Dear Parents,

If you visited the St Mary’s 7-10 campus this week you may have wondered whether holidays had started a week early as student sightings were few and far between. The reality is that there has been a flurry of activity in the last week of Term 3 albeit much of it off site.

The week began with Year 10s embarking on Work Experience where students are learning more about themselves and the world of work so that they can make more informed decisions about course and career paths.

Our Year 9 students are participating in the City Experience Program with the Melbourne CBD becoming a giant classroom. The City Experience Program is designed to promote teamwork, independent learning and an improved understanding of life in our diverse intercultural city as well as providing valuable life skills. While Year 9 students have been starting their day at the St Mary’s Campus, they have ventured into the CBD working on their project which has a tourism focus.

By Tuesday another year level deserted the campus as the Year 8s travelled to the Mornington Peninsula for Camp. This left the Year 7s as the sole occupiers of the campus for the remainder of the week. On Wednesday they set off in the rain to the IMAX Theatre to be immersed in the world of mummies, returning in sunny the afternoon to set up for the Egypt Exhibition which showcased their term’s work to their peers and many parents. Rally Day on Thursday saw them go off in two groups to venues across Melbourne, where, together with other ACC schools they competed indoor cricket and soccer.

Another group of boys, being led by Mr DiFabrizio and Mr Sanciolo, is on a Study Tour to Italy where students are being fully immersed in the language and culture they have been studying.

Term 4 begins on Monday 3 October with a Week 2 timetable
Thank you to all staff who have been involved in the organisation and supervision of these activities and for providing students with these wonderful opportunities to be immersed in their education.

At the St Brigid’ campus the Year 12 students have been busy finishing off course work as the come close to the end of their time at secondary school. The holidays will be time for preparing for final examinations with students coming in to school for practice exams during the last week. The perseverance, dedication and organisation of staff and students is admirable.

Earlier this term you were asked to assist the school’s planning for 2017 by completing re-enrolment intentions and signing off on your son’s subject selection forms. Your support and assistance with this information is appreciated. If your intentions in regard to your son’s schooling in 2017 change, please contact us as early as possible.

Once again we have been surveying students, parents and staff as part of our ongoing collection of data for the School Improvement Framework in our ongoing pursuit to improve learning outcomes for students. Parents were sent the survey with an option to complete a paper based or online survey. Please return completed paper based surveys to the office by 19 September.

On the last day of Term 3, Year 7 and 11 students were given their Interim Reports. Year 8, 9 and 10 Interim Reports will be distributed to students in the first week of Term 4. As Parent-Teacher Interviews were held in August, there will be no Parent-Teacher interviews in Term 4, however if you wish to discuss your son’s progress with a particular teacher then you are welcome to arrange an interview.

Our Principal Mr Riordan is on leave and currently on a pilgrimage “In the Footsteps of St Paul” with several other Victorian Catholic School Principals. He is travelling throughout Greece, Cyprus and Malta and this week has been on island of Patmos, where St John wrote the Book of Revelation and has visited the Cave of Revelation where God chose to reveal to St John the mysteries of the last book of the Bible – the Apocalypse.

Please note that the Summer Uniform, including the short sleeved Simonds shirt without a tie is permitted to be worn as an option to the formal uniform in Term 4.

As we enjoy our break from work and studies these holidays, we hope we all have a little more time with our families, and return refreshed and ready so that Term 4 brings all the endeavours of our students to a very successful conclusion.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H Koutoulogenis & Mr R Anastasio
Acting Principals | Simonds Catholic College

Reminder statements were posted to families during the first week of September.

Please note that St Mary’s Campus will be open during the September holidays should you wish to contact the office to make a payment.

If you have any queries please contact Mr Danny O’Malley on 9321 9200 / domalley@sccmelb.catholic.edu.au

Mr D O’Malley | Business Manager
Health and Physical Education Week is designed to draw people’s attention to their own health. HPE Week took place recently at Simonds and each day there was a trivia quiz, activities at lunchtime and health-related prize giveaways.

