



COMPANY

NEWSLETTER OF LOYOLA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

VOL. 13 ISSUE NO. 1 - 26 FEBRUARY 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WELCOME!

Welcome to a new school year!

For **Year 12** students and their families, this term marks a continuation of your HSC program, though it of course also signifies your **LAST** year of schooling. Congratulations on arriving at this final hurdle! May your discerning throughout this year be wise and well-informed.

For **Year 11** students and their families, this term signifies the beginning of their Loyola journey, one we hope will be rich in learning, faith, generosity and companionship.

New staff

I would like to welcome back Loyola staff, and particularly welcome those new to Loyola:

Mr Craig Brissett: teacher of Commercial Cookery and Hospitality

Mrs Cassandra Mayer: teacher of Hospitality, Business Studies and Catholic Studies

Mrs Saroja Dass: teacher of Retail Services, Business Studies and Work Studies

Miss Cassandra Merhab: teacher of Studies of Religion and English

Mrs Rosy McDonagh: Hospitality (returning from Maternity Leave)

Ms Tracy Tifenbach: School Counsellor for 2016 (on exchange from Canada)

Mr Dominic Wilson-Southon: IT trainee

May you all find your time at Loyola a richly rewarding and enjoyable experience!

Changes to staffing

Julie Ogle, our Business Manager resigned over the holidays and we are currently in the process of appointing a replacement.

Mr Phillip Stewart has been acting as Principal of St Agnes Catholic College for the first five weeks of term, relieving Mr Peter Regan

Ms Chrissy Payne is Acting English Coordinator for Term One, replacing Ms Debbie Harris whilst she recuperates from surgery.

Owen Wing upgrade

Much of the Owen Wing has undergone an upgrade to ensure we have state of the art facilities to teach vocational courses, particularly, Information and Digital Technology, Retail Services, and Tourism, as well as the trade of Electrotechnology.

Mrs Cathy Larkin

Principal

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Term One: Every Monday and Wednesday

Uniform Shop Open 8AM - 1PM

Pupil Free Day **29 February (Mon)**

Yr 11 Reflection Day **3 March (Thurs)**

Good Friday **25 March (Fri)**

Easter Sunday **27 March (Sun)**

Yr 12 SHS Half Yearly Exams

29 February—11 March

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FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Pope Francis has declared an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. This Holy Year of Mercy began December 8 2015, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. It will close November 20 2016, the Feast of Christ the King.

This year's motto is "**Merciful Like the Father.**" Sometimes, when we think of the word *mercy*, we picture someone throwing themselves on their knees before a cruel villain, pleading to be spared some punishment. This is not our understanding of God's mercy. We do not ask for God's mercy because we are afraid of incurring his wrath as punishment for our sins. Rather, when we call on God to have mercy, we are calling on God in the only way we know him, as one who responds with compassion to those in need. When we show mercy to others, we are responding as God responds, with compassion.

The Jubilee Year's theme is from Luke's Gospel 6:36: "**Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.**" This year our staff will be in serviced on the Gospel of Luke and this will give our students an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the Gospel and also be reminded of God's unconditional love for all and a challenge for us to show love to every person we encounter.

Pope Francis' invitation to the Year of Mercy is a call to renew and deepen our understanding and actions of mercy. Through our interaction with Luke's Gospel we will be able to continue God's will through these actions.

On another note, all students have received their diaries, which are a critical form of organisation for students. I strongly recommend that all students familiarise themselves with the procedures and policies that are contained in the student diary. Students need to pay particular attention to our School Expectations, Uniform Policy and the ICT Policy.

I would like to wish everyone well as we begin 2016.

Up coming School Events:

Pupil Free Day – 29 February

Year 12 Half Yearly Exams - 29 February to 11 March

Year 11 Reflection Day – 3 March

Mr Chris Bettiol

Acting Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY STUDIES

CLASS VISITOR

Monday 15 February saw a very special guest present his life story to the wonderful Year 12 Community and Family Studies students. Throughout Term 1, the area of study in the subject has been "Groups in Context", with an emphasis on people with disabilities. Dean Loader-Nash was the special presenter. He is an outstanding man with many achievements to his name who has lived with cerebral palsy.

