Academy Uniforms is now at CRC Sydenham
Mon 2:30pm - 4:30pm
Thu 8:00am - 10:00am
Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm

Wed 20 Jan
Book Collection—all Year levels

Tues 26 Jan
Australia Day Public Holiday—College closed

Fri 29 Jan
Year 7 Welcome Day

Mon 1 Feb
Years 8-10 students commence

Thurs 4 Feb
Year 7 Compulsory Information Evening

Wed 10 Feb
Ash Wednesday

Fri 12 Feb
Opening School Mass (Parents Welcome)

Thurs 18 Feb
Yr 10 Premier League
Year 7 Immunisations

Tues 23 Feb
Year 10 Immersion
Year 7 Mass - Parents Welcome

Fri 26 Feb
Final Day for 2017
Year 7 Applications

Wed 9 Mar
Year 7 Camp—Sunnystones

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A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS MORNING

by Robert Louis Stevenson

The day of joy returns, Father in Heaven, and crowns another year with peace and good will.
Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.
Close the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts.
May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,
And the Christmas evening bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus’ sake.

Amen

Dear Parents and Students,

I hope that my words and actions over the last nine years have shown you how incredibly proud I am to have been the Principal of Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs. I have had an amazing opportunity to work with students, staff and parents to build a College community that is truly about living fully and acting justly.

I am very humbled to have been entrusted to lead this wonderful College. Nine years ago the College commenced with 82 students and 11 staff. Today we have 732 students and 72 staff and, like a child, we have not only grown physically but we have matured and developed a caring, supportive faith and learning community.

I am eternally grateful to Fr John O’Reilly for entrusting me with the job of starting this College. He was willing to take a risk on an inexperienced, naïve new Principal. He has been a great support to staff, the students, families and me over the years and for this I thank him.

To the staff, those who commenced with us in 2007 and those who have joined us over the years. I am in awe of your commitment, passion and enthusiasm for the work that you do. You have been open to new ideas and different ways of doing things; you have all embraced who we are and what we are striving to do for the students at the College. It has definitely been a team effort.

I do want to single out one group of staff who can at times be forgotten and neglected and that is the support staff at the College. Without your work, we as teachers could not function!

2015 has been a difficult year with the death of two of our staff members; Helen Dominguez Nathan and Joe Galea, their deaths have impacted on our community but in particular the staff. I want to thank the staff for their love and care of Helen, Joe and their families.

To you the parents, I am so very grateful to you for your support of the College, for trusting us in the work that we do with young people. We have, in partnership with you, nurtured their spiritual, academic and emotional growth.

Cont....
Those of you who started with us in the early days, I thank you for having the courage to take a risk on something that was new and in some ways unknown, for having faith, for wanting your child to be part of a community that wasn’t just about learning but about our Catholic faith.

I wish to single out one parent, Trudy Milligan. Trudy’s first child commenced with us in 2007 and Trudy took up the role as President of the Parents and Friends Association and has remained in that role ever since. She has worked tirelessly in this role, organising and running so many activities to support the College.

I have left you, the students, until last because you are the most important people in all of this. I want you to know that our College motto is embedded and woven into all that we do at the College. I want you to know that all we have done at the College has been because of you and for you. Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs is your College. I have loved being a part of this community. Most of all I have loved being with you the students, spending time with you in your classes, in the yard on camps and excursions.

I have been incredibly proud to watch you participate in sporting events, perform as actors and musicians, create amazing works of art and achieve your very best in your classes. I am a very proud principal who is very sad to leave this wonderful community.

I truly hope and pray that all of you continue to Live Fully and Act Justly, as I intend to do as I move to a new faith and learning community.

Thank you and God bless.

Kate Dishon
Principal

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FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

My neighbour last weekend put up the fairy lights, the reindeer cutouts and the blowup Santa and it served as a timely reminder that we are at the end of the year and approaching Christmas. In the ‘hustle and bustle’ at the shops I overheard people complaining about the crowds and what to buy people and a general tiredness that is not surprising considering that the shops have been pushing Christmas since late September!

But as we prepare for Christmas Day there is immense value in reflecting on and emulating the simplicity of the Christmas story. In John’s Gospel (John 10:10) we are reminded, as a Christian people, that Jesus came into the world so that we may have ‘fullness of living’. The key to ‘fullness of living’ is the gift of God’s love shared with others, particularly those in greatest need.

