



The Focus



08 September, 2023
Term 3, Issue 4

Diary Dates

Thursday 14 September RU OK & BRONUT Day
Tuesday 19 September Year 12 Graduation Mass
Tuesday 19 September Year 12 Graduation Ceremony - 5.00pm College Hall
Friday 22 September Term 3 Concludes
Monday 09 & Tuesday 10 October CSPD Staff Development Day
Wednesday 11 October Term 4 Commences

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From the Principal Leader

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

Last night I had the privilege of attending the Bishop of Parramatta Award for Student Excellence. This annual award is given to one Year 12 student from each Catholic school in the Diocese of Parramatta. It recognises students who witness their Catholic faith and achieve well in their academic, sporting, creative, vocational or community endeavours.

Our College Captain, Isaac Paulino, was presented with his award at a special ceremony held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.



Year 11 student, Emmanuel Crichton, read out the following citation:

The Patrician Charism calls us to see Christ in all people. In his student leadership role as College Captain, Isaac approaches all situations with humility, compassion and care. Isaac's generous nature extends to volunteering his time to social justice initiatives in the school. Some of these include the College Community Breakfast and raising of funds for a variety of social justice appeals. Isaac takes an active role in liturgies as a Minister of the Word.

As a faith filled young man, Isaac actively em-

bodies our College Patrician Pillars and is a most deserving recipient of this recognition.

As a College community, we congratulate Isaac for receiving this wonderful award.

Father's Day Mass

Last week, the College celebrated our annual Father's Day Mass in partnership with Nagle College. Once again, it was wonderful to see so many fathers, father figures, carers and students celebrating our Catholic faith together. Many thanks to all, especially Fr. Regie, Deacon John, Mr. Greg Beacroft, Mr. Hunt, and the staff and musicians from Nagle College who helped make the Mass such a wonderful celebration.



NRL Schoolboys Cup 2023

I was very proud to see our under 13 and senior rugby league teams reach their respective grand-finals last week at Campbelltown Sports Stadium. Both teams played Westfields Sports High School in highly competitive and energetic games. Our boys demonstrated great passion and sportsmanship. Our under 13 team won their game and our senior team was narrowly defeated in the final few minutes of their game. The College community is very proud of our boys in these teams and congratulates them for the tremendous efforts. I wish to thank the staff members involved with our rugby league development program and grand-final teams including – Mr. Greg Beacroft, Mr. Meares, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Niulesa and Mr. Tramontana.



Year 11 Examinations

The Year 11 Preliminary course examinations are currently underway and are scheduled to conclude on Friday 15 September, 2023. It is imperative that students are continuing to prepare for these examinations adequately. This requires students to dedicate appropriate time at home for study. It is recommended that students revise class notes and practice past examination papers to assist them to increase their capacity for optimum results.

Year 12 Graduation

Final preparations are currently occurring with the Year 12 Graduation. This is an exciting time for students, families and staff. Families recently received correspondence via Compass about the events of the day. I wish to thank the numerous staff members who are heavily involved in the organisation of this event.

Student Diary

It is an expectation of the College that students use their diary effectively. Students should be using their diary to enter their nightly homework, assessment events and any other major College event. The diary is also an effective tool for parents and class teachers to communicate. I thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Reflection

*Loving God,
Each day as I step further into my future,
give me the
courage, knowledge and patience that I need.
Remind me that you always journey with me and that
you will never lead me into anything that you
won't lead me through.
Thank you for the gift of my life.
May the way I live be
my gift back to you — with your love and guidance.
Amen*

God bless,

Frank Chiment
PRINCIPAL LEADER

[Assistant Principal - Pastoral Care](#)

The end of Term 3 is rapidly approaching and the finish line is well within reach for our Year 12 students. The Year 12 Graduation Mass and Ceremony are two of the highlights of every school year and we hope that our 2023 farewell rituals will be just as memorable as previous years. As we have constantly reminded the Year 12 students in recent weeks – any investment of time and effort in the next month in terms of study, revision and fine-tuning their subject notes will reap rich rewards when they face the HSC Examinations at the commencement of Term 4.