Dean, while focusing on the syllabus, gave an insight into his first-hand experience of the condition to both CAFS classes. He related an informative background of past experiences both positive and negative, such as gaining employment and how he has always used his disability as a positive. Cerebral palsy has been a guiding light to his success, not a hindrance.

He emphasized the notion that 'disability' should not be used as a negative term, rather one that highlights individuality and an opportunity for success. His key belief is that people should be congratulated and commended for their feats, not given praise because of the disability that they may have.

The presentation was a great success, not only by covering key syllabus points, but by reinforcing an attitude the Loyola students already believe, namely that people deserve to be treated equally regardless of race, gender, class or physical or mental disability.



Year 12 CAFS students

OPENING SCHOOL MASS /ASH WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2016

This year our Opening School Mass for 2016 was held on Monday 10 February to coincide with Ash Wednesday. Our Opening Mass is a wonderful opportunity to welcome new staff and students and to pray for a successful year of teaching and learning at Loyola Senior High School. Ash Wednesday gives us an opportunity to focus on the ways that we can help those who are less fortunate

in our local area and in other countries. Mass was celebrated by the Parish Administrator, **Fr. Stan Lim SJ**, from our local parish Holy Family, Emerton.

During this celebration the SRC leaders, **Annaliza Escarilla** and **Jonathan Bocasan** invited us to reflect on our school community and our ability to reach out and serve others. We approach God and he approaches us. Whether we are Catholic or other Christian or of another religion or none, all are welcome. We invite God to enter our hearts and our world and to transform us to be more like Jesus. We as a community strive to be a more united community, renewed in service and faith in God's will. Throughout this year of mercy we are called to accept and pass on these spiritual gifts of love, compassion and forgiveness. Each one of us is called to make a new heart and work towards building God's Kingdom on Earth. We are called to place others first and to share our resources with the peoples of the world.



The Gospel for the day was from Mt 6:1-6. 16-18
Your Father, who sees all that is done in secret, will reward you.



Ash Wednesday is also an opportunity to launch Project Compassion initiated by Caritas. Caritas Australia is part of an international network known as Caritas Internationalis. One of the largest aid and development agencies in the world, the Caritas Internationalis network is working to build a better world, especially for the poor and oppressed in over 200 countries and territories. **Luana Papiili** and **George Zammit** included the ways that we could support this major Catholic fundraiser for people in Australia and other countries. Caritas supports the world's poorest people by establishing sustainable food, walking with them as they free themselves from the burden of food insecurity and develop new, improved income streams for a better future.

Each week we will hear stories from Doney in Malawi, Hum Noy in Laos, Dominic in Papua New Guinea, Evangeline in Australia, Sreymon in Cambodia and Dhaniram in India. These stories show how our support will help people to grow and access food for life.



You can find out more via the links on the bulletin each week. Look out for ways that we can become involved in raising awareness and much needed support for many of the world's most vulnerable.

Let us pray for each other, that this year will be a successful and satisfying one, and that we will continue to grow in God's love and companionship.

Thank you to all staff and students who participated in the mass and contributed to such a wonderful testimony of our Christian faith and hope in God.



Mrs Virginia Arundell
Religious Education Coordinator

Year 11 Reflection Day 2016

Please read the parent note that was sent home last week regarding Year 11 Reflection Day scheduled for Thursday 3 March 2016.

All students need to be at school at the normal time, tutor group time, for a teacher to mark your name off your tutor group roll. This may not be your regular tutor teacher as some staff are meeting us at the Reflection Day venue. Please listen very carefully to where you need to go to have your name marked off on Thursday morning. Once you have had your name marked off please remain in the area where your Tutor Group is meeting until you are told to move down to the bus bay.

Ward House students are asked to go the **Undercroft** for tutor group. (St. Joseph's Baulkham Hills)

Arrupe House students are asked go to **Assembly Courtyard**. (Edmund Rice Conference Centre)

Faber House students are asked to go to your tutor rooms within the **Ignatian Courtyard**. (Edmund Rice Conference Centre)

McCormack student should meet to have your names marked off in the covered open learning area. (Mount Schoenstatt)

Dress

Students should arrive comfortably dressed. You will spend some time in discussion with your tutor group, but there will also be time for you to enjoy your lunch and relax in an outdoor /bush-land setting. Please come dressed in a way that is sensible and respectful, in a manner that is appropriate for a school day. Girls are not permitted to wear shorts or skirts that are too short or shirts/blouses that are too revealing. No student is permitted to wear shirts or any other item of clothing that has offensive captions or visuals.

