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WESTERN SYDNEY

PENOLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE



PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY

















Walking in the footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families of the Penola Community

Welcome to our 2021 school year. A very warm and special welcome to our new families to the college who have joined us this year, especially our Year 7 students who have embraced the new uniform beautifully and have made us all very proud indeed with their high standard of presentation every day. Thank you to our parents who have shown great commitment to the college in preparing your child so they are ready to immerse themselves into their learning environment passionately. Our Year 10 students are also wearing the new uniform, as they are starting Senior school and have been equally supportive of the new uniform looking very smart, filled with pride and a sense of purpose for all that the senior school study demands of them now. Well done to all students whether you are currently wearing the new uniform or the McCarthy uniform, we have one high standard and reflecting our college values and our strong focus on developing capable and confident young people.

Recently, we received the sad news of one of our ex-Principal's Marshal McMahon passing after a brief illness. Marshal was the second Principal 1993 to 1994 who made a significant contribution to building the college as a Year 11 and 12 school with many previous years experience as Principal of St Joseph's College Hunters Hill. Eternal rest grant upon him O Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon him. Please keep Marshal and his wife Teresa in your continued prayers over the coming weeks and months.

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new staff who are joining us at Penola in 2021:

Teaching Staff:

Miss Haylie Abela Religion

Ms Samantha Berridge HSIE and Business & Community Partnerships

Ms Michele Glynn Diversity
Ms Judy Peters Mathematics

Miss Sarah Holt HSIE

Mr Steven Quach Mathematics

Miss Tamara Ross English

Support Staff:

Mrs Prathi Pai Laboratory Assistant
Miss Marizza Medcalf Diversity Support
Mrs Jessica Zammit Diversity Support
Mrs Catherine Molloy Library Assistant

Mr Nicholas Simaris Technology Technician

Some staff are also undertaking new roles at the college for 2021: Congratulations to Mr Nathan Bryant who has taken on the role of Stage 6 Leader of Learning.

From the Principal Leader Continued

Year 7 have headed off to Camp this week and there was a great sense of anticipation and excitement leading up to this very important event where students will work on personal development and team building skills, as well as making new friendships. Mrs Miller and the Year 7 team worked with the students to prepare them before they engaged in the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Kincumber. This is an essential part of the total program of education for Year 7 and unlocks confidence and resilience as they learn valuable life lessons and skills.

Thank you Mr Stein, Leader of Student Wellbeing

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the great work of Mr Martin Stein as Leader of Student Wellbeing over the last 6 years. Mr Stein has decided to focus his energy on his teaching, as he achieved absolutely outstanding HSC results in the Community and Family Studies (CAFS) course for 2020 and is part of the HSC Exam committee and HSC



CAFS Senior Judge. He is a valued member of the PDHPE team and will also be working in partnership with the HSC teachers. We thank Mr Stein for his passion and commitment to students wellbeing and his significant contribution to building the pastoral dimension of our fine college.

Open Night 2021

This will be held over two evenings to promote future enrolments 2022 and 2023:

9 March 2021 4.30pm to 8.30pm

10 March 2021 4.30pm to 7.30pm

Please let your friends and family know about this event.

Tickets are available on the Link https://www.trybooking.com/BOZVZ



May the spirit of St Mary Mackillop be always with you as we walk in her footsteps as people of compassion, courage, integrity and hope.

Kind regards and blessings

Mrs Tania Cairns Principal Leader

Penola Catholic College Staff for 2021

STAFF WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Executive Team

Mrs Tania Cairns Principal Leader
Mrs Peta Sparkes Assistant Principal

Mr Robert Feeney Leader of Learning Religious Education & Mission

Mrs Peta Sparkes Head of Learning (Curriculum)

Ms Anna Keogh Leader of Innovation and Diversity

Mrs Julie Petrovski Leader of Pedagogy & Instructional Coach

Leaders of Learning - Year Groups

Mrs Rachel Miller Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8)
Mr John McKnight Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10)
Mr Nathan Bryant Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12)