In the last fortnight, we have had the Year 9 Reflection Day, NRL Schoolboy Cup grand finals in both junior and senior divisions, Father's Day Mass, an outstanding guest speaker for Year 12 Student Wellbeing, Mufti Day for the Delany Foundation, Year 11 Reflection Day, commencement of Year 11 Examinations, HSC Music Performances, and the first steps of the nomination and election process for the 2024 Student Leadership Team.

Assistant Principal - Pastoral Care cont.

In terms of reminders for this edition of The Focus – we would like to emphasise the importance of parents checking their email for communications from school via Compass. We try to keep a sensible balance between email overload and timely communication in terms of notifying parents about events at school – but it is crucial that all parents check their email as regularly as possible to ensure that messages actually get home. One of the learnings from the Tell Them From Me Survey this year was that while the vast majority of parents are keen to receive information about their son's education and various activities and events being held at school, a small number of parents read few, if any, of the communications that are sent home. This can lead to frustration on both sides of the relationship, and ultimately, it is your sons who may be missing out on opportunities.

Compass is certainly our main communication method, as is the case in all CSPD schools - but we all enjoy actually speaking to people, so I would encourage all parents to pick up the phone to make, or respond to calls, from the teachers or office staff. Again – the beneficiaries of better communication are your sons.

Thanking you for your ongoing support.

Brian Edmonds

Assistant Principal – Pastoral Care

Assistant Principal - Learning, Teaching and Innovation

Term 4, 2023 Staff Development Days - NSW Curriculum Reform

The NSW Curriculum Reform affects *all* students in *all* stages of learning in schools. In NSW, this work commenced across all schools across the entire educational sector in 2022, mostly in the primary school setting. In 2024, all secondary schools will begin to implement the new curriculum in English, Maths, Computing and Languages. Other key areas will also begin preparing for the new curriculum to be implemented in 2025 and beyond. A full timeline and further details about this NSW Curriculum Reform are available from NESA and this timeline provides current information about the scheduled implementation.

Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) has previously communicated with families about the scheduling of additional staff development days to ensure quality teacher learning is provided in advance and that specific planning for the new curriculum in each syllabus area occurs. In all CSPD schools, two days of professional development for teachers will be held on Monday 9th October 2023 and Tuesday 10th October 2023.

All students in Years 7 - 11 will commence formal lessons for Term 4, 2023 on Wednesday 11th October. The Year 12 students will commence their HSC examinations on the same day.

Year 8 Subject Selection

This coming week we are commencing our work with Year 8 students about choosing their elective courses for 2024 and 2025. An information session for parents and carers will be held and specific communication will be sent to Year 8 parents and carers next week.

Year 11 Examinations

Year 11 exams continue next week. In the main, our Year 11 students have engaged in this process well. Most 2 unit courses have exams that extend for 2 hours, which provides students with a taste of HSC exams that extend for 3 hours. I commend the following article, which offers solid practical advice to parents/carers of Year 11s and other groups as well.

Last Minute Study - Managing time, planning for success and study technique

What do you do if your son has left your study until the last minute? In many recent phone calls with parents and carers this has been a common point of concern. The following ideas may be of interest to you and access to the online Study Skills

Handbook is an excellent resource for supporting you and your son. Details for accessing the resource are included below.

In an ideal world, it would be great if all students paid attention, focused and participated in all classes, completed all homework and assessments thoroughly, asked for help throughout the year on anything they didn't understand, made regular summaries of the work covered in class (preferably at the end of each topic or section) and did their best to learn as they go throughout the year.

But in reality, this doesn't always happen for every student and every subject. So what can you do if your son has left study for tests and exams to the last minute?

Read and/or discuss the following tips with him and use the resources available on the Study Skills Handbook site, access details provided below. Subscription to this resource has been made available to all students and parents/carers of the College.

