teachers have been selected to work with this trial group and a special program has been developed that is intended to support these boys improve their learning. In order to continue in the trial, boys will need to demonstrate that they are serious about improving their learning during Mentor Group as well as in their regular classes. Boys who fail to engage adequately with the program will be asked to return to their previous Mentor Group and position will be offered to another boy who is on the waiting list. If the trial proves to be successful, it will become part of the St Mary's Mentor Group program into 2019. If this is the case, boys who missed out in being included in the trial group this term will be offered a place in a similar group next year.

In the second reading from last Sunday, St Paul teaches us the importance of using the scriptures to improve our lives:

"All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy."

2 Tm 3:16

Mace Quirk

Principal



REFLECTION



Everyone has their own idea of good and evil and must follow the good and evil as they perceive it. This in itself is enough to make the world a better place.

Pope Francis

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 17 October - HSC begins
- 7 November - Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 8 November - HSC Ends
- 16 November - Year 12 Formal
- 22 November - Year 7 2019 Orientation day
- 3 December to 7 December - Year 10 Work experience
- 11 December - Year 7-11 Presentation Day
- 19 December - Last day Term 4

TEACHERS WORKING HOURS

According to the current Enterprise Agreement teachers are expected to be at work and on duty from 8.30 to 3.10 each school day.

We all know that teachers work much longer hours than these either at school or at home.

However, it is up to teachers' discretion which hours they work outside of school hours.

It is important for teachers to strike the right balance between work and home as well as the other responsibilities they have in their daily lives.

For this reason teachers might not be able to immediately reply to emails from students or parents, either at school or at home. Parents and students are asked to allow teachers a little time to respond to emails. Generally speaking, emails would be responded to within 24 hours.

NEW ENGLAND SINGS

On Saturday 20th of October, students from the St Mary's choir travelled to Armidale to participate in New England Sings! We arrived at Armidale Conservatorium and went straight into two singing rehearsals followed by a three hour rehearsal with the orchestra. We then went out to dinner at the bowling club and returned to our accommodation to get some well earned rest ready for our two concerts the next morning.

On Sunday morning we made our way to Lazenby Hall for a quick rehearsal followed by our first two hour concert. We had a short break, followed by another two hour concert. Students performed original compositions by Felix Rebel from The Cat Empire, conducted by Mark O'Leary, accompanied by the Armidale Youth Orchestra and the massed choir.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would recommend it to all aspiring singers in the future.

Carter Cameron

Year 11



NEW ENGLAND SINGS! PHOTOS



TENNIS SUCCESS

Congratulations to the following St Mary's students on their recent achievements on the tennis court.

Cooper Wilkinson, Year 8 was awarded the NIAS Male Athlete of the Year for 2018.

Cooper is an excellent tennis player. A few of his accomplishments include:

- Quarter finalist in the Australian Clay Court 14 and under boys
- Runner up at the Canberra Gold 14s
- Runner Up at the State Championships - 14s division



Aaron Osmond, Year 9, Aaron is also an accomplished tennis player, some of his recent achievements include:

- Tweed Heads AMT and JT - Winner of 14 and under Boys singles and doubles
- Bundaberg JT - Winner 14 and under Boys singles and Doubles
- Miami Grass JT - Winner 16 and under Boys Singles
- Queensland Clay Court Championships – Winner of the 14 and under Boys singles



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The St Mary's College School Advisory Council will hold its AGM on 8 November 2018. Any interested parents that would like to be a part of the School Advisory Council should email Benita via smcaccounts@arm.catholic.edu.au.

The Advisory Council is an important part of the St Mary's Community. It provides advice and guidance to the School Executive on a wide range of issues. St Mary's is very grateful to the current parents who give up their time willingly to be part of our Advisory Council. Please contact Benita if you have any questions on either 6742 2124 or the above email address.

DIDGERIDOO AND AN ABORIGINAL DANCE GROUP

A small group of St Mary's students have been given the opportunity to learn to play the didgeridoo by Mr James Hogbin. Mr Hogbin is also taking another group of students who are learning Aboriginal dance.

James will be at St Mary's once a week at lunchtime for the remainder of the Term.

Any interested students who would like to join please see Ms Wortley for more information.



GUNNEDAH YOUTH COUNCIL MAGAZINE

The Gunnedah Youth Council are producing a magazine. The magazine will be about teen life. The GYC are asking students to submit articles about their life, this could include poetry, art or articles.

