

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE BULLETIN

Term Three, Issue Four, 2024

"Every time you say: 'Lord, have mercy on my child,' he will receive from Christ a good thought... The more you Pray the more good thoughts your child will acquire." - Saint Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia

From the Principal

I offer best wishes to our wonderful community for the upcoming holiday period and our collective hopes for a successful study and review period for our Year 12 and Year 11 students undertaking units 3/4 exams in the coming weeks. May this be a very rewarding period for you. Know that you are in our prayers and thoughts!

Every second month I meet with the College Board of Directors to provide a report on the activities of the College. In this Report, I highlighted the impressive community spirit and collegiality evident in Term 3 through the following activities – Colour Run, Grandparents' Day, Fathers' Day and the Hellenic Arts Gala. Several of the events saw our strongest participation in many years. I thank our Marketing team for capturing some wonderful images in this edition of our Newsletter.

The enthusiasm, fun and collegiality evident across the College with family support and through the hard work of our PA, in many instances, was a standout for me this term.

We cannot underestimate the importance of such events in building culture, and the positive momentum that is generated. Well done to many – students, staff, parents, grandparents, supporters, our Reverend Fathers and our PA!

As we draw breath, just barely, over the next two weeks – we are in deep preparations for the visit of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. The five-day event in Melbourne promises to be a life changing and once-in-a-lifetime experience. We are all preparing in earnest for this important time, which will feature our students and their many talents! I admire the way in which our younger people have understood the importance of the occasion and are practising hard in preparation.

I also look forward to my visit to Westminster Abbey over the break, to celebrate with 600 guests from all parts of the globe and occupations to recognise 75 years of the Commonwealth. It is an enormous privilege to represent our College. The highlight will undoubtedly be the receipt of a special Commemorative Album that features a 2 page spread of St John's College.

Hellenic Arts Gala - Oakleigh Grammar



The Hellenic Arts Gala, a cherished celebration between Oakleigh Grammar and St John's College, was hosted by Oakleigh Grammar this year.

Following a successful event at St John's College in 2022, the Gala brought together students from both schools to celebrate the rich heritage of Hellenic arts.

The evening began with a prayer and blessing led by Father Stavros Kakavas. Students then engaged in a series of interactive workshops covering Greek dancing, bouzouki music, Ancient Greek theatre and Hellenic art.

The event provided a unique opportunity for students to delve into Greek culture through these hands-on sessions, share a meal, and enjoy a night filled with fun and dance.

After the workshops, Father George Frangos addressed the gathering, delivering the blessing from Bishop Evmenios of Chora. The evening also featured speeches from Mr Ponsford and Mr Ryan, Deputy Principal of Strategic Initiatives and Advancement at Oakleigh Grammar.

The evening wrapped up with lively dancing and music provided by a DJ, adding a vibrant and memorable touch to the night for both students and staff.

Hellenic Arts Gala - Oakleigh Grammar



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Colour Fun Run

On R U OK? Day, our students and staff united for a vibrant Colour Fun Run, enjoying the sunshine and some well-deserved fun! Thanks to our amazing Parents' Association and staff for organising such an amazing event. Along with the Colour Run, students enjoyed delicious gyros for lunch, all cooked by our amazing dads! R U OK? Day, is about fostering meaningful conversations and encouraging everyone to check in with friends, family, and colleagues. A simple "Are you okay?" can make a world of difference. Let's keep the conversation going!



National HPE Day



In celebration of National HPE Day on Wednesday, September 4th, students engaged in a lunchtime House dodgeball competition.

Additionally, throughout the week, Senior School Physical Education classes participated in Paralympic-themed lessons, where students experienced Goalball—a sport specifically designed for athletes with vision impairments. In Goalball, players wear blackout masks to level the playing field, relying on the sound of a ball with bells inside to navigate the game. The aim is to roll the ball into the opposing team's goal while defending their own. Each team consists of three players who use their bodies to block and control the ball, striving to score by getting the ball past the opposing defenders. Goalball fosters the development of auditory skills, teamwork, and spatial awareness.

FLORINA ARISTOTELIS PRESENTS

#folkGrooves 2024

22 SEP FROM 1PM
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
PRESTON 3072

FREE ENTRY!
TRADITIONAL MUSIC & DANCE PERFORMED BY THE YOUTH OF MELBOURNE'S CULTURAL CENTRES



FLORINA ARISTOTELIS PRESENTS

#folkGrooves 2024

SUNDAY 22 SEP FROM 1PM
ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
PRESTON 3072



STALLS & SHOPPING



FOOD & DRINKS



YOUTH PERFORMANCES



RAFFLES & PRIZES



GAMES & ACTIVITIES



LIVE MUSIC & DANCE

Confirmed Calendar Dates

- 22 SEP 2024 - FolkGrooves Festival
- 23-27 SEP 2024 - Year 12 Unit 3/4 Trial Exams
- 30 SEP 2024 - Office Opens
- 7 OCT 2024 - First Day of Term 4
- 10 OCT 2024 - Years 9 & 10 Elevate Education Study Workshop
- 11 OCT 2024 - JS Futsal Tournament
- 11 OCT 2024 - Greek Language Oral Exam
- 13 OCT 2024 - Patriarchal Divine Liturgy
- 15 OCT 2024 - Patriarch's Visit to St John's College
- 17 OCT 2024 - Year 10 RIJI Excursion
- 18 OCT 2024 - Year 12 Celebration Day