15 Tips for Students and 'Last Minute' Study:

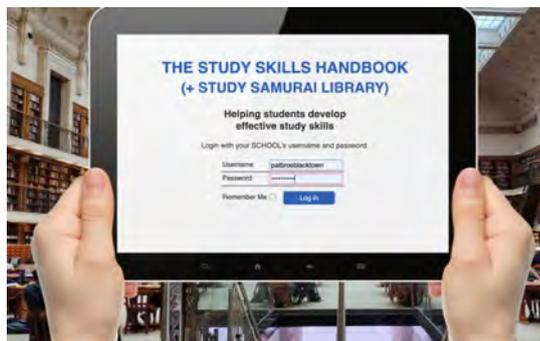
1. **CLARIFY YOUR FOCUS:** Before you dive into your study materials, take a moment to identify what topics and concepts will be tested. Reach out to your teachers or classmates if you're unsure about any specifics. Understanding the exam format and question style will guide your study strategy. Create a checklist of subjects and topics you need to cover, ensuring you're not leaving anything out.
2. **GATHER MATERIALS:** Do you have notes, materials, and textbooks on everything you need to learn? If not, is there a friend who can forward you the resources you have misplaced? Is there an online portal where material from classes is stored? Can you borrow from the library additional books or textbooks on the topics you need to learn? Are past examination papers available?
3. **DRAFT A STUDY PLAN:** You only have limited time left so you need to make the most of it. Draw up a grid that shows how much time you have left before your exams to study. Decide if you will spend equal time on each subject or if certain subjects need more time. Allocate subjects to the time slots you have then decide exactly what you will do to prepare for each subject. For each subject make a list of what sort of study you should do to prepare for that subject. Brainstorm your ideas on how to prepare, ask your parents and teachers for feedback, and share ideas with your friends.
4. **CREATE STUDY NOTES:** Target your notes to what will be tested. It is best for learning and memory to make your study notes yourself, but if you have run out of time there are options. See if any of your class materials or textbooks have summarised the sections you need, see if there are study guides available in the library on the topics to learn, or make targeted notes yourself on the key areas you have to memorise. You could also see if there is a friend where you could split the topics between yourself and share the notes you make. Don't spend too long on this stage, it needs to be completed as quickly as possible.
5. **STUDY!** What does study actually mean? It means memorising the material you need to know so you can recall it in the exams, and practising the skills of the subject so you know how to do the types of questions you will have in the exam. To memorise your notes you need to test yourself over and over on them. You could read a section, see what you can write down without looking then check. Then review the things you didn't know again. Or you could do the same approach reading things out loud and then seeing what you can repeat out loud. Doing questions, practise essays, past exam questions will also help you understand what you know, and what you need to spend more time on.

Remember, the key here is to get started. Procrastination won't serve you well at this point. Embrace the challenge, and you'll be surprised at how much you can accomplish when you're focused and determined. Your ability to absorb and apply information quickly is stronger than you think.

Students, parents and carers can learn more about study and examination techniques at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with the details below and working through some of the units.

Username: patbroblacktown

Password: 100success



Cathy Molly
Assistant Principal
Learning, Teaching & Innovation

Religious Education and Mission



Thursday Morning Mass

We continue to have our Thursday Morning Mass. We welcome any student that wishes to attend the Mass.

Delany Reach Out Fundraiser

Each year, we raise funds for the Delany Foundation through the Delany Reach Out Appeal. All money raised goes towards funding the Patrician schools in India, Kenya, Ghana and Papua New Guinea. Thank you for your support. Donations can be made through the Qkr! App or through the Qkr! Website <https://qkr-store.qkrschool.com/store/#/home>

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion Training for students

Sr Mary Louise, Liturgy Educator Office for Worship, has kindly offered to run workshops for students who would like to be Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion. Please note students will need to meet the following requirements:

- Is a baptised Catholic who is an active parishioner within the Diocese of Parramatta.
- Has received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation.
- Is 16 years of age or older.
- Is committed to the ethos of the Catholic Church and provides a good example to his or her peers in living this out within the school community.

Training will be on Tuesday 24 October from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre (next door to the College).

You must fill this [form](#) in by Friday 22nd September.

Years 11 and 9 Reflection Days

Over the last couple of weeks, we held our Years 11 and 9 Reflection Days. The Year 11 Reflection Day centred around Servant Leadership and marked the start of the process of selecting our 2024 student leaders. The Year 9 Reflection Day centred about what it means to be a Christian today with Mr Chris Doyle from Karis Ministry leading a workshop with the students. Thank you to all the staff and students involved in leading and participating in the day.





Fathers Day Mass

We celebrated our Father’s Day Mass on Friday 1st September with Nagle College at St Patrick’s Catholic Church. The event allowed us to appreciate and give gratitude to father’s and those acting as father figures in our time. Thank you Mr Gregory Beacroft and to Mrs Loren Pelham, Nagle College REC, for organising the event.