Food

Recess is shared with your tutor group. You will not have access to shops to purchase food so you should come prepared with enough food for the day. Lunch is provided for you on the day. Lunch will be a sandwich / wrap or a sausage sizzle with a drink. Please inform your tutor teachers if you have special dietary requirements.

We travel by bus to each of the venues.

Make sure you get on the right bus as we are going to three different venues. The buses will be marked with your house name. If you are at the wrong venue you will be transported to the correct venue.

If you are unsure ask a teacher/House Coordinator. There will be two teachers travelling on each bus.

Once you hear the announcement for your House to move to the bus bay. Please move promptly and board the correct bus. The bus company that we have organized is Cumberland Coaches. Please be respectful of the drivers and don't leave any rubbish behind in the bus when you get off.

Faber and Arrupe Houses will be sharing 3 buses as they are travelling to the same venue, Edmund Rice Conference Centre. It does not matter which of these buses you travel on, but once we arrive at the venue your Houses will move to opposite ends of the venue.

All notes for Compulsory School Events should have been returned to the office by now. No notes are to be given to the Front Office on 3 March, please organise this immediately. If there is a problem on Thursday morning please talk to Mrs Arundell or whoever is marking the roll in your

House. If you are sick on Thursday you will need to ensure a parent/ guardian rings the school and then you are to bring in a doctors certificate and a note from home on your first day back to school.

Those students who do not attend the day will be doing catch up activities in their own time in the weeks to come.

iPods, iPads and any other devices are not to be used as it detracts from the reflective nature of the day. If you need to have a phone on you it will need to be on silent during the tutor group sessions. All equipment will be provided for the activities that you will be involved in.

If you have any questions or you are unsure about the day, ask a teacher or myself before you leave school today.

It should be and has always been an enjoyable day.

Mrs Virginia Arundell
Religious Education Coordinator

AN OPEN LETTER TO YEAR 11

Dear Year 11 McCormack students,

We hope that you're all settling into your classes and starting to wrap your head around how things work at Loyola.

For some of you, this wasn't the conventional pathway many of your friends may have chosen. You may be the only one to embark on this vocational journey and that can be daunting - we know, because we were there too. Some of your friends, or you yourself, might think that the Trade Training Centre is the 'easy' option; you get one day off per week, no external exams or mountains of homework. We can assure you it's no easy feat. When you begin your school-based apprenticeship or traineeship, you'll be learning to balance work-life, school-life, and hopefully still make room for that social-life.

What you'll learn is far greater.

You'll learn to manage adult responsibilities in a young-adult learning environment. During your time here you'll be setting goals and striving towards them. It's all about the effort you put in to get the maximum outcome. Seek advice from your mentor teacher. They're here to guide you, offer advice and share in moments of excitement as you reach those milestones in your early career. They're going to be there at the end of your short seven terms at Loyola rejoicing with you when you say, "I made it!"

Believe us when we say that Loyola is transformational. You will learn more about yourself here than anywhere else. You'll have opportunities to really immerse yourself in the

strengths and capabilities during Family Fun Day, liturgies, immersions, and internal and external functions. Loyola has had many high-profile people grace our grounds and we're proud when they want to come back for more. Only last year Dick Smith inspired us with his own personal life journey. We hope you get to experience those moments too.

There are many significant and prestigious awards you can achieve here (they look amazing on the resume too!) so make those merits count and work hard for them.

Remember, while the days may be long and 4.00pm never seems to come around, we can promise you they do end. When you hit Year 12 you'll be wishing to spend as much time as possible at Loyola!

So whilst our journey with you is nearing its end, yours is only beginning - make the most of it. Loyola is that fresh start, so make it count and let it shape the person you are and hope to become.

'In the end you only regret the chances you didn't take.' - Unknown

Wishing you all the best,

Year 12 McCormack SRC

Dana Sigmund

Micah Romero

Sofie Saltau

Laura McKinnon

SATURDAY STUDY SESSIONS

- Do you have incomplete class work?
- Is there an assignment date looming closer?
- Is there an exam you should be studying for?
- Do you need constructive feedback?
- Do you have a group task due but have nowhere to meet together?
- Is it too noisy and full of distractions at home?
- Do you need Internet access?