Physical activity is a very important component of a teenager’s overall health and well-being. The Australian Department of Health recommend that young people aged 12-17 years complete a minimum of 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous intensity physical activity every day. They also recommend no more than two hours of screen time (for entertainment) each day and to avoid sitting/lying for extended periods.

Simonds HPE Week was a success, with lots of students getting involved in the different activities and hopefully taking their health more seriously. The week concluded with an Olympic-themed casual clothes day that helped raise money for a community health cause (specifically the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Footscray).

Thank you to all the staff and students who got involved during the week and congratulations to the students who won the various activities.
On August 18, the Year 10 boys went to Academy for their annual social. As everyone started to arrive there was a separation between the girls and boys. However, once the pizza arrived the party started. Everyone joined in on the fun and there was no longer a separation between the boys and girls. Throughout the night the DJ played some well-known classics and modern pop songs and after some encouragement from Ms Hands and Mr Vaughan, everyone was involved.

It was a really enjoyable night, everyone had a blast and had a great time socialising with one another. Near the end of the night we were all tired and exhausted, but everyone still kept dancing. Even Ms Hands had a dance too! As the social came to an end we gathered together for a group shot and we got as many people as we could into the photo. This was a great night, can’t wait for the next social!
This term The Bookies, Simonds Book Club, visited the State Library of Victoria accompanied by Mr Byard and Mrs Dymond. The group first toured the Special Exhibitions area on levels 4 & 5. Showcasing the history of Victoria it overlooks the magnificent domed La Trobe Reading Room where scholars and students have studied for over a century. We also checked out public areas such as the Chess Room and the Journal and Magazines Reading Rooms before spending a little time in the Reading Room. The students were amazed at the range of services offered by their State library. Since our visit all Bookies have applied online for Membership to the Library. This will give them unlimited access to all SLV databases.

This was a fun outing as a prelude to Book Week. All students are invited to be part of our Book Club which meets on Friday at Lunch in the Library.

Ms J Dymond | Librarian

Book Week

The theme of Book Week 2016 was ‘Australia – Story Country’ so it was appropriate that the highlight of our week was the visit by award winning Aussie author, Scot Gardner. Scot spoke to the Years 7 & 8 and 9 & 10 students in separate sessions and his humorous, energetic and irreverent presentations engaged and entertained both students and staff. A great raconteur, he shared stories from his life, all the time urging the boys to be themselves and tell their own unique stories.

Scot also led two writing workshops with selected students from all year levels. He passed on many ideas about the craft of writing and in turn the boys were encouraged to share their stories and writing.

Luca Corrado Year 8: “In the workshop he encouraged us to speak about anything we wanted as he really wanted to hear what we had to say and he showed us there were no boundaries to our ideas and stories”

We have a wide range of Scot’s books in the Library. As expected they have been in high demand – just in time for holiday reading!

Each morning a Trivia question was posted on iSimonds and very quickly a number of boys would rush to put their answer slips in the box in the Library – prizes of Movie Tickets were awarded to the first drawn correct answers.

Each time a student borrowed during Book Week they were given a ticket in a Raffle for a Dymocks book Voucher. Jomar Inot from Year 8 was very excited to be the lucky winner.

Many thanks to the students who took part in Book Week activities and helped make it such a successful and fun week.

Ms J Dymond | Librarian
PARENT EVENING - SON’S ONLINE

Thanks to the parents who set time aside to attend the parent evening on 6 September.

Thanks too to the MC, Santo Magro (Parent and Leader of the Parent Wellbeing Team), Sue Purcell (Parent Wellbeing Team), Salvina Noonan (Year 12 Coordinator), Anthony Tan (Year 12), Marc Bortolotto (Year 10), Bill Theodorakis (Year 10). It was interesting to hear a variety of perspectives about “online life” and to also hear the questions of parents.