The GYC are holding a naming competition for the magazine together with an art competition. All submitted artwork will feature in the magazine, however first place will be on the front cover.

The magazine will be distributed within the Gunnedah community.

All entries are due by 20 November and can be handed in at the College office.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) NEWS

This year has been an interesting and successful one for our VET students. They have participated in a variety of courses and workplaces. This month we are highlighting some of our current VET students and next month we will highlight others, together with details regarding next years TVET students.

Automotive:

Jake Priestly and **Joel Dewsbury** are studying at the Gunnedah Campus on Monday mornings.

Jake Priestly - *"I have learnt a fair bit about being a mechanic. It is a good start to my life after school."*

Dylan Jones has a School Based Apprenticeship in Heavy Vehicle with Komatsu Gunnedah.

I am currently completing a school based apprenticeship with Komatsu which includes completing a Certificate III in Automotive at the Tamworth TAFE campus. I'm really enjoying the experience and I currently go to school 3 days, TAFE 1 day and work another day. Having two days off school to study at TAFE and one day in the workplace really helps break up the school week. In June I completed 3 weeks of training at the Kurri Kurri TAFE campus where I completed a business course, an electrical course and also a hydraulic course with the Komatsu training academy which was a great experience for me with so much learning. I am really looking forward to starting my final year of the course and begin my full time apprenticeship at the end of 2019.

Isaac Reeves from last year's Year 12 is almost finished the first year of his apprenticeship with Komatsu after completing the Automotive course in 2016-2017.



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) NEWS

Early Childhood Education and Care

Bella Gallagher and Brandy Harris are studying at the Tamworth Campus on Wednesday.

Bella Gallagher - *“Currently I am completing my Certificate III and I am thoroughly enjoying it. At TAFE I learn about aspects of a childcare work. We learn how to correctly treat and care for babies and toddlers and about their growth and development. My favourite TAFE activities are the practicals when we get to practice the skills we are taught. These skills include changing nappies, making bottles, setting up play areas for various age groups and learning how to engage children with stories and art. In a few weeks time I will be attending work placement where I can actively put all the things I’ve learnt to use in a childcare centre. I really enjoy my time at TAFE and can’t wait to achieve my Certificate III.”*



Health Service Assistant

Dylan Power, Eleisha Campbell and Shauna Cassidy are studying online and attending monthly workshops at the Gunnedah Campus. Dylan also has a School Based Traineeship (SBT) at the Gunnedah Hospital.

Abby Roberts began as a SBT at Mckellar Care and has taken up a full time traineeship.

Dylan Power - *“My chosen TAFE course is a Certificate III in Health Service Assistant. This nursing traineeship not only teaches me important skills for life, it allows me for one day a week to step away from school and studies and spend a day in my chosen career. The most enjoyable aspect of working at a hospital is the Emergency Department, as every day brings new and exciting challenges. This is a great way for me to affirm my career choice, not to mention the great head start in the right direction getting qualifications to work in the industry straight out of school.”*



HSIE Faculty

All students must have a labelled work book, Learning Portfolio (display folder) and their own stationery items such as blue/black pens, highlighters, glue, scissors, ruler and coloured pencils.

Year 12

Congratulations to the Class of 2018 for finishing your studies at St Mary's and good luck in the HSC Exams.

HSIE currently have students sitting exams in

Ancient History, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Modern History.

We wish them all the best.

Year 11 students have just started their 2019 HSC courses.

Below are the detail of their courses

Year 12 Ancient History

The students have begun their HSC core topic, **Cities of Vesuvius**.

Students are investigating the impact of the eruption of AD79 and the sites that were preserved by the volcanic material left behind.

Their **first assessment task** which examines the impact of new archaeological techniques and technologies will be Week 9.

Students are urged to keep their notes up to date, complete their summaries and practice writing tasks. They have to master this topic and maintain their knowledge until this time next year.

Year 12 Business Studies

The students are studying **Marketing**. The **Marketing Case Study** is due at the end of Term 4.

Students can revise content covered in class by accessing the links on Atomi Hub and classroom. Don't forget to continue seeking relevant contemporary business issues to add to your Case Study Portfolio which is due every **Friday Week B**.