Victor Hunt
Dean of Religious Education & Mission



Dean of Knowledge Management & Analytics

In the next few weeks, Year 12 will complete their thirteen years of schooling with much celebration and fanfare. After that reality of the the HSC Examinations kicks in, it can be a stressful time for the students and their families. Although the HSC is not the only way to get where the boys want to go, it can seem like the only way for them at this moment.

NESA has a great page of information for Parents and Carers (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/learning/tests-and-exams/hsc-help/parents>) on how to help the boys navigate this stressful time with practical tips and knowledge.

As always, we are here to help and happy to answer any questions you or your sons have.

Mark Robinson
Dean of Knowledge Management & Analytics

Resource Centre Update

Encouraging Reading

14 Minutes for 14 Days

In the Resource Centre, we like to encourage all our students to **READ OF-TEN**, to **reAD WIDELY** and to **READ FOR PLEASURE**.

This term, we are issuing a challenge to students to read 14 minutes for 14 days. Students can collect a reading card from the Resource Centre to track their progress - fill in the card and submit it to the Resource Centre to be in the running to win a fun prize! Students can enter more than once and have until Week 1 of Term 4 to enter!



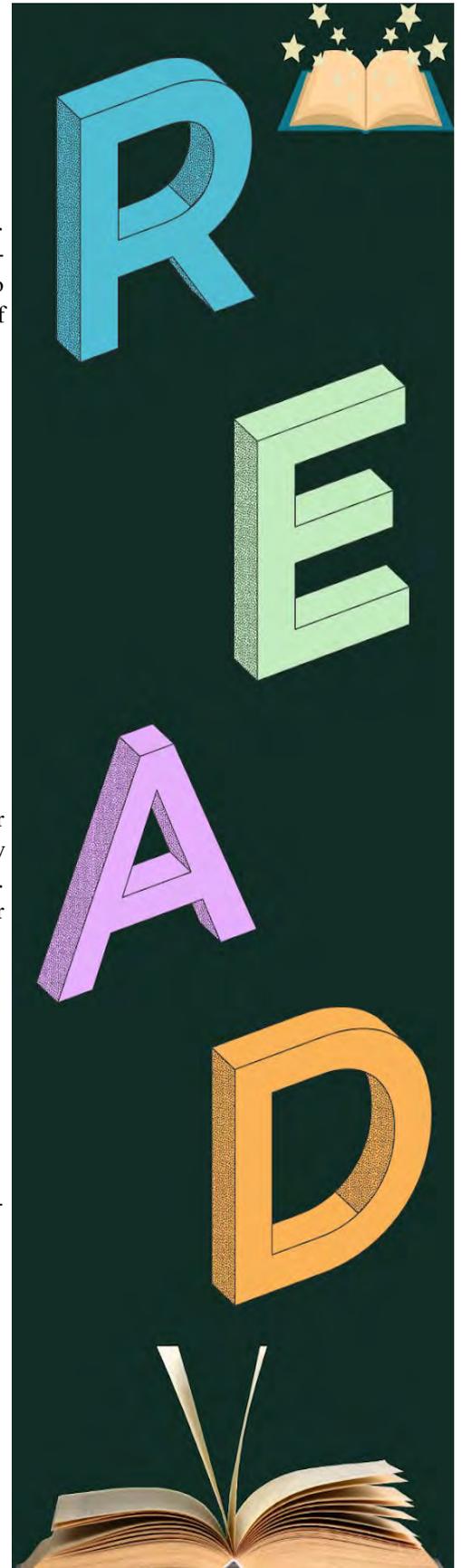
Talk about Reading

We encourage all parents and caregivers to speak with their child about their reading - start by encouraging regular reading - students should be reading every day! You may also like to ask your child questions about what they are reading. Talking about reading is a great way to motivate and encourage students in their reading journey.

Questions to ask to engage students in discussion about reading:

- Why did you select this book?
- Will you catch me up on the story? What's happened so far? What do you think will happen next?
- If you were that character, what would you have done differently in that situation?
- What was your favourite part of the book? Why?
- Who was your favourite character? Why?
- Who is the author - have they written any other books?
- Would you recommend that I read this book? Why or why not?

Students are encouraged to visit us in the Resource Centre for any advice and guidance in choosing their next great read.