If you answered 'yes' to one or more of the above questions, you could be in serious need of Saturday Study Sessions!

Did you know that Loyola Senior High School and Trade Training Centre has been opening its gates every Saturday morning for over the past 10 years? And it will continue to do so for as long as the students keep coming.

We find that most of the students who attend use the space to avoid distractions from home and be in an independent and helpful learning environment.

We always have two trained members of staff present on the morning. They're available to offer feedback and assistance where and when needed. In the past we have had students from Australian Catholic University attend and assist also. So there is always an abundance of expertise to pick and choose from.

Here's what some of our students have said about the sessions:

"I go because it's a learning environment so I can stay focused...I recommend it because if you ever need any help the help is there and you're motivated to study. Everyone else is studying so it makes you want to study more." – Richard, 2015

"I come to finish incomplete work. Also, it keeps your brain refreshed and there's no distractions." – Jarod, 2015

"It's good to get your work over and done with. It's also a good place to get feedback. No distractions. It's very quiet and we get to help each other out." – Kyle, 2015

So whatever your reason may be, you're always welcome in the **Staff Common Room** (on your right just as you walk inside the school gates) on **Saturday mornings** from **8:30am – 10:30am**.

Keep your eyes peeled for further information in the daily bulletin. You can also email either:

Jennifer McNeight (*English teacher*):
jmcneight@parra.catholic.edu.au

Maria Dizon (*Maths and RE teacher*):
mdizon@parra.catholic.edu.au

Hope to see you there!

LOYOLA TRADE TRAINING CENTRE

LIFE AFTER THE HSC!

Business Services

I started at the Loyola Trade Training Centre in 2014 and for the very short 2 years I was there, I met the best friends I could ever ask for and have had the best teachers who made everything so much easier. Since graduating this year, I have gained full-time employment at **Credible Building Technologies** in Silverwater, working in the Accounts Administration Department. My Certificate III in Business Services Qualification, and work placement experience has greatly assisted me in finding employment in this industry. I am thankful for everything that the teachers have done for me in the past few years and assisting me into getting where I am today. I couldn't imagine going anywhere else for my final years of school. In the next two years my plans are to continue to move up in the company going into Debt Recovery and Human Resources.



Tiarna Leech
McCormack House
Graduating Class of 2015

From Trade to University

Doing the HSC through the mainstream system never caught my attention and therefore completing my HSC was never an option I thought I'd have without getting a mystery mark. Originally I was set on joining the Australian Defence Force and doing my trade in Electrotechnology through the army. When I heard about the Loyola Trade Training Centre, I immediately loved the way they ran things differently and how it not only suited my situation, but also how it suited my learning style. Knowing I didn't want to sign my life away just yet to the army, Loyola seemed like the perfect solution. Attending the Loyola Trade Training Centre was my own choice, my willingness to learn had never been so high and by working with awesome teachers, they helped me get the most out of my senior studies.

At the end of Year 12, the door was open to sign up with the army, but one thing led to another and I no longer wanted to join. As I started working more as an Apprentice Electrician at **Data Dan Trust**, I also realised that I wanted to continue learning. I never saw University as an option before, but after receiving a lot of help from my teachers, we soon found a way it could be done. This type of opportunity would have never been available for someone in my situation if it weren't for a committed team behind the scenes. Next year I'll be attending UWS College and hope to pursue a career in the field of psychology.

Loyola's unique Trade School has given me a wider perspective on life and also a much better taste of the real world of working. I can't thank the Loyola team enough for the help and support they've given me over the two years as they're true warriors. I can confidently say that I left without any regrets.



Cameron Sammut
McCormack House
Graduating Class of 2015

Apprentice Electrician

2013 was a significant year, one which required a decision made by me in regards to my future career. To resolve this challenge, I decided to apply to Loyola Senior High School as a trade student. This decision was initiated because of the support from my family as well as a pathway other than university. This year I've successfully completed a Certificate III in Electrotechnology, including the Higher School Certificate. In April 2014, after the first work placement block in Term 1, I secured a School based Apprenticeship with **A1 Sydney Electrical**. The skills I developed in the Industry Based Learning Course, as well as the opportunity to experience industry skills greatly assisted me in being able to demonstrate my competence and interest in this industry. My apprenticeship was

incentive to stay at the Loyola Trade Training Centre, as it was also conveniently located and was a stress-free way of learning. On trade days, my Electro course contained workshops with hand tools and materials that helped me improve my skills and quality of knowledge for the workforce.