Leaders of Learning - Key Learning Areas

Mr Robert Feeney Religious Education

Mrs Julie Petrovski CAPA
Ms Una Hughes English
Ms Peta Lewin HSIE

Mr David Cobb Mathematics (Acting Term 1 2021)

Mr Stuart Whiley PDHPE
Mrs Dannielle Hamilton Science

Mrs Jacqueline Murphy Technology and Applied Studies (TAS)

Mr Damien McGuire Leader of Learning Technology and STEM/P-TECH

Other Areas of Responsibility

Miss Racheal Muscat Sport Coordinator

Mr Marc Petit Careers and Community Partnership Officer

Mr Geoff Sullivan VET (Cluster)

Mrs Samantha Berridge Business Partnership Officer

Mrs Sharon Clarke Principal's PA / Office Manager / Enrolments

Mrs Julie Jones Finance

Mrs Stephanie McCully Administration and Compliance Officer

Counsellor

Mr Stephen Hare School Counsellor

Penola Catholic College Teaching Staff for 2021

FIRST	SURNAME	FACULTY / SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
Haylie	Abela	Religious Education and Music Teacher
Samantha	Berridge	HSIE Teacher and Business Partnership Officer
Lani	Brookfield	PDHPE Teacher
Nathan	Bryant	Leader of Learning Stage 6 (Years 11& 12) and PDHPE Teacher
Danielle	Bull	English Teacher
Vanessa	Christman	Mathematics Teacher
David	Cobb	Acting Leader of Learning Mathematics
Ed	Cross	Mathematics Teacher
Braeden	Cuneo	HSIE Teacher
Katrina	Cunningham	Librarian
John	Durkin	Diversity
Ryan	Elston	Science Teacher
Robert	Feeney	Leader of Learning REC and Teacher
Michele	Glynn	Diversity
Alina	Goro	English Teacher
Nicholas	Hall	HSIE and CAPA Teacher
Dannielle	Hamilton	Leader of Learning Science and Teacher
Christopher	Handel	Science Teacher
Liz	Heggart	Diversity, Mathematics and Science Teacher
Sarah	Holt	HSIE Teacher
Una	Hughes	Leader of Learning English and Teacher
Ann	Keogh	Leader of Innovation and Diversity
Anne	Leroux	TAS and Religion Teacher
Peta	Lewin	Leader of Learning HSIE and Religion Teacher
Holly	Mahboub	CAPA and LOTE Teacher
Mary	Mansour	RE / Business Services Teacher
Margaret	Marathakis	Diversity
Cynthia	Maruziva	Diversity / Art Teacher
Shannon	Matthews	HSIE Teacher
Damien	McGuire	Leader of Learning Technology, TAS and P-Tech/STEM Teacher
John	McKnight	Leader of Learning Stage 5 (Years 9 & 10), PDHPE and HSIE Teacher
Andrew	McMaster	Science Teacher
Rebecca	Michel	CAPA and RE Teacher
Rachel	Miller	Leader of Learning Stage 4 (Years 7 & 8) English Teacher
Robert	Mudge	Mathematics Teacher
Patricia	Murnane	Attendance Officer
Jacqueline	Murphy	Leader of Learning TAS and Religion Teacher
Rachael	Muscat	Sports Coordinator and PDHPE Teacher

Teaching Staff Continued:

FIRST	SURNAME	FACULTY / SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES
Daniel	Nekic	Leader of Learning CAP, Religion and CAPA Teacher
Judy	Peters	Mathematics Teacher
Marc	Petit	Careers and Community Partnership Officer (Tues, Wed, Thur)
Julie	Petrovski	Leader of Pedagogy & Instructional Coach and Leader of Learning CAPA
Annalise	Pittman	English and Diversity Teacher
Luke	Potts	TAS and Religion Teacher
Tamara	Ross	Religious Education and English Teacher
Monica	Sharp	Creative Arts and RE teacher (Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri)
Fran	Sidoruk	Diversity
Chaarvee	Sood	Science Teacher
Peta	Sparkes	Assistant Principal
Martin	Stein	PDHPE Teacher
Lee	Sullivan	LOTE, P-Tech/STEM and HSIE Teacher
Marco	Testa	Religious Education and HSIE Teacher
Connie	Voutos	Diversity
Jacob	Waldon	Religious Education and Science Teacher
Stuart	Whiley	Leader of Learning PDHPE and Teacher
Emily	Wilson	Science and Agriculture Teacher