Here is just a little of the info that was offered on the night …

“I think for any new technologies people start to ask questions about is this good? is this bad? is this going to destroy society? It is here to stay! It is parents having a conversation about getting the balance right”

Dr Daniel Johnson- Games Research and Design Lab, QLD University of Technology

Good info on the topic is available on the school website:

Go to the school homepage at www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au, Go to the “student wellbeing” link, Go to the “student and family support” link, Click on the “online safety” link.

There you will find the following useful info:

- [www.netsafe.org.nz](http://www.netsafe.org.nz) (info for schools and parents)
- [www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk) (sign up for regular parent newsletters)
- [www.CyberTipline.org](http://www.CyberTipline.org) (links to key stakeholders re. online safety and sexual exploitation)
- [www.nira.org.au](http://www.nira.org.au) (internet addiction help Australia)

Benefits and Drawbacks

We are an online community. It is here to stay. We need to be aware of both the many benefits and the many drawbacks.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENEFITS</th>
<th>DRAWBACKS</th>
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<tr>
<td>WORLDWIDE CONNECTIVITY</td>
<td>ONLINE BULLYING &amp; HARASSMENT</td>
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<td>FAMILIAR WITH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES</td>
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<td>LESS REAL LIFE INTERACTION</td>
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<td>OFFERS SUPPORT TO ISOLATED INDIVIDUALS</td>
<td>PREDATORY BEHAVIOURS</td>
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PORNOGRAPHY

While pornography is not a new phenomenon, the volume available and the way people are accessing it have changed. Improvements to Internet downloading speeds and the use of handheld “smart” devices have made accessing pornography easier, faster and more anonymous than ever before. The ease of access to pornography online also contributes to the greater likelihood of children’s accidental exposure.
ONLINE SAFETY STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS:

Get involved – Be aware of what your son is doing online. Become familiar with Social Networking Sites – explore them with your son or join up yourself to see how they work.

Agree on clear expectations and rules – Agree on acceptable online behaviour, which sites are ok, and the amount of time they can spend online. Be aware that having lots of restrictions minimises risk, but also minimises opportunity to develop skills and become resilient.

Actively talk to your son about things they may find problematic online – Help them develop proactive coping strategies such as blocking unwanted contacts, telling a trusted adult, or making an official report of the problem.

Be aware that saying “No’ may not work – As sons get older, rules become less effective, so discuss safety strategies for things like meeting new people, in case it happens anyway.

Explain the implications – Ensure your son understands that things they post can be copied and shared, and that it’s almost impossible to remove them after that.

All the best – safe and happy holidays to all –

Mr P Rohan | Coordinator Student Wellbeing / Counsellor

Year 9 Narrative Writing Competition – A Post-Apocalyptic Vision

Early in second Semester, all Year 9 students created a short story around the theme, a post-apocalyptic vision. This dark and sometimes grisly theme really engaged our teenage boys, who enjoyed exploring the many dire scenarios that could occur after some sort of apocalypse.

There were many inspired pieces of writing and many students extending themselves and their skills greatly. Students really enjoyed the process of learning how to create engaging, life-like characters, and developing scenes using small details, to help their writing come alive in the head of the reader.

There were many outstanding pieces of writing. The four finalists: Dante Johnson, Alessandro Fernandes, Carlo Nilo and Nathan Chen (pictured below with the College Principal, Mr Riordan) should all be congratulated for their efforts and achievements. Each was given an award and a double movie voucher.

Mr A Forge | Special Needs Coordinator/English Teacher
A heart stopping scream ripped through the broken windows of an abandoned children's ward. It was Jason. We were scavenging for supplies hoping to find precious antibiotics and pain killers among the rubble. The screams continued from what seemed to be the northern end. I limped as fast as I could with a fear in my heart, towards the gaping hole that was the wall separating the pharmacy from the ward. I found Jason now whimpering and clasping his ankle with blood seeping through his white knuckled fingers. A zombie's corpse lay beside him with a knife sticking out of its temple. Jason's eyes bulged out of his pale face reflected his fear. I knew then that we only had two days before the inevitable.