My weekly timetable allowed for flexible learning. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, I studied my HSC subjects that contained VET courses. The VET course in Sports Coaching and Business Services gave me an alternative career choice that I could do if my trade didn't work out for me. Tutor groups was probably the best help I could have received whilst at Loyola. It helped me be more organised and the tasks during the lessons helped me prepare for bigger goals other than my apprenticeship. Wednesdays was trade day for me where we studied theory and practical components and Friday was the day I worked on the job site with Terry my employer and mentor.

As an Electrotechnology apprentice, I had to work a total of 180 days on the job to complete my first year apprenticeship. Working every Friday, weekends, working blocks which were arranged by the school not only helped me achieve the satisfactory days but it was also a big eye opener to visualise and experience what life would be like after graduation.

Thank you to all the help that I received through Loyola as I am now working full time with A1 Sydney Electrical and completed my first year apprenticeship. I enjoy and see myself making a successful career in this industry. I am moving onto my second year of the apprenticeship and my skills and awareness of the job are improving rapidly day by day. I hope to continue this apprenticeship and in 2 -3 years' time to be a fully qualified electrician and offer my services to others just like the staff at Loyola did for me.

I'm very grateful and lucky to have had such great help and be pushed over the line to achieve all that I can in life. Without the help of the staff at Loyola I can safely say I wouldn't have been where I am today and could not thank them enough for helping me on the path to reach my goals. In **Mrs Boreham's** words, *always remember, never be afraid to ask for help.*



Mitchell Farquharson
SRC of McCormack House
Graduating Class of 2015

The Loyola Vinnies Group hit the ground running with a St Valentine's Day stall fundraiser to begin

LOYOLA VINNIES REPORT – ST VALENTINE'S DAY STALL

12 February 2016



2016. The overarching purpose of this fundraiser was to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul fund as well as to promote our group, especially to our new Year 11 students.

As part of the stall, we sold long-stem red roses and chocolates with all stock selling out on the day. Our fundraiser raised over \$200!

We would like to thank the many students and staff that supported this fundraiser by buying either a rose or chocolates (or both!) – your monetary contribution is much appreciated!

The fundraiser would not have been successful without the unrelenting support of our student members, both old and new! From attending meetings to discuss our plan, promoting the fundraiser, spending a Thursday afternoon wrapping the roses individually and packets of chocolates, selling the items on the day, both our wonderfully committed year 12 members and our fresh year 11 members all worked together to help make this fundraiser "flourish". And all within the first 3 weeks of Term 1!

The day was a wonderful day with many smiles, gifts and treats shared among our Loyola community, proving that love is indeed everywhere, and being reminded that “we love because God loved us first” (1 John 4:19).



Background of the Loyola Vinnies Group

The Loyola Vinnies Group is the school's social justice group that aims to promote and model the good works of the internationally-known charity organisation, the St Vincent de Paul Society. Our group holds meetings on Wednesday lunch-times to discuss ways we can organise, promote or take part in fundraisers such as the Winter Sleepout and the Doorknock Appeal.

In 2016 the Loyola Vinnies Group will continue to be coordinated by **Mrs Mary Reyes, Miss Sally Johnstone** and **Ms Maria Dizon**.

The group's student leader is **Samuel Verculez** (Year 12).

For more information about the St Vincent de Paul Society, please visit www.vinnies.org.au or visit your local Vinnies Shop.



In faith,

Ms Maria Dizon

Loyola Vinnies Co-Coordinator

SPORTS REPORT

In 2016, there is much to look forward to at Loyola Senior High School, particularly in the sporting life of the school. Loyola offers a variety of sporting opportunities for our students, either within the representative scene or through participating in gala days. All boys and girls are encouraged to participate in sport at Loyola and we hope to see our students have an enjoyable and successful year ahead. If any student participates in sport outside of school, we would like to hear about it, so please share your talents with us.

Parramatta Diocesan Secondary Schools Sports Council (PDSSSC)

The Parramatta Diocese Secondary Schools Sports Council (PDSSSC) provides the avenue for students across the diocese to experience a range of individual and team sports. Students at Loyola have the opportunity to participate in many gala days and also individual sports throughout the year.