Support Staff

SURNAME	NAMES	AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
Annear	Pam	School Support Officer and Hospitality Assistant
Biernat	Mary	Curriculum Secretary
Bourke	Ross	Maintenance
Clarke	Sharon	Principal's PA and Enrolment Secretary
Cropper	Rebecca	School Support Officer
Daggar	Joanne	Teacher's Aide – Diversity
Follan	Ben	Maintenance
Kathy	Gadzev	Teacher's Aide – Diversity
Jones	Julie	Finance
McCully	Stephanie	Administration and Compliance Officer
Mills	Melissa	School Support Officer
Medcalf	Marizza	Teacher's Aide – Diversity
Molly	Catherine	Library Assistant
Pai	Prathibha	Laboratory Assistant
Sirmais	Nicholas	ICT Technician
Whatman	Cheryl	Receptionist, Finance and First Aid
Zammit	Jessica	Teacher's Aide – Diversity



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Greetings to everyone in our community.

Thank you for a wonderful start to our 2021 year of learning and wellbeing.

Although we are still observing many COVID precautions, we realise with gratitude, that coming together as a school community is essential for our sense of belonging and cohesion as a school. We have been able to start the year united, beginning each week to hear messages together, celebrate our HSC High Achievers of 2020, Ash Wednesday, Year 7 Camp, Thursday sport, Thursday Representative sport, Rep Gala days, Year 7 2022 and 2023 Open Night for future enrolments (9/3/21 & 10/3/21) and the College Swimming carnival, to mention a few activities. We have learnt as a school, not to take for granted as having a high impact for our wellbeing and learning.

I hope that you have seen our incredible HSC results. This outstanding learning gain for our Year 12 2020 HSC students has been highly commended across our Diocese and the community. We are very proud of the dedication and talent shown by our students, the trust in their teachers' advice and coaching, and the support, love and guidance of their family, friends and community. We wish them all the best and continued learning success and happiness.

This year, you may have noticed some changes to our Student Learning Performance Grade (SLP). In the last few years, we have consulted with students, families and parents in order to transform learning and the well-being of our students and your child. The changes are also supported by research and set for our school context for what our students need to continue to promote their learning performance and enhance feelings of achievement and success.

On page 6, 7 and 8 you can read about the Student Performance Grades, Homeroom/Pastoral Care Reports, Penola Catholic College Award system and Penola Level/Points system for merits. If you need further help or assistance, please contact your child's Homeroom teacher, Stage or KLA Leaders or any member of our Executive.

We are here to help and want to reaffirm our commitment to the importance of building positive relationships with our students and families, where mutual support and respect is fostered to ensure your child has a wonderful learning experience at our school. Furthermore, when any issues arise, our good relationships assist us all to work through and restore relationships effectively and efficiently. The Homework Policy has also been updated in 2021. Please look at your child's diary on p. 9. The times recommended are set out and you can support your child by looking at their diary daily or each week, to assist the completion of homework or preparation required for the next lesson. We expect that everyday, in the three learning sessions, that homework is written by your child in their diary. Homeroom teachers will check diaries every week and their learning organisation in their diary is an area that is reported on in the semester report.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Continued

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This week (Term 1 Week 6) Yr 10 and Yr 11 Assessment Information Sessions were held and your child was asked to give you their Assessment handbook. The assessment handbook outlines our College procedures (that are in-line with NESA - NSW Education Standards Authority which is the NSW governing body for education). Our handbook also communicates each subject your child has chosen, with assessment task due dates and task descriptions. I have promoted the use of the diary to your child for assessment task organisation (Yr 10,11 and 12), as well as digital calendars (shared with family) and wall planners that can be used to record and assist family members to keep track of assessment task due dates.