Year 12 Modern History

The students are studying the core study: **Power and Authority in the Modern World 1919-1946**

Year 12 Legal Studies

The students are studying the **Human Rights**

Year Seven History

Students are studying **Ancient Rome**.

Upcoming Assessment: Term 4 Week 4— It will be based on source analysis.

See SAO for details, however below are the key areas the students will be tested on.

C ADAM PRU

Content Author Date Audience Motive Perspective Reliability Usefulness

Students will complete many source analysis activities in class but students can refine their skills by completing source analysis at home using the Ancient Rome sources provided in class.

Year Eight Geography

Students are studying **Interconnections**.

One of the many connections students will look at is **Technology**

Did you know??

- Phones today have more computing power than the computers used for the Apollo 11 moon landing
- In 1983 the first mobile phone went on sale for \$4000 US
- In Japan, 90% of mobile phones are waterproof because youngsters use them even in the shower.
- Nomophobia is the fear of being without your mobile phone or losing your signal.
- 100 000 mobile phones are dropped down the toilet in Britain every year.
- The average person unlocks their smartphone 110 times each day.
- More people have died by taking selfies in 2017 than by shark attacks.
- More people in the world have mobile phones than toilets.

The country with the highest growth in mobile phones since in 1990 is I

India with an increase of a staggering 919 170 422%

Year Nine & Ten History

Although Year 9 & 10 are currently studying the battles and features of **World War One, World War Two and Vietnam** they will also be looking at what happened when the soldiers returned



home to their families and their recovery.

Fittingly, the 2018 Invictus Games have just concluded in Sydney and students are going to explore some of the programs and services Australia's current military personnel have access to and compare the varying responses over the years. Particularly Year 10, who will complete a comparison study between the Vietnam veterans and the veterans returning from Afghanistan and other current operations.



CAREERS CHAT

Construction visit

The Civil Contractors Federation NSW Branch (**CCF NSW**) is the peak voice of the civil infrastructure construction and maintenance industry in NSW. The Schools Visit Officer, Kaylene Bosman, recently came to talk with interested students about the opportunities within the Civil Construction industry. Kaylene discussed what the civil construction and maintenance industry has to offer, provided easy to understand careers material and conducted a 'Question and Answer' session. The 10 students who attended found it to be a very interesting and informative presentation.



UNE visit

On Monday, 17 September a representative from University of New England (UNE) also came to the school to chat with students about UNE and the Early Entry program.

Work Experience

The second work experience program for Year 10 students will commence on **Monday, 3 December to Friday, 7 December 2018 (Term 4, Week 9)**.

This week is **optional**. The main aim of the programme is to help our students make informed, realistic decisions about their career choices. Work placement should develop the student's awareness of their interests and abilities, as well as give them valuable experience in an everyday work situation. This, therefore, is especially useful to those students who are intending to leave school at the completion of Year 10. This would be a great chance for them to explore employment options. It would also help them make some contacts in their interested field of employment and possibly gain full time work or an apprenticeship.

CPCCWHS1001 PREPARE TO WORK SAFELY IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY –

Whitecard Course

During this course, participants will cover employee and supervisor responsibilities, health and safety information in the workplace, identifying safety signs, identifying hazards, reporting unsafe conditions, accidents or incidents and injury management.

Cost ; \$145

Where: Gunnedah Community College, 39 Chandos Street Gunnedah

Minimum age: 14 years

Contact: 67425630

Gunnedah Community Scholarship

The Gunnedah Community Scholarship Fund is an initiative of our local community and provides an opportunity for our local youth to succeed in their tertiary education by encouraging students to embark on a journey of a lifelong learning by financially supporting those moving on to pursue tertiary studies.

Since the Fund's inception fourteen years ago, over \$300,000 across more than 332 scholarships has been awarded to local students. Scholarships have covered many disciplines including accounting, agriculture, allied health, animal science, law, architecture, arts/theatre, civil engineering, education, information technology, medicine, nursing and social work.

Applications for the Community Scholarship Fund opened on Friday, 21 September 2018 and closes on Monday, 17 December 2018 for the 2019 round - complete your applications

at <https://gsc2380.wufoo.com/forms/k1hhlp01tgx31w/>

If you require further information or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Council's Youth Officer on 02 6740 2275 or council@infogunnedah.com.au.