The greatest gift we can share is the gift of self as expressed in our love, care and support for family members and friends, especially those in need; in reaching out to people in despair and misery, in isolation and loneliness and extending material comfort and support to those living in abject poverty says ‘God is with us’. It is the gifting of self, not the receiving of gifts, which is at the heart of the Christmas story and the key to ‘fullness of living’.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I wish you all God’s peace, joy, and ‘fullness of living’ during the Christmas season and a safe, rejuvenating and happy holiday.

Sheena Wright
Deputy Principal

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O’REILLY HOUSE

As we enter into our tenth year we would like to honour and acknowledge the contribution that Father O’Reilly has made to our College. We have decided to name one of our Houses after Father O’Reilly. In 2016 Little House will be replaced with O’Reilly House. Our Houses from 2016 are Franklin, Jackson, Norman and O’Reilly.
FROM THE MISSION & FAITH LEADER

As the year winds down, Mission and Faith in the College continues to be very busy!

Thank you to all the families, students and staff who contributed to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Drive. We filled ten washing baskets with personal and grocery items, and the Centre was both grateful and impressed with our efforts.

Our emphasis for Krist Kindle has been on the notion of being the Christ Child, the presence of God to another. In participating in Krist Kindle, students from Year 10 gave a gift of equal value to our St Vincent de Paul Giving Tree. Students in other year levels gave monetary donations that will assist local families in need of a little help to enjoy Christmas. Staff have also generously donated to the Giving Tree and our local St Vincent de Paul branch has been very thankful for our support.

Last week we concluded our Pillar of Prayer Year and welcomed in the Pillar of Compassion to the words of Pope Francis who tells us, “You pray for the poor, then you feed them. That’s how prayer works”. We will take on the challenge to be people of compassion in a world that is hurting in the way Jesus wants us to, as people of love and action with humility.

A big thank you to Jaunita Ravanal, Lachlan Ross, the Koprek family, Caitlyn Muscat, Sue Walson, Jacob Soeradinata, Ebony Borg, Chris Micallef, Michael Martello, Steven Mosca and Stephanie Ananidis for their contribution to our End of Year Mass at Flemington. It is a daunting prospect to read or present in front of such a large group; I thank them for their willingness and the way they did so with such composure. I would also like to thank the choir who always bring such beauty to our liturgies.

Finally I would like to thank all members of our College community for their contribution to faith, social justice, liturgy and our Catholic Mission. In particular, the student leaders who took on this mantle – Alicia Grech, Caitlyn Muscat, Juanita Ravanal, Ellise Angel, Catherine Bruzzese and Kara Dikes did an outstanding job of maintaining student-led momentum in these areas.

I look forward to us continuing to enhance our faith journey in 2016, and wish you a happy and holy Christmas.

Jenny Jones
Mission and Faith Leader

FROM THE STUDENT WELLBEING TEAM LEADER

The holidays are a wonderful time of the year. The sun is out, we can sleep in, the beach is calling us, Christmas is here and we have time to spend with family and friends uninterrupted by the busy-ness of it all. It is a terrific time to reflect back upon the year that was and to celebrate every joy filled moment. I love Summer!

The holidays can also be a difficult time of the year. For those of us who have lost loved ones, who have had a change in our lives, who have had to struggle with ill-health, with life’s challenges, the holidays can be a time of angst, of sadness and of painful memories. It is important to acknowledge that this is the case for some of us - parents, teachers and students alike. But we are not alone.

During this Christmas break I want you all to know that there is help if you need it. This help comes in many shapes and sizes and is there whenever you need to access it. The first place we can find help is within ourselves. As painful as the memories might be, we know that there is another side to the coin. Happy memories of our lost loved ones, magical moments we shared. A new resilience or strength we never knew we had. A positive mindset that tells us that we have survived that challenge and have come out the other side, that we have the capacity to do it for just one more day.

We can also find help in those closest to us. Our family, our friends, our colleagues, our classmates. Often they are only a phone call or text message away. We can TALK to them, tell them how we feel, tell them what we are going through. There is some truth to the old adage that there’s nothing a shared cup of tea can’t fix. Take the time to reach out to those you know and trust and just talk.

Our community offers us another way to cope with what can be a difficult time of the year. You can talk to your GP and ask to be referred on to a counsellor. You can call Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you can’t get to a phone, you can try their email or web counselling services (www.kidshelpline.com.au). Parents can call Lifeline 24 hour telephone counselling services on 13 11 14 (www.lifeline.org.au). There is help out there if you need it. Remember - you are not alone.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their ongoing support and partnership with our staff here at the College. Together we can ensure your child, our student, is afforded what they need to become people who embrace life and ensure others can too - that they become people who Live Fully and Act Justly. I wish you all a blessed and joy filled Christmas and I hope this summer break affords you and your family time to regroup and to enjoy all the great things life has to offer.