Please seek the school's help if your child becomes overwhelmed with tasks set to be completed at home by contacting the subject class teacher. Your involvement to work with your child and the school to negotiate task priority and completion dates is priceless and is a positive way that you can support your child's learning at home.

All Assessment booklets (Yr 10,11 and 12) are available on the school website. You can read more about Assessment for, as and of learning by going to the link below. https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/understanding-the-curriculum/assessment/approaches

I have also included a link that you may find useful to support your child be safe and have positive experiences online.

https://www.esafety.gov.au/

Mrs Peta Sparkes









Rileigh Bartle Community & Family Studies



Mackenzie Brown Music 1



Annabelle Burrell English Advanced English Ext 1 English Ext 2 Visual Arts



Hannah Horne Community & Family Studies



Carissa Jones Music 1 Drama



Rosie Kaufusi Community & Family Studies



Joshua Lancaster Legal Studies Modern History



Raymond Limbaga Community & Family Studies



Harry Mason Mathematics Standard 2 Visual Arts

Congratulations HSC Class 2020 Band 5 & 6 High Achievers



Madalyn McCarthy Nicholas Mecsery Community & English Advanced Family Studies





Harrison Morgan Studies of Religion 2 Visual Arts Information & Digital Technology



Mikayla Morgan Mikayla Morgan Community & Family Studies Drama English Advanced Entertainment Industry English Extension 1



Nicholas Pike Business Studies Information & Digital Technology



Jack Prendergast Information & Digital Technology



Max Prendergst English Advanced Mathematics Standard 2 Modern History Studies of Religion 2 Visual Arts



Clare Rowley Music 1



Jesse Sawyer Mathematics Standard 2



Payton Sibary Community & Family Studies English Advanced Legal Studies Catholic Studies Visual Arts



Angelina Simmons
Community & Primary Industries
Family Studies
Business Studies
Personal
Pevelopment C Development & Physical Education





Marc Spokes Business Studies Mathematics Standard 2 Information & Digital Technology



Sharna'e Tanti Biology Community & Family Studies English Standard Personal Development & Physical Education Studies of Religion 2



Lucia Vinci English Standard



Rahul Wakankar Business Studies Drama

Believe I Achieve I Succeed

How to report cyberbullying material





Collect evidence copy URLs or take screenshots of the material

If the content is not removed within 48 hours apply steps 3 and 4





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





Top 5 online safety tips for kids

1

Set up your device to protect your information.

2

Explore safely & tell an adult if you see anything online that makes you feel yuck.

3

Limit who can contact you when you're playing games.

4

Stop all contact with anyone online who asks you to do anything you don't want to do. Report and block them.

5

Ask for help if anything online is bothering you.





esafety.gov.au/kids

Top 5 online safety tips

- Think of others' feelings before you post, like or share content.
- Ask for permission before you share a photo or video with someone else in it. Respectful online relationships start with consent.
- Be an upstander Speak up if you see someone cyberbullying or sharing nudes in a group chat let them know that's not okay. Report and delete it.
- Use privacy and screen time settings to take control of your digital life and its impact on your mental health.
- Ask for help Cyberbullying and sharing intimate images without consent can be distressing, but eSafety can help remove them.

Supported By

LEADER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND MISSION



JJAMM 2021 A Journey of Gratitude

Penola Catholic College Captains Jesse Warner and Tia Auld, accompanied me, at The Josephite Sisters at North Sydney and Kincumber for 5 days, Saturday 13th February to Wednesday 17th February. The 5-day leadership experience enabled Tia and Jesse to explore their relationship with self, others and to know they a reflection of God.

They realised their own leadership potential through sharing with others, listening to others and through encountering people who have had a lifetime experience of standing up for those without a voice, Sr Josephine, 92 years young, who worked in Peru and indigenous communities. Tia and Jesse have emerged as confident leaders who are ready to engage with our community, not to reach out but to reach inward, to make kindness the new normal at Penola.