I half stumbled and half carried Jason to our shelter just twenty minutes away as well as I could with my injured leg. My left leg had been smashed by falling concrete eleven months ago and had healed like a tree branch. It was over one hour by the time we entered what used to be the North Melbourne library. Among the tipped over bookshelves, we had fashioned what resembled a campsite. Jason was semiconscious but a deadweight in my arms. I rolled him onto his sleeping mat as gently as my tiredness allowed and collapsed in deep exhaustion.

It had been two years since the initial outbreak. It had started somewhere in Asia as an experiment for making the human body stronger. However, the experiment ended up mutating each patient into a mindless wandering two legged animal, forever seeking its next flesh meal. Before long, hundreds of people were walking around, ratting and looking for food. The governments of medically advanced countries like Australia and the USA had dismissed it as a Third World problem, probably deliberately exaggerated and overrated in hope for yet another hand out. Little did they know that the world's fate was already determined.

The sharp beams of light pierced through my eyelids, jerking me awake. Jason's condition had worsened. His clothes were soaked in sweat and yet his body burnt. In the light of day, I saw the bite marks on his ankle. There were several puncture wounds in his leg resembling a human mouth. The skin around it had started to rot away and reeked of rotting fruit. I wanted to look away from the wound but it was so gruesome that I could not take my eyes of it. I needed to find antibiotics for Jason soon.

My brother and I had crossed paths with another group a few days ago who had gained control over a pharmacy. Maybe they had some antibiotic to slow down the rapidly spreading infection. I wracked my brain, searching for a precious item to trade with them.

The most valuable item that we had was an assault rifle but it was the only ranged weapon we possessed for hunting and defensive purposes. My brother's life was more important. I whispered a few words of encouragement and left water by Jason's side. I retrieved my gun from the floor and set off, to the unknown, towards the gang's pharmacy in Flemington where the Newmarket Shopping Centre used to be. I hoped that they were friends instead of foe.

I followed the warped tram tracks on the old 57 route, leading me down Flemington road towards Newmarket. Trams were upturned and peppered with bullet holes. Obviously, they had been used as a barricade in a gun fight. The dusty wind was my only companion. The old freeway overpass had collapsed and was now nothing but a mountain of cement slabs blocking and delaying my journey. I climbed over the twisted wires poking out of the smashed slabs, occasionally snagging my clothes. The cement was smashed but the wire mesh within them was still strong.

A neon sign advertising a 25% discount off paracetamol hung off the roof by a wire, beckoning me to enter like a moth to a light. A bullet whizzed over my head followed by a loud yell.

"What do you want?" A rough voice demanded.

"I want to trade." I replied.

"What have you got?" A younger voice added.

"An assault rifle for antibiotics." I offered, hoping not to sound too desperate.

There was a long pause followed by a command to enter. Rows and shelves stocked full of medicine greeted me as I entered the pharmacy. A giant man sat spread legged in a huge ragged armchair. This person could mean the difference between life and death for both me and Jason.

"I hear you want to trade?" He bellowed.

"Yes," I replied simply, "an assault rifle for some of your antibiotics."

The man pondered for a few moments before finally answering, "I don't need another rifle, I have hundreds of them stashed all over Melbourne. You need to give me more than that boy!"

My hopes flushed down the drain. I struggled to find an answer. I stood dumbly, frozen with indecisiveness. "I do need more manpower though." The man added with eyes pinning me like an insect in a museum display.

"I'm still going to need the antibiotics." I insisted.

The man let out a ground shaking laugh. "You think you can bargain with me?" He growled.

"Isn't some antibiotics for my life reasonable?" I replied.

The man paused to think and finally ordered one of his followers. "Give him the strongest antibiotics we have and escort him back to where he lives. I have to make sure I will not lose my investment."