In Term 1 2016, students will have the opportunity to participate in the following sporting events;

PDSSSC Girls Basketball Gala Day – 29 February
(Penrith Regional Sports Stadium)

Triathlon Championships Individual events – 2
March (Penrith Regatta Centre)

Triathlon Championships team events – 3 March
(Penrith Regatta Centre)

NSWCCC Tennis – 7 March (Parramatta)

NSWCCC Golf – 14 March (Macquarie)

PDSSSC Swimming Championships – 18 March
(Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre,
Homebush)

SICC Rugby League Trials – 23 March (Norford
Park)

PDSSSC Touch Football Gala Day & Selections – 30
March (The Kingsway)

PDSSSC Boys Football Gala Day – 4 April (Jamison
Park)

Students will receive information about these sporting events through the Daily Bulletin, which is read by Tutor Teachers each day during Tutor Groups. Students also have access to the Daily Bulletin via Google Drive.

In order to participate in these sporting events throughout the year, students will be required to return a signed permission note to their Coach/ Front Office. Some sporting events may also involve financial costs, e.g. for transport, uniform, etc. All information will be provided on the permission note

to their Coach/Front Office. Some sporting events may also involve financial costs, e.g. for transport, uniform, etc. All information will be provided on the permission note and parents are welcome to attend if their son or daughter is participating in a gala day or trial selection process.

The sports calendar and all other information can be seen on the following PDSSSC website; <http://www.secondarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/>

Jesuit Cup:

Loyola is fortunate to participate in the annual Jesuit Cup Soccer, Cricket, Debating, Tennis and Basketball Competitions. These are interstate competitions, which are considered a privilege to be involved in. This year, Loyola will be competing in and hosting the Debating Competition from 3- 6 July. Loyola will also be competing in the Soccer Competition, which will be hosted by St Aloysius College from 3-7 July.

New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC)

The NSWCCC gives opportunities for students to represent their sport of choice at a higher level. Students are often selected through their representation from PDSSSC; however, certain sports such as Netball require students to apply directly through the NSWCCC, as there is no pathway from PDSSSC. Sports that require direct nominations are: Netball, Rowing, Volleyball and Water Polo. To nominate for these sports, the student will complete a nomination form. All instructions for this nomination process are given to students when required by the Sports Coordinator.

Good luck!

The school would like to wish our Basketball boys and girls every success at the upcoming Gala day (29 February). We have some great talent amongst the two teams and have great confidence that they will make our school very proud. I would also like to personally thank Mr Reyes and Mr Murphy for taking the time to coach the teams to prepare both teams for the competition that awaits them.

Mrs Samantha Fresco

Acting Sports Coordinator and PDHPE Leader of Learning

TOP 10 TIPS FOR PARENTS TO MANAGE AND COMMUNICATE EXPECTATIONS ABOUT SCHOOLWORK AND RESULTS

Parents often have high expectations of their children in relation to how much homework they will do and what results they will achieve in their studies. These expectations may result from cultural beliefs, personal experiences, desire for children to have better opportunities than their parents had and the like. Research shows that whilst parental expectations can play a significant part in children achieving high results, they can also contribute to high levels of student stress.

Some things to think about in relation to parental expectations include:

Understand your own motivations:

Why do you want your child to do get particular marks in their studies? Is it because you have pressure from family/friends/society about what your child will achieve? Do you want them to follow in your career footsteps? Do you want them to have opportunities you never had as a child or young person? Understanding your own motivations will help you find balance in your expectations of your children.

Help your children to set realistic goals:

Keep talking to your children about what they want to achieve, in individual subjects, at school overall and in other aspects of their life. Their career goals may mean they want to focus intensively on something like art or music, rather than maths or science. Helping them to identify their goals will enable them to determine what subjects they need to focus on and what marks they are likely to need, which means that effort can be concentrated on the areas which will help them to achieve their goals.

Be involved in your children's learning:

Throughout the term talk to your children about what they are studying. Ask them to show you their bookwork and homework. The more you understand about what they are doing and how they are going along the way, the better you will be able to set and manage your expectations.