Year 11 Geography Excursion

A core requirement of the learning process in the study of Geography is to undertake fieldwork. Learning in the field enables students to see first hand the environmental and geographical processes that form and transform environments. As part of their unit - Biophysical Interactions, our Year 11 students had the opportunity to assess and understand the processes that influence the health of the Hawkesbury River.

During their day at Brewongle Environmental Education Centre, our students traded their laptops and pens for kayak paddles, to become river ecologists for a day and discovered field methods used to assess river health. Our students used state of the art equipment to monitor plankton, paddle the river in kayaks and collect water quality data. From their day, students were able to explain how the condition of the Hawkesbury River changes, before heading back into the classroom to understand the management strategies that can be used to help the river.

Looking forward to more fieldwork days during Year 12.

Ben Collins
Geography Teacher

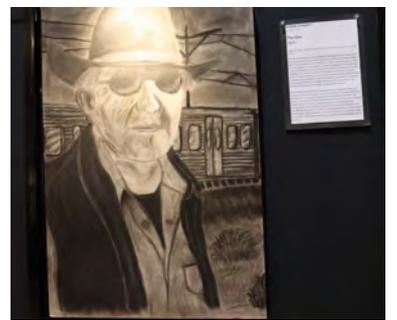


PDSSSC Chess Gala Day

The PDSSSC Chess Gala Day was held on Thursday 31st August at St John XXIII Catholic College, Stanhope. Thirty four students over twelve teams represented our College. The students excelled themselves in behaviour and results. Year 7 and Year 12 teams won the competition for their year groups. Additionally, a big congratulations to the Year 9 team for coming second. The winning Year 7 team was made up of Tanvir Saini, Aaron Shrestha and Isley Willams. The winning Year 12 team was made up of Nikhil Saldanha Nathaniel Celis Karl Tongol. The second placed Year 9 team was Jeremy Espinas Tanush Oberoi Alby Bento. Thank you to all the students that represented the College and we look forward to next year.



Year 12 HSC Showcase



Merit Awards



Congratulations to the following students who are the recipients of the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Silver and Gold Awards will be presented at the College Assemblies.

Silver Awards

Jevir	Singh	8	D16
Samuel	John	8	D26

Bronze Awards

Joshua	Mendens	11	E8	James	Cullen	10	C4
Kori	Torrisheba	8	D22	Pretorius	Wilson	10	C3
Atunaisa	Fakatava	8	D22	Hunter	Yates	7	C18
Cooper	Golder	8	D22	Ryan	Coinakis	7	C15
Moala	Tuitupou	8	D27	Herman	Tautai Leota	7	C17
Justin	Tielu	8	D27	Samuel	Gashaw	8	D16
Aaran	Srimurugathas	9	D10	Christopher	Natour	8	D20
Cooper	Hurst	10	C8	William	Marchione	7	C17
Daksh	Soni	10	C19	Tama	Pa	7	C15
Christopher	Yaacoub	7	C16	Morocco	Uata	7	C11
Oliver	Allen	10	C8	Gianni	Dimopoulos	10	C3
Patrick	Agon	7	C14	Harley	Serle	10	C3
Kaihana	Waddell	8	D15	Rhytham	Kankani	8	D16
Jaxon	Speechley	8	D22	Larenzo	Doolan-Tukuafu	8	D18
Enoka Jr	Fretton	9	D10	Henil	Malavia	7	C14
Jackson	Taingahue-Neil	9	D10	Joseph	Abou-Yaghi	7	C16
Alexander	Thant	7	C17	Stirling	Lethe	10	C1
Naman	Joshi	7	C13	Sia'a	Taveuveu	7	C12
	Jainam	Patel	8			D22	

Good luck in the next fortnight!



SPORTS REPORT



PDSSSC Athletics Report 2023

On Monday 28th of August, our College Athletic squad competed with Patties pride in the PDSSSC Athletics Championships at Sydney Olympic Park. All Athletes in attendance participated with great spirit representing our College with passion.

With 28 participating Schools from across the affiliated organization, Patties athletes certainly produced some impressive performances. Noah Bajada (year 7) was busy the entire day participating in five track and field events. Noah was for sure the athlete of the day with some impressive results. Noah's Long Jump Gold medal late in the day was a just reward for a young man who gave 100% effort in all his events.