I sighed with relief.
The scramble home was a race of time. I grasped onto the small bottle of antibiotics as if my life depended on it and limped as fast as I could along the tram tracks, trying to arrive at the library before Jason was beyond help. I half tripped and half climbed over the pile of cracked cement and bent wires. By the time I reached the bottom of the pile, my escorts were dripping with sweat and struggling to breathe.

The clock tower of the North Melbourne library struck ominously. I burst through the old wooden doors, yelling out my brother's name. Then I noticed a thick trail of blood leading from Jason's sleeping mat to behind the walls. A sense of dread and sadness overwhelmed me. My struggle had been for nothing. I slowly and carefully limped my way around the walls to see what remained of my brother. One of Jason's ears was missing and both his lips had been chewed off. One hand had been mangled and his right bicep was chewed away exposing the white humorous Beneath. His skin was rotting and dropped on the floor with every movement he made. He slowly twisted his head around and stared at me blankly with lifeless eyes. A low growling moan chilled my blood. Suddenly, he launched at me and grabbed my shoulders with his mangled fingers. He opened his mouth exposing rows of blood stained teeth. Just as his putrid breath brushed against my face, a shot from a rifle echoed through the hallway. Jason's head exploded into pieces, spraying blood all over my face and his lifeless body slumped to the floor. Hot tears filled my eyes and streamed down my face. My brother, the most important person left to me, was now gone.

My life was now no longer mine, meaningless with no one to love and fight for. I was no better than a slave to be used at another's will. As I trudged back to Newmarket with my escorts, the sun rose, bathing us in its orange glow. A new day had begun.

Nathan Chen | 9B

Simonds students have started competing in the Schools Sharemarket Game (Round 2) last week. Fourteen students from year 7 to year 11 have received a virtual $50,000 to invest over a 10 week period in 200 companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX). We wish them well: Will Zhang, Elvin Tran, Tim Daniel, Jude Collins, Jordan Nguyen, Oscar Cain, Adam Jacob, Will Rendle, Sebastian Gronow, David Babula, Marc Bortolotto, Jake Green, Andy Pham and Sam Montesano.

Although none of our students were successful in winning any AXS prizes in Round 1, the best syndicate was a Year 12 team comprising of Gustavo Arbizu Duran, Aaron Lai, Jenwin Mabanag and John Nguyen. This result was announced at the last College assembly where the team were acknowledged.

Mrs O'Toole | Year 11Coordinator

Some Year 7 and Year 8 students were asked to train in the art of persuasion by attending sessions run by DVA at Brunswick Secondary College after school. These sessions introduce first-time debaters to the rules of the competition, team planning, speaker roles and the skills of this tradition. Students involved are: Will Truong, Jude Collins, Tim Daniel, Luca Bellofiore, Stelios Politis, Elvin Tran, Will Zhang, Oscar Cain and James Blay. It is hoped that these students will become better equipped in presenting arguments and rebutting counter-arguments in a clear-headed and logically manner in their classrooms and maybe, at home as well!

Mrs O'Toole | Year 11Coordinator
DON’T MISS OUT - Seats are filling up fast!

Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 only

SIMONDS is going to CENTRAL AUSTRALIA!

JOIN US ON THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME AMAZING TRIP.

Spend 9 days in the unique heart of Australia exploring and experiencing stunning natural landscapes and get an insight into indigenous culture. The tour includes:

- An overnight stay in underground accommodation at Coober Pedy
- A visit to our national icon Uluru
- Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre
- Kings Canyon
- Camping at Alice Springs

The tour is designed to gain improved knowledge of Australia’s unique environment through experiencing some of our geographic wonders. It will also encourage team bonding and leadership skills through camping and living in remote areas.

The intention is to go in September 2017. At this stage the estimated cost will be $1300. This is based on 2016 costs as rates for 2017 are not yet available, and may be subject to change.