Make sure you really communicate what you expect:

Many students feel like they are not meeting their parents' expectations. Often this is a result of poor communication about expectations by both parties. Reflect on your motivations (see 1 above) and think about how you communicate your expectations to your children. Remember to praise them for the effort they make rather than the

results they achieve, this way they are motivated to keep on trying, even when learning is difficult.

Develop an understanding of the school's assessment and reporting structures:

Assessment and reporting systems change over time and are different in different schools, states and countries. Making sure you really understand what your children's report means may help you to understand what they are actually achieving. Your school can explain these to you if need be. Sometimes students are excelling, but reporting structures don't clearly represent this to parents.

Remember nobody is perfect: Even the brightest, most highly motivated child will struggle at times. They may struggle to understand a particular topic or concept, or they may struggle with motivation, particularly for a subject they don't particularly enjoy. Problems with teachers or peers can also contribute. It is unrealistic that anyone can work with 100% effort all the time.

Provide practical homework and exam support:

Provide practical help them to your children to enable them to access past papers or practise questions and work with them by things like proofreading and reviewing drafts, checking work and listening to speeches. Remember though, it is not your work, so don't make changes, rather make suggestions and provide guidance.

Spend time together doing something fun: Make sure your relationship with your child is about more than homework and study. Allocate some time to do fun things together. This is the time in which your child is most likely to open up to you about the things that they are struggling with and you can work out how best to help them. Ideas include going for a walk or run together, registering for a team sport, having a dinner date or going to a gallery or museum.

Support your child to do their best: You can do this by providing healthy, nutrient rich food; opportunities for exercise, rest and relaxation and an environment which is supportive of and conducive to study.

Keep alert for the physical and mental signs of stress:

Familiarise yourself with how your child responds to stress. Do they withdraw? Act out? Work harder or stop working? When you notice that your child is stressed provide them opportunities to discuss what is worrying them and work with them to identify how you can help them. You may wish to involve the school counsellor, a teacher or tutor at this point. You can learn more about how to support your child's learning at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au by logging in with these details:

Username: loyolashs

Password: 94success

SCHOOL FEES

Australia Post's delivery times have changed, which may cause a delay in some parents receiving their Term 1 statements later than usual. This could be an extra 1-3 business days in most cases.

A reminder that all fees are due 7 March 2016.

OPAL CARDS

Applications for Year 11 students can be completed online transportnsw.info/school-students

Submit your form for validation at the school office.

Opal cards will be posted to the student's home address

More information regarding Opal cards transportnsw.info/school-students

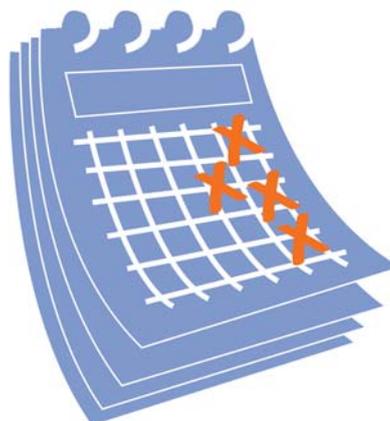
SCHOOL TERMS 2016

Term 1 - 28 January - 8 April

Term 2 - 26 April - 1 July

Term 3 - 18 July - 23 September

Term 4 - 10 October - 20 December



SRC REPORT

The SRC Planning Day, held on Wednesday, the 17 of February, was a day in which the Student Representative Council of 2016 came together to plan their goals and objectives for the year ahead. It was a time of understanding, cooperation and teamwork; a time which enabled each of the 18 members to share and expand upon their ideas, and work to put into place some starting strategies and practices for the achievement of the goals and ambitions that were set up for the school year.

One such initiative was *De Gratia*, which was introduced by **Mr Walker Aloiai**, an ex-student of Loyola's Class of 2009. On this day, the SRC was taught the true meaning of leadership – student empowerment; *De Gratia*, a practice founded by Mr Aloiai himself, aims to allow the SRC to develop and diversify through the student body, through the inclusion of students outside the council with varying talents, skills and expertise. The beauty of *De Gratia* revolves around unity and appreciation between peers, and thus, enables each student of Loyola Senior High School to, essentially, use their hearts, heads and hands, as one community, for the glory of God, which is what the Latin term actually means. The SRC is currently working on formulating each *De Gratia* group, and we are very excited to see how big our team grows! With the multitude of gifts throughout the school community, we anticipate that the school will be soon be brimming with unending service for others.