Our 2023 Athletics Captain Evander Kelly has represented the College all his years at Patrician Brothers' with passion and great success. Evander completed his busy schedule with a great run winning the Gold medal in the U17 men's 400m. Thank you Evander for all your efforts in Athletics for the College and best wishes for the future.

Kalisi Aualitia was super strong in winning Gold medals in the U13 Shot Put and Discus events. Other good performances included Zachary Smith Silver medal U17 1500m, Logan Tolar Gold medal U16 100m and Silver medal 200m and George Mapulesua who won a Gold medal in the U17 discus. Congratulations to all boy's who competed and a big thank you to Mr. Niulesa for his help on the day.

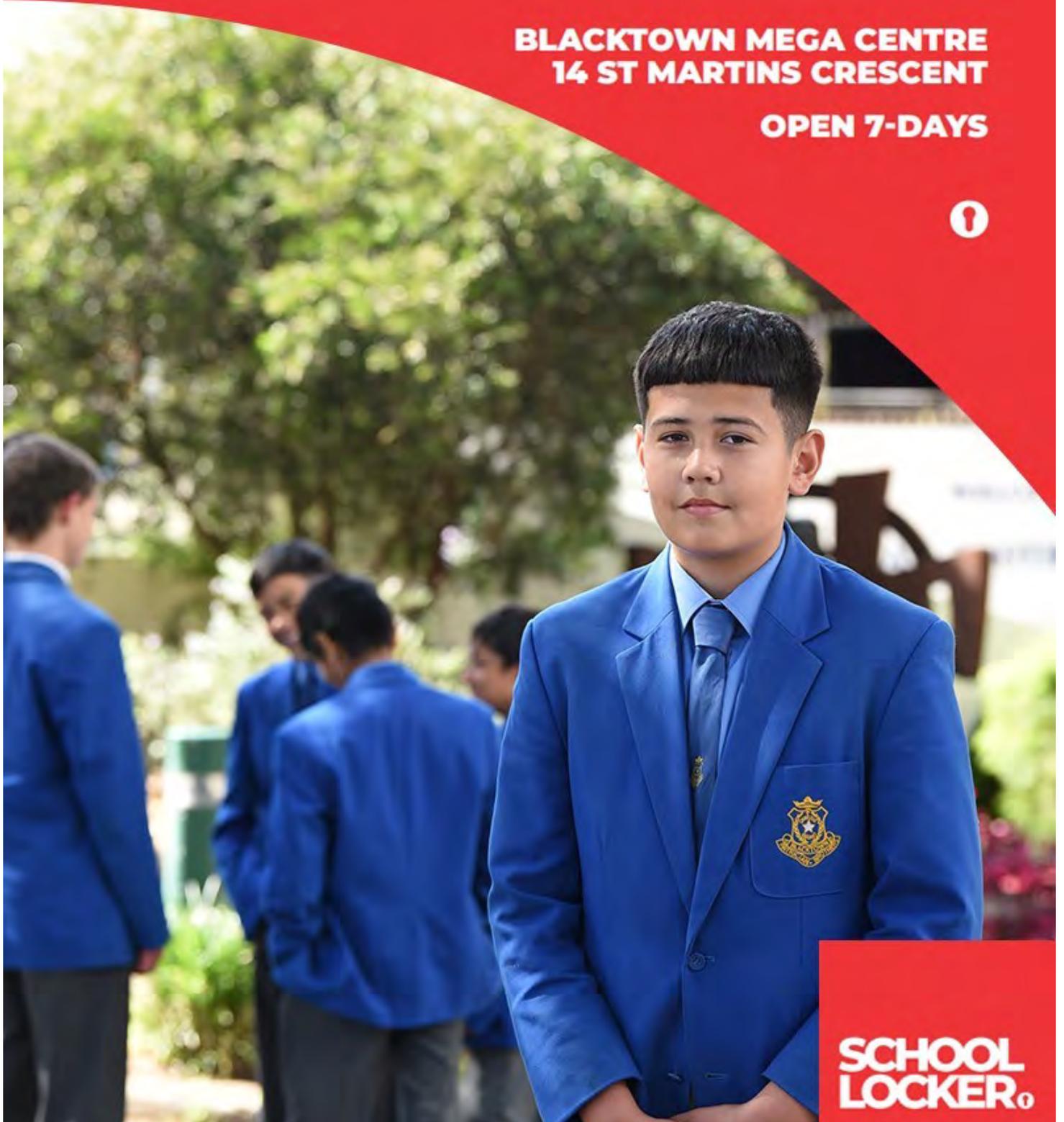
Robert Bangel
Coach



New School Locker Superstore Opening Friday 25 August

**BLACKTOWN MEGA CENTRE
14 ST MARTINS CRESCENT**

OPEN 7-DAYS



**SCHOOL
LOCKER[®]**

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS



We're excited to announce the new School Locker Blacktown Superstore will open on 25 August 2023. Stay tuned for more updates coming soon!