Ivanka Spiteri
Student Wellbeing Team Leader
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A GOOD CAUSE

The Caroline Springs RSL Sub Branch is seeking volunteers to assist in the wrapping of goods for Christmas outside the Target store in the Caroline Springs Square Shopping Centre. The gold coin donation for each parcel wrapped goes directly to the Caroline Springs Sub Branch.

The present wrapping will be running in the Centre from 10am-4pm daily, from December 10th through to December 24th, with a 7pm finish on December 10th, 11th, 17th and 18th, due to later trading hours in the Centre.

Those interested in participating are asked to contact Peter Burquest, President Caroline Springs RSL, by phone on (03) 8390 2445, 0411463414 or via email at p.burquest@bigpond.com

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION AND MASS TIMES

RECONCILIATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Heart</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
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Polish

Wednesday 16 December 5.30pm

Sacred Heart Church

Maltese

Saturday 19 December 11.00am

Sacred Heart Church

MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE, THURSDAY 24 DECEMBER

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>7.00pm; 10.00pm</td>
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CHRISTMAS DAY, FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER

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<tbody>
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<td>Sacred Heart</td>
<td>8.00am; 10.15am; 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polish Mass</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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BOXING DAY, SATURDAY 26 DECEMBER

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<td>9.00am; German: 10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polish:</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
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NEW YEAR’S DAY, FRIDAY 1 JANUARY 2016

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacred Heart</td>
<td>9.00am; Polish: 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emmaus</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
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End of Year College Presentation Night 2015

**Academic Excellence Award Winners**

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

**Homeroom Award Winners**

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

**Individual Award Winners**

Live fully, Act Justly Award—Joel Spiteri

Kwon Lee Dow Young Scholar Award—Jessica Formosa

Excellence in Arts Winner—Stella Causing

Excellence in Sports Winner—Liam Foley

**Dishon House Cup Winner**

Franklin House

**The Choir**
FAREWELL TO OUR 2015 YEAR 10 STUDENTS

10 Barak

10 Bunjil

10 Coranderrk

10 Kororoit

10 Kulin

10 Marin-Kurrang

10 Wonga
FAREWELL TO OUR TEACHERS

Chris Micallef
Leah Elmer
Suzzanne Sutherland

FAREWELL TO OUR PRINCIPAL KATE DISHON
27 November 2015

Circular to principals of Catholic schools in Victoria

Student Scholarships 2016

Main Points

- Numerous scholarships are available for Victorian students who are currently in Years 4–12.
- The student online process is available for applications at www.catholic.edu.au/scholarships and will close on 1 February 2016. The student online process closes on Monday 1 February 2016. Students will need their 2015 end-of-year results in order to apply.
- Principals are required to verify student applications. The Principal Verification process can be accessed via the Principal Verification tab on the scholarships website is open until Wednesday 2 March 2016.

Critical Dates

- The student online process is now open and will close on 1 February 2016.
- The Principal Verification process is open until 2 March 2016.
- Scholarships will be awarded by 30 June 2016.

Actions Required

- Principals are asked to promote the student scholarships by including the following information in their school newsletter:
- Applications for student scholarships are now open at www.catholic.edu.au/scholarships.
- Some scholarships require applicants to be in financial need. This is evidenced either by the parent/guardian holding a Health Care Card, a Low Income Health Care Card, a Pensioner Concession Card or the student receiving the Youth Allowance.
- The closing date for applications is 1 February 2016.
- The principal must verify the student's 2015 end-of-year results for the application to be valid.

Additional Information

- Information on student scholarships is available at: www.catholic.edu.au/scholarships.
- The Year 12 scholarships that are available include the Alice Jennings Scholarship for a female completing her last year of VCE/VCAL, the Glen Moorehead Memorial Scholarship, and the Ken Matthews Scholarship.
- Many of the scholarships that the Department of Education (DET) administers have financial need as an eligibility criterion. This criterion will be met if the parent/guardian holds a Health Care Card, a Low Income Health Care Card, a Pensioner Concession Card or if the student is in receipt of Youth Allowance.

Contact/Enquiries

- For all enquiries, please contact Mr Denis Torpy, Manager Wellbeing & Community Partnerships Unit, Catholic Education Melbourne on 03 9267 0228 or via email dtorpy@ceem.edu.au

Stephen Elder
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR