

Volume - 2021.3

Date 11 May 2021

COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

PENOLA

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

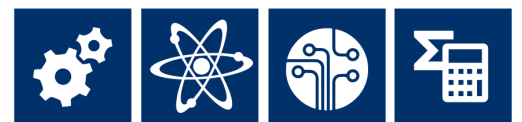
Courage Compassion Integrity Hope

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WESTERN SYDNEY
PENOLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

P-TECH

PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY





Walking in the footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families of the Penola Community

It has been an extremely busy start to term with lots of great learning happening at Penola. It was wonderful to see students beautifully presented in their winter uniform. I would like to extend my appreciation to you for your understanding and patience in relation to some items of the new Penola uniform that have been slightly delayed. We now seem to have all items available at Lowes who are always in communication with us and supporting the college in the best way possible.

Welcome to new staff

This term we have welcomed a few new staff members Mrs Anne Moller who will be part of the Wellbeing Team and HSIE teaching team, Mrs Gardiner our new Business Manager and Miss May Ale who will be teaching Religious Education. We warmly welcome our new staff who will bring their special gifts to our community where we have high quality engaging learning and supportive wellbeing programs for our students.

ANZAC DAY 2021

Our ANZAC Day ceremony 2021 was very special indeed, coordinated by Mrs Lewin (HSIE Leader of Learning) and the HSIE teaching team, along with our student leaders and student volunteers. The ceremony reminds of those Australians who have generously supported and protected us through their willingness to serve in the armed and defence forces. We are all so very grateful for family members, friends and all Australians who have served our country protecting and defending our great land so we are able to live freely each and every day. Our college Captains also represented the college proudly at the Penrith local area ANZAC Day ceremony at the Paceway. *Lest we forget.*



National Assessment Program of Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

This week Year 7 and 9 students will be undertaking their 2021 NAPLAN assessment. This assessment is a diagnostic test which allows students, parents and teachers to understand the areas of strength in literacy and numeracy, as well as the areas that students need to focus on for further development to ensure they do not have gaps in their learning. As a college, we have a well developed, strong plan for students to build their confidence in both literacy and numeracy skills. The National Assessment Program of Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will commence on Wednesday 12 May and conclude on Tuesday 18 May. Please ensure your child is ready with their device for the online test and a headset or earphones.

Your child has participated in the practice tests coordinated by Mrs Sparkes (Assistant Principal) and is now ready to demonstrate their great skills in both literacy and numeracy. Best wishes Year 7 and Year 9 students!

Mock Trial Success

Huge congratulations to our Legal Studies Mock Trial 2021 Team who recently competed against Caroline Chisholm College and were successful in scoring a high 256 points to 248.

The preparation for this is extensive and I would like to extend my gratitude to Mr Marco Testa and the students for their hard work and commitment in this outstanding extracurricular activity. I encourage you to continue this dedicated effort and continue to achieve excellence.



Georgia Crowther Tia Auld Charlotte Warden
Jessie Lustri Damon Psathas Jack Duggan & Mr Testa
Absent - Joe Lancaster

From the Principal Leader Continued

Our College Learning Goals

Our College Goal for 2021 is to develop student efficacy (self-belief) through our learning culture of high expectations and empowering learning programs designed to enhance collaboration, communication, critical thinking and creativity. Our HSC results of 2020 are testament to the strong learning culture where we stretch and challenge all learners to extend themselves and develop skills in independent learning. Our Penola learning Framework has been developed by our staff, students and parents and reflects a contemporary model of learning whereby we can focus on the skills that are needed for jobs of the future such as teamwork, communication and innovative thinking. In **Stage 4** your child's learning focuses on building their engagement in learning and developing organisational skills for secondary school learning success. Stage 5 students focus on the need to be empowered as a learner knowing how to manage learning effectively, help seeking and research skills and developing the ability to work both independently and collaboratively. Stage 6 learners focus on the ability to be entrepreneurial and understand their future life and career goals with a commitment to their HSC learning pathway with the strong support of their HSC Learning Coach. Our Penola Learning Framework allows all students to experience success in their own right through our gradual development of skills and competencies with highly professional staff and coaches. It is this specific learning focus, along with opportunities to commence Stage 6 (Year 11 and 12) courses in Year 10 that enables your child to have a self directed and career focused approach enabling them to be very successful at Penola Catholic College.

Pastoral Care and Wellbeing News

During Term 2 students will also have many opportunities to focus on their Wellbeing through their Pastoral Care/ Wellbeing program, Reflection Days and Wellbeing 'Chillout' days where each Year group will have opportunities to learn to build their resilience skills, learn about managing friendship group conflicts for positive solutions, managing social media in a contemporary world, building partnerships with peers and dealing with anxiety during the HSC learning journey. The Wellbeing Team, Mrs Sparkes and selected students will be planning these Wellbeing Experiences to complement the great work focusing on these areas in the Pastoral Care program Years 7-12. Students will also be engaging in a short Wellbeing and Learning survey so we can get feedback on how your child is travelling throughout the year and we can be responsive to these needs as a college community.

Parents as Partners Hub Group

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement at the College. Please know that our parent community is highly appreciated for engagement on all levels. I would like to explore your interest in joining the Parents as Partners Hub Group.

If you would like to join our team of parents who meet to discuss new programs and opportunities for both students and parents, please place your name on the [form link](#).



The Parents as Partners Hub will aim to meet once per term at a time that is suitable for the team and the College. I encourage all parents to place your name down as it is not a huge commitment and one that will allow you to feel connected with other parents and the College through a social meeting discussing possibilities for wellbeing and learning programs. Please complete the form so we can start our first Parents a Partners Hub in Term 2.



Refugee Food Appeal

We have received a beautiful thank you card from Fr Michael and the Our Lady of the Way Parishioners thanking the College for the support and contribution to the appeal.

Through the wonderful contributions from the Penola students and staff they have been able to donate over 200 bags to the House of Welcome.

Tania Cairns

Principal Leader

CONGRATUALATIONS TO OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE SEMESTER 1 AWARD CEREMONY

First	Surname	Award	Course
Tia	Auld	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Society and Culture
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Legal Studies
Liam	Austin	High Achievement in Sport	
		Substantive Improvement	Mathematics Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Studies of Religion II
		Substantive Improvement	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
		Substantive Improvement	Business Studies
Luka	Bodiroza	Substantive Improvement	Biology
Paige	Burton	Substantive Improvement	English Studies
Hannah	Cladingboel	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Community and Family Studies
		Substantive Improvement	English Advanced
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Alyssa	Clarke	Highly Commended	Primary Industries
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	English Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Isabella	Coey	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Studies of Religion II
Ethan	Craig	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Mathematics Standard
Jake	Degarnham	Highly Commended	Business Services
Alison	Demmitt	Substantive Improvement	Society and Culture
Brenton	Donnelly	Highly Commended	Business Services
Michael	Duardo	Substantive Improvement	Mathematics Advanced
		Substantive Improvement	Chemistry
Christopher	Elliot	Outstanding Achievement in Course	English Studies
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Information Processing and Technology
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Software Design and Development
		P-TECH Graduate Award	P-TECH Graduate Award Semester One
Sally-Jo	Fornasier	Substantive Improvement	English Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Business Studies
Broc	Geronimi	Highly Commended	Pathways in Technology (IDT HSC)
Lily	Gleeson	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Visual Arts
Maya	Grantham	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Studies of Religion I
Gabriella	Grimaldi	Perfect Attendance	
Joshua	Harrigan	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Modern History
Mia	Henderson	High Achievement in Sport	
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Grace	Hopton	Substantive Improvement	Biology
Sierra	Irvine	Substantive Improvement	Mathematics Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Adrian	Jones	Most Outstanding	Business Services
		Substantive Improvement	Studies of Religion II

YEAR 12 AWARDS (Continued)

First	Surname	Award	Course
Elyjah	Kennedy	Substantive Improvement	English Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Community and Family Studies
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Ryan	Koenig	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Industrial Technology Timber
		Substantive Improvement	Personal Development, Health
Holly	Lampard	Highly Commended	Primary Industries
Jayden	Loughman	Highly Commended	Primary Industries
		Substantive Improvement	English Standard
		Substantive Improvement	Studies of Religion II
		Substantive Improvement	Industrial Technology Timber
Maegan	Mathew	Substantive Improvement	English Advanced
		Substantive Improvement	Personal Development, Health
Brianna	Mattingley	Highly Commended	Business Services
Abbey	McAlister	Substantive Improvement	Business Studies
Tori	McLean	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Studies of Religion II
Emma	Moses	Substantive Improvement	Community and Family Studies
Emily	Norris	Substantive Improvement	Studies of Religion I
		Substantive Improvement	Physics
Carla	Patterson	Building Community Spirit Walking in the Values of Saint Mary Mackillop	
		Substantive Improvement	Business Studies
Lleytton	Paul	Substantive Improvement	Design and Technology
Jack	Prendergast	Building Community Spirit Walking in the Values of Saint Mary Mackillop	
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Learning for Mission
		Perfect Attendance	
		Substantive Improvement	Information Processing and Technology
		Substantive Improvement	Software Development and Design
Jordan	Ross	Substantive Improvement	Studies of Religion II
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Samantha	Rowe	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Primary Industries
Ciaran	Rudge	Substantive Improvement	Modern History
Emily	Savic	Substantive Improvement	Legal Studies
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Learning for Mission
Anneliese	Shapcott	Building Community Spirit Walking in the Values of Saint Mary Mackillop	
Ebony	Sorini	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Business Studies

YEAR 12 AWARDS (Continued)

First	Surname	Award	Course
Christian	Thompson	High Achievement in Culture, Arts and Performance	
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Music
		Substantive Improvement	Visual Arts
		Substantive Improvement	Learning for Mission
Jovana	Trifkovic	Highly Commended	Business Services
Jesse	Warner	Building Community Spirit Walking in the Values of Saint Mary Mackillop	
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	English Advanced
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Mathematics Advanced
		Outstanding Achievement in Course	Biology
Abbey	Watson	Outstanding Achievement in Course	Learning for Mission
		Substantive Improvement	Biology
Amelia	Wingate	Highly Commended	Business Services

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Congratulations to those students achieving the Principal's Award for Exceptional Academic Achievement demonstrating high level Achievement across a full range of HSC Courses.

Tia Auld

Hannah Cladingboel

Christopher Elliot

Gabriella Grimaldi

Joshua Harrigan

Maegan Mathew

Emily Norris

Jack Prendergast

Christian Thompson

Jesse Warner

Abbey Watson





FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Greetings to everyone in our community.

I hope you and your family are enjoying a new year as we continue to adapt to our changing world. There are many things to feel grateful for, including the Easter break where I know many families were able to come together or travel to holiday destinations.

There are a few things I'd like to share with you in this issue of the Penola newsletter.

NAPLAN

The National NAPLAN tests begin on Wednesday 12 May 2021 in Week 4 of this term and we are very proud of the way our students participated in their practice tests last term. A timetable for Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN organisation was sent out via Skoolbag on Friday 30 April 2021.

12 May Wednesday	Writing
13 May Thursday	Catch up day for Writing
14 May Friday	Reading
17 May Monday	Conventions of Language
18 May Tuesday	Numeracy
19 May Wednesday –20 May Thursday	Catch up day

All Year 7 and 9 students require a device and earphones/headphones.

Homework

At Penola Catholic College, we also recognise that our children can benefit when families and school work together in partnership to support children with their learning. Furthermore, at Penola Catholic College we value the active support and involvement of parents in the education process.

We value the positive value of homework to a student's learning. Homework gives a student the opportunity to be challenged, in order to improve and reinforce their knowledge and skills. As such, homework and study for every subject plays an important role in a student's learning progress and fosters academic skills and discipline of the student.

Aims:

Homework and study assists in the development of skills in:

- ⇒ Personal organisation
- ⇒ Time management
- ⇒ Independent learning

Homework and study provides students with opportunities to:

- ⇒ Reflect on the day's learning sessions, prepare for the next lesson and reinforce the content being covered
- ⇒ Undertake extension work or respond to teacher or peer feedback to improve learning
- ⇒ Practise essential subject specific skills

Homework and study provides parents with opportunities to:

- ⇒ Be involved in their child's learning process
- ⇒ Reflect and respond with their child to feedback that has been given to their child about their learning

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Continued

Amount of Homework

As part of our whole school practice, the teacher will set the homework as per the table below and this appears in your child's diary on page 9.

Every student must organise their diary for homework by listing their three learning sessions each day and adding the homework, assessment task or study to be completed for that day. Teachers are directed to check students have entered their homework tasks before the end of each learning session.

Junior Students		Senior Students	
Year 7 & 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11 & 12
15 minutes of homework per learning session of that day	25 minutes of homework per learning session of that day	30 minutes of homework per learning session of that day.	35 minutes of homework per learning session of that day.
Maximum of 60 minutes homework and study each school day.	Maximum of 90 minutes of homework and study each day.	Maximum of 120 minutes of homework and study each day.	Maximum of 120 minutes of homework and study each day. (Including weekends)

We ask our parents to help us ensure that their child does not exceed the indicated time for each subject. Parents should contact the class teacher, initially through the diary, if they have a concern about homework or study. If there is a family situation, where homework is not able to be completed, we also ask parents to communicate by writing a note in their child's diary.

Reports and Award Ceremonies

We are aiming to release reports in Week 7 of this term for Year 7-11. Reports can be accessed through your child's COMPASS Student Management Portal and we will send instructions via Skoolbag closer to the date.

On 15 June 2021 Year 7-11 Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place from 1pm-7:00pm
Based on strong positive parent feedback the Parent/Teacher interviews will be completed by Zoom allowing all parents to participate in learning progress conversations with all teaching staff.

Semester 1 Awards ceremonies:

Tuesday 22 June 2021

Wednesday 23 June 2021

in Learning Session 1

in Learning Session 2

Stage 5

Stage 4 and Year 11.

Thank you and take care.

Mrs Peta Sparkes
Assistant Principal.

Supported By

LEADER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND MISSION

<< REWIND <<

The Stage 6 students in Learning for Mission (LFM) have been engaged in creating Action Plans to build upon our school strengths. We have recently had great success with the Intercultural Project and the Indigenous Totems. The LFM students have led the Peer Support Program, Catechists returning to Primary Schools with our next launch to be a REWIND space.

The LFM students are partnering with "Together of Humanity" and "Headspace" to launch a mental health initiative at Penola. Thursday June 10 the "Learning Plaza", a green space between the Senior and Junior Learning Hubs, will be transformed into a place of welcome, games and relaxation. This will continue to occur twice each week on Tuesday's and Friday's. Headspace will present a short program to each Year group in the space to highlight the appropriate use and address why mental health is an important issue for youth. Congratulations to Holly Smith and the LFM team for this great initiative.



JSS Day Friday, June 4, 2021



Penola Catholic College and Jesuit Social Services (JSS) continue their six year partnership on Friday, June 4, 2021. Claire Thomas, the JSS school liaison, will be presenting to our College Assembly on Tuesday May 4 with a focus on the Mental Health of her clients and how we, by offering a little support, will enable not only relationships to flourish but also each individual's physical, emotional and mental health to improve. Please be prepared to unlock our generous hearts next month.

What can I bring for the trailer?

- Tea/Coffee/Milo
- Breakfast Cereals
- Honey/Vegemite
- Nutella/Jam
- Sugar
- Flour
- Cake Mixes
- Jelly/Instant puddings
- Assorted long life milk
- Powdered Milk
- Muesli Bars / LCM Bars
- Cordials / Juice
- Juice Poppers
- Savoury biscuits / Crackers
- Sweet biscuits
- Pasta and sauces
- Stir Fry sauces
- Rice
- Taco shells / taco kits
- Noodles
- Recipe bases / sauces
- Mayo / salad dressings
- Canned goods
- Baby food (not formula)
- Nappies / wipes
- Baby wash items
- Personal hygiene items
- Shampoo / Conditioner
- Toilet Rolls / Tissues



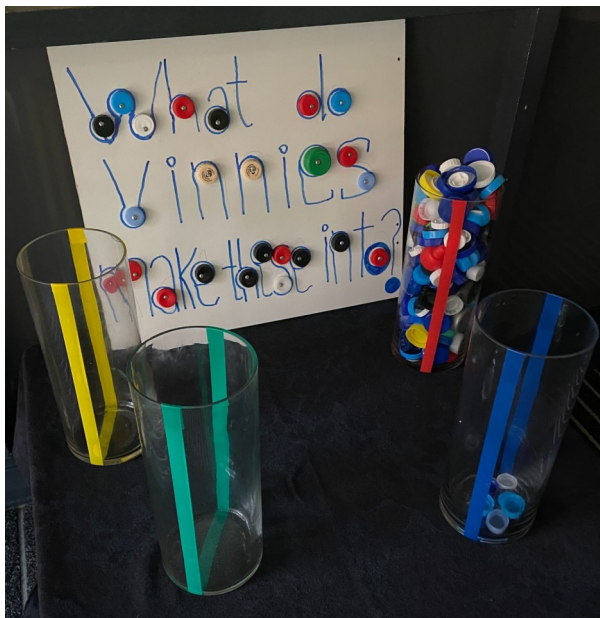
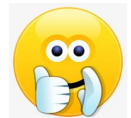
LIDS FOR KIDS



HOUSE CHALLENGE WEEKS 3 and 4

All students are encouraged to donate plastic bottle lids and place them in the House containers located in the College Library.

Every lid scores House Points!!



Vinnies are supporting “Envision Hands” and the donation of bottle tops to create prosthetic limbs for children.

20 HOUSE points will be allocated for each full container.

A staff member in the **RED house** has got us off to a head start. “

Penola Power is Powerful!!

Year of Joseph

This year is an opportunity for all of us to celebrate and reflect on Joseph, described by Pope Francis in his apostolic letter, *Patris corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), as a beloved father, a father who is creatively courageous, a father in the shadows.

Pope Francis names St. Joseph as "the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty." To honour and acknowledge this, a coalition has come together to initiate 150 days of action across Australia, to engage with people of good will, and advocate to change our country's attitude and policies towards those seeking protection in Australia. This action begins on the feast of Joseph the Worker on the 1st of May and concludes with a Day of Lamentation and Call on Refugee Sunday on the 27th of September. Tia Auld, Gabriela Grimaldi and Mr Feeney attended the launch in the Mary MacKillop Chapel at 2.00 pm on Saturday, 1st of May.



The following letter from the Sydney Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Office explains the origin of the initiative.

"The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has declared that this year is the year of Joseph, who was himself a refugee. The timing of such a declaration is critical because, after two decades, it is clear that Australia's treatment of those who come to us seeking protection needs to change. We need to re-imagine what it would be like to come to a place like Australia and find the way to safety barred – to find a toxic political atmosphere that describes our children, our mums and dads as "illegals" and "queue-jumpers" as those trying to manipulate the charity of Australia.