The College Captains motto is to "know the way, go the way and show the way" enabling others to make connections with each other, to show courage and compassion and build positive relationships with all. We have been charged by the Josephite sisters to join with all Josephite schools on March 11 to Pray for the care of the earth. Jesse wrote a poem that will be used in all the other schools, a leader among leaders! A special emphasis will be placed on our first nations people, recognising their ongoing search for peace in their own land. As we act with justice and advocate for people around the world and in Australia Jesse and Tia firstly will enhance connections here at Penola.







LEADER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND MISSION Continued..

Year 7 Religious Education and Mission - A sense of Belonging at Penola

Year 7 have been adjusting to life at Penola as a "little fish" in a big pond.

As "Big Fish" at primary school they led and inspired others. At Penola, our community encourages them to continue these practices and to follow in the footsteps of St. Mary MacKillop.

Learning Seminar with Fr Shenouda Mansour, **General Secretary form the NSW Ecumenical Council**

On Wednesday 3rd February 2021, HSC Studies of Religion (SOR) students had the unique opportunity to meet Fr Shenouda Mansour, the General Secretary of the NSW Ecumenical Council, an active member of the World Council of Churches, and serves as a parish priest at St Anthony and St Paul's Coptic Orthodox Church in Guilford.

Fr Shenouda is an expert in ecumenical dialogue and has a Doctorate in Philosophy from Macquarie University. His presence at Penola Catholic College was received with great admiration by SOR students, as he presented the historical and social developments of ecumenism and interfaith dialogue, throughout two millennia of Church history and especially in Australia since 1945.

Fr Shenouda exhorted students and staff at Penola Catholic College to be, "a voice for the voiceless" and be challenged by communicating the love for the "One true God" across all faiths and facets of life. The Penola Catholic College community thanks Fr Shenouda Mansour for his visit and we will be working closely with him in the future.

We would also like to thank Miss Mansour for organising a rich and meaningful experience for our Year 11 and 12 Studies of Religion HSC students





LEADER OF INNOVATION AND DIVERSITY

It is with great anticipation of the year ahead that we welcome you all back to 2021. It's hard to believe that we are halfway through term one already.

As a team, we initiated our planning for 2021 well before the end of the 2020 school year, identifying strategies and resources that would help to enrich intervention classes and opportunities for students with additional needs.

We are thrilled to be welcoming a number of new staff this year. Joining our already strong team of diversity specialists, is numeracy and literacy specialist teacher Michele Glyn. Michele has incredible teaching expertise, having worked across Stages 1 to 3, Michele has always been proactive about refining her skills in assisting students to build strong foundation skills for lifelong learning. Michele has taught within our community for many years and we look forward to the learning growth that each student enjoys under her careful planning and guidance.

Additionally we welcome both Jessica Zammit and Marizza Medcalf to the Penola community. Both Jessica and Marizza have recently started their careers as teachers' aides. Their passion for student success, their intention to enable self belief in every child and their natural capacity to guide sustained learning is already very apparent.

Throughout the year we intend to feature stories of student success across all learning areas, as this incredible team works alongside our students and teaching staff. We have a strong history of ensuring that each and every child is understood and encouraged from a 'strengths based' approach and we have absolute commitment to enabling individual student success. I couldn't be more proud of our students and teachers, the year has begun with an organised and passionate pursuit of learning growth for all. This year holds much hope for us all.

Ms Anna Keogh





INSTRUCTIONAL COACH

2021 has seen a strong start to the school year, as a learning community that promotes student centered learning.

Now that the students have settled back into their routines and feeling comfortable within their classes, it would be a good time to talk with your child / children to set learning goals for the year. Examples could be:

- to not have a single day off this year,
- · focus on reading more regularly,
- making sure they ask at least 1 question per learning session.

The options are endless but to have a goal to work towards is important to support student centered learning in the following ways.

Goals Push You Forward

Essential to Define Success

Goals Hold You Accountable

Assist in Measuring Progress

Goals Inform Action

Goals Set Priorities

Goals Communicate Meaning

Tracking Progress is Important

Recognising Progress is Important

Goals Help Morale

Learning is meant to be a difficult process but if between the home and school the student knows they have the support and clear vision, then being stretched in their learning and providing rigor doesn't become overwhelming or daunting.