Interesting Reading:

5 top VET FAQs

With the end of the school year looming, now is a great time to help yourself with your study choices by checking out our five top VET FAQs. You'll find the key information you need to know—from getting into an apprenticeship or traineeship through to the hundreds of jobs a VET qualification can help you into. Go to:

<https://vet.nsw.gov.au/about-vet/faq>

What's Trending in Industry

https://www.tafensw.edu.au/study/industry-trends?utm_campaign=AU_TAFE%20NSW_Newsletter%20FY18-Q4-10_EDM_Default_v1.0&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, 15 th November	Whitecard Course – Community College
Monday, 2 nd - Friday 7 th December	Year 10 Work Experience (optional) Honeywell Engineering Summer School
Thursday, 13 th December	NSW HSC Results released by NESA
Friday, 14 th December	ATARS released by UAC
21 – 25 January	TAFE NSW Information Week 2019



St Mary's College

Founded by the Sisters of Mercy 1879



2019 ENROLMENTS CLOSING SOON



Enrolment application packages are still available from St Mary's Office and

www.stmaryscollege.nsw.edu.au

Limited vacancies in all Year levels for 2019



CHRISTMAS CHARITY GOLF & FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2018
GUNNEDAH GOLF CLUB

4 Person Ambrose + 4 Ball Par +
Supreme Team Challenge

Heaps of prizes to be won, novelty games, live music and family activities. What a fun way to end the year with your work colleagues and mates!

SAVE THE DATE!

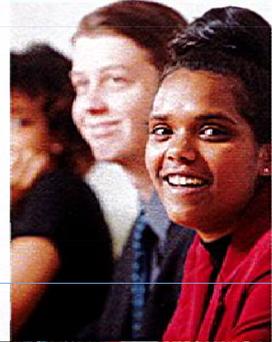
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Sewa Emojong
Gunnedah Shire Council Youth Development Officer
(02) 6740 2100 | council@infogunnedah.com.au
www.gunnedah.nsw.gov.au



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (YEP)

Introducing the Smart, Skilled and Hired **Youth Employment Program (YEP)**: a fully-funded and flexible initiative from the Department of Industry and delivered by Joblink Plus, designed to provide young people aged 15 – 24 with the support and skills to overcome barriers to employment. Intended to complement rather than duplicate existing Commonwealth services, YEP is designed for young people who aren't getting any or enough support from Commonwealth programs.



Who is eligible?

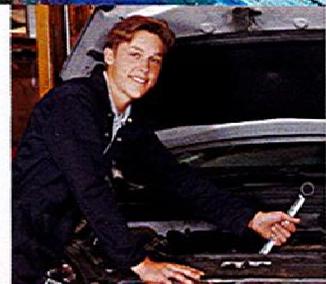
Here's what makes a suitable candidate:

- Is aged 15 – 24 at time of registration;
- Has satisfied the school leaving requirements of the NSW Education Act;
- Is not registered with a Commonwealth employment service/program (exceptions apply);
- Is an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, humanitarian visa holder, or New Zealand citizen.

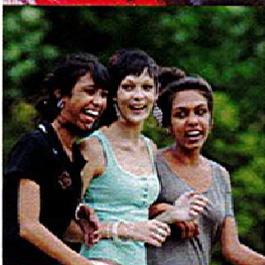


YEP assists participants in successfully completing long and short term goals through the measurement of two kinds of outcomes:

- **Mandatory Outcomes:** gaining or increasing hours of employment to a minimum of 14 hours per week.
- **Optional Outcomes:** aim to overcome barriers to employment in the areas of education, employment, health, home, and social/community.



By connecting eligible young people with training, support, and jobs, they will gain skills and experience that will improve their long-term job and socio-economic prospects. YEP aims to increase participation of young people aged 15 – 24 in the labour market, as well as reduce the long-term effects of unemployment for individuals and their communities.



Want more information?

Contact Amanda Hazell or one of the Youth Consultants at **Joblink Plus**

Call: 1800 695 625

Email: youthprograms@joblinkplus.com.au

 www.facebook.com/joblinkplusyouthprograms/

JOBLINKplus
FOCUS ON OUR COMMUNITY

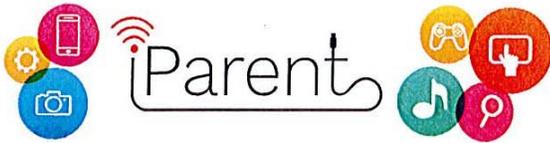
Proudly funded by



Navigating the eSafety website



Resources for parents



Highlights include:

Multimedia reviews — tips about entertainment choices available to young people—including games, movies and television.