School Locker Blacktown

The new School Locker superstore located in the Blacktown Mega Centre on St Martins Crescent offers a convenient option for school shopping with:

- Spacious design and multiple fitting rooms
- Trained staff to assist with school uniform and footwear fitting
- Free parking

7 DAY TRADING HOURS:

Monday to Wednesday	9am to 5pm
Thursday	9am to 7pm
Friday	9am to 5pm
Saturday	9am to 3pm
Sunday	10am to 3pm

Online Uniform Shop

The online uniform shop remains a one-stop-shop for your uniforms and student resources including technology, stationery, footwear, musical instruments, sports equipment, school bags and more!

Scan the code below to view your school uniform online. Your order will be home delivered for your convenience.

Student Advantage Membership

Sign-up for your FREE Student Advantage Membership and log-in when you shop to access student prices on the technology range. Opt-in to the mailing list and receive updates about other special offers. Visit theschoollocker.com.au/customer/account to set up your membership today!



Scan to shop online anytime at
theschoollocker.com.au/schools

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PATRICIAN BROTHERS' COLLEGE

UNIFORM PRICE LIST

Junior Formal Uniform Year 7 - Year 10

Shirt Short Sleeve Blue	\$29.00
Trousers Formal Grey	\$48.00
Jumper Wool Royal	\$80.00
Blazer Royal	\$159.00
Tie	\$23.00
Socks Grey	\$6.00

Senior Formal Uniform Year 11 - Year 12

Shirt Short Sleeve White	\$29.00
Trousers Formal Grey	\$48.00
Jumper Wool Royal	\$80.00
Blazer Royal	\$159.00
Tie	\$23.00
Socks Grey	\$6.00

Sports Uniform

Polo Junior Royal	\$34.00
Polo Senior White	\$34.00
Shorts Royal	\$34.00
Jacket Microfibre Royal/Gold with Cotton Lining	\$74.00
Jacket Microfibre Royal/Gold with Fleece Lining	\$80.00
Track Pants Microfibre Royal	\$46.00

Accessories

Cap Navy	\$17.00
Belt Black	\$18.95
Apron White	\$10.00
Apron Navy	\$10.00

Prices effective 12 January 2023. Prices are subject to change.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

100 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown
E: PatricianBrothersC@theschoollocker.com.au

Trading Hours During School Term:
Tuesday 8:00am - 12:00pm
Thursday 8:00am - 12:30pm

Scan the QR code to find your uniform online or visit theschoollocker.com.au



**SCHOOL
LOCKER**



UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

We're excited to announce Patrician Brothers uniforms are now available from School Locker Blacktown.

School Locker Blacktown

You'll find everything you need for school including uniforms, school shoes, stationery, technology, musical instruments, sports equipment and more, in this new convenient School Locker location.

Open 7 days a week

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-5pm
Thursday 9am-7pm
Saturday 9am-3pm
Sunday 10am-3pm

Other features and benefits

- Spacious shop design
- Plenty of fitting rooms
- Trained staff to assist with school uniform and footwear fitting
- Free parking

Online Uniform Shop

The online uniform shop also remains a one-stop-shop for your uniforms and student resources. Scan the code below to view your school uniform online.

Your online orders will be home delivered unless you prefer to click-and-collect from School Locker Blacktown Superstore.

Student Advantage Membership

Sign-up for your FREE Student Advantage Membership and log-in when you shop to access student prices on the technology range. Opt-in to the mailing list and receive updates about other special offers. Visit theschoollocker.com.au/customer/account to set up your membership today!



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Blacktown Mega Centre, 14 St Martins Crescent
Email tsl.blacktown@theschoollocker.com.au
Scan the code to shop online at theschoollocker.com.au

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