Please contact Mr Peter Dingli (pdingli@sccmelb.catholic.edu.au) if you want to know more about this wonderful opportunity and to be placed on a list of those who may be interested.
Do you have a son, or know someone due to start secondary school in 2018 or 2019?

School Tour Dates  Term 4 2016

- Friday 7 October
- Wednesday 12 October
- Monday 17 October
- Tuesday 25 October
- Wednesday 2 November
- Tuesday 8 November
- Monday 14 November
- Friday 25 November

Tour bookings are essential and can be made online at www.trybooking.com/JORC or by contacting the Registrar, Stephanie Rocke on 9321 9200

All Catholic Secondary Schools are transitioning to a new Enrolment Application Timeline. At Simonds Catholic College, this will affect students enrolling in 2019.

ENROLMENT APPLICATION TIMELINES FOR 2018 AND 2019

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<tr>
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<th>Year 7 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Closing Date for enrolment applications</td>
<td>24 March 2017</td>
<td>8 September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Principal Interviews applicants and their parents/guardians</td>
<td>Mid-March to Mid-April 2017</td>
<td>Mid-September to Mid-October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Offers for places to successful applicants</td>
<td>27 April 2017</td>
<td>13 October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Closing date for acceptance of offer</td>
<td>11 May 2017</td>
<td>27 October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Information Evening</td>
<td>2 November 2017</td>
<td>1 November 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Orientation day</td>
<td>Early Dec 2017</td>
<td>Early December 2018</td>
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Please note that brothers of current Simonds Catholic College Students do not automatically go into our list of enrolments. An application form needs to be lodged for each child so that we have their individual details.

St Aloysius Exhibition

visual arts & technology exhibition 2016

Exhibiting work from Year 7, and selected works from Year 8-12 students studying Art Studio Arts, Visual Communication Design, Photography, Media, Textiles and Food Technology.

OPENING NIGHT:
Thursday 6th October: 7pm start
RSVP: 3rd October. Call 9329 0411

VIEWING TIMES: (Bookings via office)
Friday 7th: 9:30am to 3pm. Saturday 8th: 11am

VENUE:
College Hall, 31 Curran St, North Melbourne
### Term 4 Calendar

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<td>TERM 4 STARTS</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Year 8, 9 &amp; 10 receive Interim Reports</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Year 7 Vaccinations #3</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Year 10 IMAX excursion</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Year 10 social with St Aloysius College</td>
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<td>Valedictory Dinner</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>FINAL DAY FOR YEAR 12</td>
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<td>Year 10 Reflection Day</td>
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<td>BOARD MEETING</td>
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<td>25-28</td>
<td>Year 9 Beach Camp</td>
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<td>26 Oct - 18 Nov</td>
<td>VCE Exams</td>
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<td>SCHOOL HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>MELBOURNE CUP</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Year 8 @ High Resolves Leadership Day 2</td>
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<td>Year 7 2017 Information Evening</td>
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<td>ACC JUNIOR Debating &amp; Public Speaking Competition</td>
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<td>Year 11 Study Day</td>
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<td>17 - 23 Nov</td>
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<td>Last day for Year 10 classes</td>
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<td>23-29 Nov</td>
<td>Year 10 Exams</td>
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<td>25 Nov – 2 Dec</td>
<td>Year 11 → 12 Transition</td>
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<td>28 Nov - 1 Dec</td>
<td>Year 9 Exams</td>
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<td>28 &amp; 29 Nov</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 Exams</td>
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<td>30 Nov – 2 Dec</td>
<td>Year 10 → 11 Transition</td>
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<td>December 1</td>
<td>BOARD MEETING</td>
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<td>Year 9 → 10 Transition Day</td>
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<td>Last Day for Year 7, 8 &amp; 9 students</td>
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<td>Year 7 2017 Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>St Brigid’s office closes</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Reports available for collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Office closes</td>
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