Australia needs a new heart, a new way to re-lent and show mercy. We think there is an opportunity to engage across all our communities, religious, schools, parishes and workplaces to become active in a new way to advocate with those who come seeking our protection."

Stage 4 Retreat Days Monday, June 7 Connected Together

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Stage 4 Retreat Days

Monday, June 7

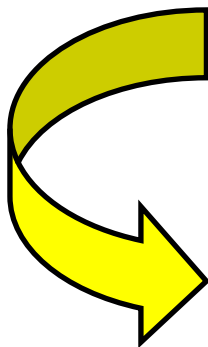
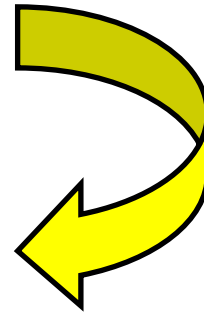
Is humankind Worthy or Unworthy? – Understanding the Paradox

POPE FRANCIS

"They're children of God and have a right to a family. Nobody should be thrown out or be made miserable because of it."



Stage 4
Retreats



Year 8 Mt Schoenstatt!
Winbourne

“

We strongly believe that **this program will empower**, not just students, but their teachers as well, **creating ripples that spell progress** not just for individuals, but the future of Penola as well.

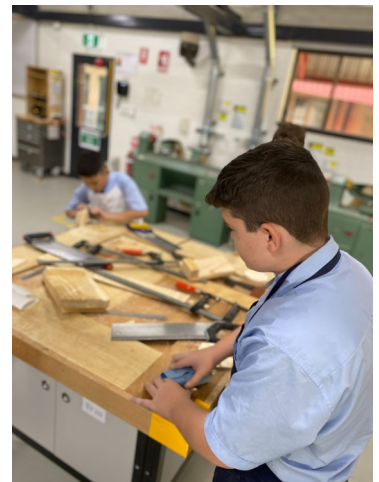
PENOLA
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



LEADER OF PEDAGOGY AND INSTRUCTIONAL COACH



The start to term 2 has seen our students return and settle into their positive learning practices. It has been lovely to see during my visits to the classrooms students engaging in their learning by the way of collaborative practice: receiving and giving peer feedback, problem solving, asking questions -- being an active learner in the classroom. Further to this, with the warm autumn days we are seeing our students use our open learning spaces to their full potential soaking in the lovely warmth of the environment as they are learning.



IMPORTANT MATTERS



SCHOOL FEES

Instalment two for school fees is due 26 May 2021. Thank you to those families who have made payment or set up a payment arrangement for school fees.

If you need to set up a payment arrangement, please contact Julie Jones in the school office on 4728 8100 as soon as possible.

CASHLESS SCHOOL

Our school is now cashless which means we are unable to accept cash payments for any reasons, ie school fees, fundraising etc.



All activities, excluding school fees will be now be payable via the QKR app.

Please down load this app.

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

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.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...



May 2021	
Wednesday 12 May	NAPLAN commences for students in Years 7 and 9 And concludes on Tuesday 18 May 2021
June 2021	
Wednesday 2 June	PDSSSC Football Gala Day
Friday 4 June	JSS Day Fundraiser
Monday 7 June	Years 7 and 8 Retreat Day
Tuesday 15 June	Parent / Teacher Interviews for Years 7-11 from 1:00pm to 7:00pm
Friday 18 June	Athletics Carnival
Monday 21 June	Years 7 and 10 Catch Up Vaccinations
Tuesday 22 June	Semester 1 Award Ceremony for Stage 5
Wednesday 23 June	Semester 1 Award Ceremony for Stage 4 and Stage 6
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 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

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 . The College Uniform is purchased through **LOWES**
 .
 . at their Penrith store located in Westfields shopping centre.
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 . The store is open 7 days per week and late on Thursday nights.
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