Online safeguards — advice and information about parental controls for devices, streaming services, web browsers and gaming consoles and a range of content about safe search and filtering software.

Staying safe — information about key internet safety topics.

Online risks — guidance for parents to help deal with cyberbullying, sexting, inappropriate content and grooming.

Getting help — a listing of professional support services for children and parents/carers. Each state in Australia has a dedicated **parent helpline**.

Infographics

- * Is there an age limit for kids on social media?
- * 8 tips to keep on top of your child's screen time.

Parent's guide to online safety

This brochure is available in 14 different languages.

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

DIY eSafety checklist

Do you respect others and only post what you'd say to someone's face?

Is your time between screens and other activities well balanced?

Do you use strong privacy settings and passwords, and update these regularly?

Do you get consent before sharing an image or video of another person?

Have you secured your digital lifestyle with the right software and settings?

BE THE CHANGE.

Unite for a better internet

OCESCH: 1701 www.esafety.gov.au

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

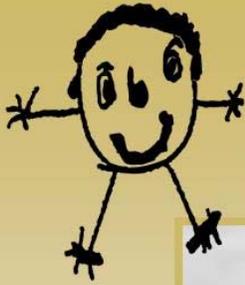
HOW TO REPORT CYBERBULLYING MATERIAL

- 1 Report the cyberbullying material to the social media service
- 2 Collect evidence - copy URLs or take screenshots of the material

If the content is not removed within 48 hours

- 3 Report it to esafety.gov.au/reportcyberbullying
- 4 Block the person and talk to someone you trust

If you are in immediate danger, call 000 (triple zero)
If you need to talk to someone, visit kidshelpline.com.au or call them on 1800 55 1800, 24 hours a day 7 days a week



Gunnedah Preschool

PRESENTS...



MOVIE PREMIERE

THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

6PM FOR 7PM START

TICKET \$25.00

BOOK ONLINE - TRYBOOKING.COM/440424

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PRIZES

WINE / CHAMPAGNE
FINGER FOOD

THANKS TO OUR SPECIAL SPONSORS




STOCKHOLM
FLORIST
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Kurrew Hair
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CODE 087

10 DAY SCHOOL IMMERSION

2019

MALBAGO

VILLAGE
PHILIPPINES

November 2019



Come and explore the Philippines and experience the global missionary Church for a life changing experience!

COST

3,950

INCLUSIONS

- *10 Days immersed in the local culture
- *International flights from Sydney
- *Domestic flights within the Philippines
- *Int. SOS Risk Management coverage
- *Travel Insurance
- *All local transport costs
- *All meals
- *All Entrance fees
- *Accommodation in parish community
- *Accommodation in guesthouse venues
- *Donations to local communities
- *In-country Catholic Mission Facilitator
- *Phase 1 pre-trip preparation session
- *Phase 3 post trip resources
- *Cost is departing Sydney, per person

NO ALCOHOL DRUGS SMOKING

You are invited to submit an *expression of interest* to join a school immersion group to Malbago Village in the Philippines 2019

Catholic Mission immersions are a 3-phase experiential educational program offered to schools. The purpose of the immersion is to develop an understanding and appreciation of Philippine culture while learning about ourselves. Immersions are about 'being WITH' rather than 'DOING for', or service program. Spend time with peers in and out of the classroom building life-long friendships; be part of a different culture and witness the day to day lifestyle of the people in a Catholic context. Come and experience fellowship, prayer, communion, music and Eucharist in the Philippines. Be part of discussions on inter-

religious dialogue and meet truly amazing dedicated Catholic Sisters and Brothers who live and work within the communities. We will initially travel to Cebu for a day exploring the history, then on to Malbago Village on Bantayan Island where we will stay. On the return trip we will spend another day in Cebu visiting the local Sisters. Throughout the trip you will be accompanied by two teachers and led by an accredited Catholic Mission facilitator. The on-ground itinerary is prepared by Catholic Mission and the local parish. All logistics are handled by Catholic Mission.

The Next Steps

Return the "Expression of Interest" form by Friday, 19th Oct 2018
Contact: Karen Mooney