Secondly, every day of school matters to allow for proper stretch, rigor and growth of learning. Students and teachers are assessing and providing valuable feedback consistently within a learning session, so that students have a clear vision of where they are at in their learning and what are their next steps to improve. It has been lovely to visit classrooms across the start of the school year and see our students engaged, driven and critics of their learning. If this is what the start of the school year has produced then I am excited to see what is to come for the remainder of the school year.

Mrs Julie Petrovski

Community and Business Partnerships Officer

It has been a pleasure joining the Penola community in 2021, as the newly appointed Community and Business Partnerships Officer, as well as a member of the HSIE faculty.

Community and Business Partnerships are an integral part of fostering a sense of connection between the school and our wider community, in order to provide our students with real world learning opportunities and access to relevant and essential skills for the future.

As many of you know, we are one of a very small number of schools in Australia who take part in the P-TECH program, providing our students with phenomenal opportunities for mentoring, internships and real world skill development. I will be working closely with our P-TECH partners over the coming year, to continue to explore ways we can enhance the program, and maximise the learning outcomes for our students.

In addition to this, I will be connecting with local businesses, alumni and other community partners, investigating how we can develop mutually beneficial partnerships, with a focus on building the capacity of our students and aiding in the development of personalised learning journeys.

I am excited to work with the Penola community over the year ahead to enrich our existing partnerships and to open the door to new and exciting opportunities for our students.

Ms Samantha Berridge

HOMEWORK HELP FOR ALL STUDENTS

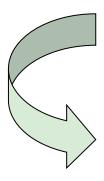
Every Monday afternoon during school terms
In the Library

3.00pm - 4.00pm

All Year 7 - 12 students are welcome



Finance Matters



Dear Families

Fee statements have now been mailed out by the Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP). If you have any queries or have not received your statement please contact me at the college on 4728 8100 Option 2.

Please note the due date of the first instalment 17 March 2021.

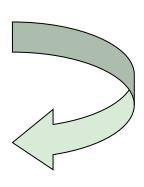
Mrs Julie Jones Finance Officer

After school Supervised Study for Years 11 and 12

We would like to encourage students in Years 11 and 12 to come to the Library on a Monday and Thursday afternoon for extra study during the school term.

There will be teachers available from different subject areas to help them with their study during this time. The Library will be open from 3pm to 5pm on each of these days.

If your child is in Stage 6 please encourage them to avail themselves of this important resource.





The College Uniform is purchased through **LOWES** at their Penrith store located in Westfields shopping centre.

The store is open 7 days per week and late on Thursday nights.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...



March 2021	
Tuesday & Wednesday	Open Evening for Enrolments 2022 and 2023
9 & 10 March	Book your tour refer page 2 of the Newsletter
Wednesday 24 March	Year 11 and 12 Parent / Teacher Interviews
	1.30pm to 7.30pm
Wednesday 31 March	Cross Country - Competitors Only
Thursday 1 April	Year 12 Reports distrubted
April 2021	
Thursday 1 April	Term 1 Concludes
Monday 19 April	Term 2 Resumes for all students—Winter Uniform
Friday 23 April	Anzac Service
Monday 26 April	Public Holiday for Anzac Day
Tuesday 27 April	Year 12 Semester 1 Awards 9am to 10am
May 2021	
Monday 3 May	School Photos
Tuesday 11 May	NAPLAN commences for students in Years 7 and 9
PUPIL FREE DAYS 2021	
Term 2	Friday 11 June 2021 Staff Development Day
Term 3	Monday 12 July 2021 Staff Development Day
Term 4	11 November 2021 Staff Spirituality Day
Term Dates For 2021	
Term 1	Concludes Thursday 1 April 2021
Term 2	Resumes 19 April 2021 and concludes 25 June 2021
Term 3	Resumes 12 July 2021 and concludes 17 September 2021
Terms 4	Resumes 5 October 2021 and concludes 15 December 2021