On the day, The SRC was also able to elect their Executive Committee, constituting the male and female Presidents, the Treasurer and the Secretary. Big congratulations to our Presidents, **Annaliza Escarilla** and **Ronald Hilario**, and also to our Secretary, **Dana Sigmund**, and our Treasurer, **Monique Murnane**. We have faith that you will always help those who are seeking knowledge, wisdom, courage or faith, and will provide excellent examples to follow, always upholding the Ignatian morals and values of our school.

The SRC Planning Day was a time of connection and spirituality, with one another, and with God. The day was a constant reminder of the essence of our role, which, Mr Aloiai described, as 'not one of pride, but one of great responsibility and weight'. The SRC looks forward to providing an extraordinary, unforgettable year to you all! God bless.

Our Year 12 Student Representative Council for 2016:

Dana Sigmund – *Welfare* (Secretary)
Monique Murnane – *Welfare* (Treasurer)
Annaliza Escarilla – *Justice* (President)
Ronald Hilario – *Justice* (President)
Justin Bocasan – *Liturgy*
George Zammit – *Liturgy*
Tuikolovatu Vave – *Sport*
Demi Jabou – *Sport*
Renato Erupi Sandoval – *Sport*
Laura McKinnon – *Culture*
Sofie Saltau – *Culture*
Akash Deo – *Culture*
Trishala Sharma – *Media*
Micah Romero – *House Identity* (McCormack)
Dwight Crisostomo – *House Identity* (Faber)
Claudine Bautista – *House Identity* (Arrupé)
Jonathan Bocasan – *House Identity* (Ward)
Jayden McDonald (yet to be assigned a portfolio)

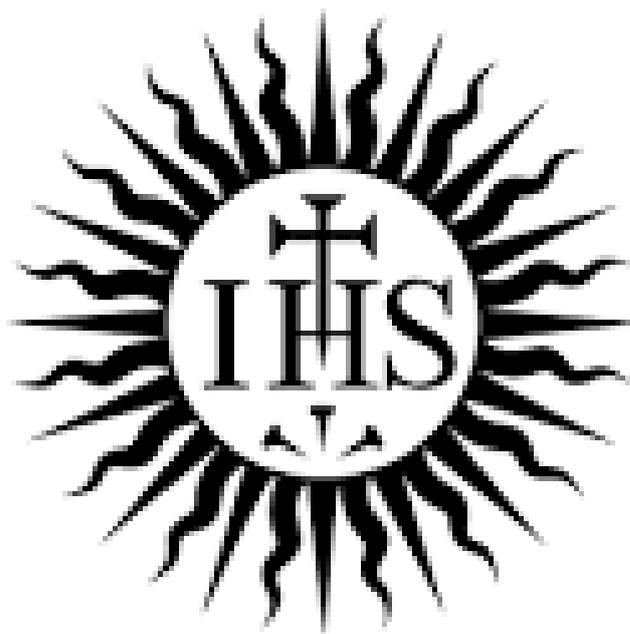
Trishala Sharma

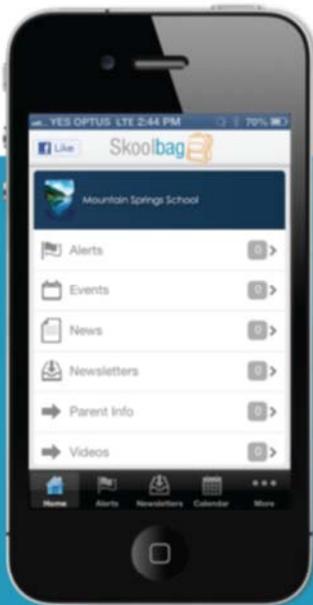
Media Representative on behalf of the SRC

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www.facebook.com/loyolamountdruitt





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Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone Users

Simply search for your school name in the App Store on your phone, PC or Mac, and install.

After the app is installed on your phone, make sure that you select "OK" to allow push notifications. Also click on "more" then "Setup" and select which categories you would like to receive push notifications for.



Android Users

Simply search for your school name in the Google Play Store on your phone, PC or Mac, and install.

After the app is installed click on "more" then "Setup" and select which categories you would like to receive push notifications for.



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Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students

