Final Newsletter for 2016: As this is our final newsletter for 2016, I would like to start by thanking all the members of the St Paul’s community for your support throughout what has been a long and busy year. It never ceases to amaze me the energy levels of staff and students which bring the educational endeavour of our College to life. I can assure you that each and every staff member has worked tirelessly to ensure that your children have received the best opportunity to Let Their Light Shine in 2016.

Advent Blessing One way of really enriching our Advent journey is to keep in mind the three comings of Jesus, and how they relate to one another.

Jesus was born into our history, at a fixed point in time in the past. Jesus comes to us now, in a variety of ways. Jesus promised that he will come again in glory, at the end of time.

The Incarnation: Jesus Has Come This is not the coming we await. The first coming of Jesus has already happened. Our preparation to celebrate his birth is the occasion for our deeper reflection. On the first level, it is so important that we really let ourselves experience the power of the Incarnation: God is with us. That God became one of us means that “human” is one of the ways God can be. The deeper we contemplate this mystery, the more we enter into the grace of “God with us.” The more we let ourselves be touched by this mystery, the more we see the connection between Christmas and Easter: all of this is “for me” - for my salvation - to free me from the power of sin and death.

My Life Now: Jesus Comes To Me When we open our hearts and our mouths and plead, “Come, O Lord,” we are most directly experiencing our desire for the Lord to come to us and touch us with the grace of salvation - that we might live it with greater freedom and peace. Jesus is present whenever we need him to be present: actually, whenever we turn to him, even with empty hands. Jesus is alive and active in us when we read God’s Word and let it into our hearts. Jesus promised to be present with us whenever two or three are gathered in his name. And we know Jesus comes to us whenever our sacrifices and our sufferings unite us with his own mission. Advent is a special time to experience our longing for the presence of Jesus with us now, in all the places we need him most.

Our Future: Jesus Comes Again, In Glory One of the most transforming graces of Advent is given to us as our longing deepens. The more grateful we become for how God saved us in Jesus, the more deeply we enter into the mystery of how Jesus is with us now. The closer we come to experiencing joy at how our Lord, Jesus Christ, came into our world, faithful to God and faithful to our life journey in the flesh, the closer we come to experiencing the mystery of salvation in our everyday lives. And, as our longing is filled with the utter fullness of God’s gift to us, we begin to long with the ultimate freedom: we long to be with him in God. We live more at home in this world because our God made a home in this world. But the whole story draws us to a complete picture of who we are and where we belong. Then our prayer begins to change, in our hearts and on our lips. We still are singing, “Come, Lord, Jesus!” but our song is transformed into the free and complete song of the lover: “Come, and take me with you.”

New Uniform 2017
Uniform samples for sizing will be at the College from December 12. On-line ordering website will be available from December 19.

Uniform 2017
St Paul’s College Hall will be open on:
December, 19 – 20 from 8am – 4.45pm
January, 23 – 25 from 8am – 4.45pm
January, 27 and 30 from 8am – 4pm
for the sizing of new College uniform and sale of the sports uniform.

Mrs Christine Hawtin – Canteen Supervisor

Please note that COLLEGE PHOTOS for Years 7 – 12 will be on 8 February 2017. Payment will be due on this day.
Term Dates 2017
Term 1  Friday 27 January - Friday 7 April
Term 2  Monday 24 April - Friday 30 June
Term 3  Monday 17 July - Friday 22 September
Term 4  Monday 9 October - Tuesday 10 December

ST PAUL’S COLLEGE ATAR/HSC BBQ
Year 12 2016
You are invited to the Annual ATAR/HSC RESULTS BBQ
When: Thursday 15 December @ 11 am
Where: St Paul’s College
What to Bring: Yourselves (BBQ supplied)

COLLEGE CALENDAR
December
15 HSC Results Released
16 ATAR Results Released
HSC BBQ Year 12 Students
End Of Term 4

January
27 Term 1 Commences
Staff Return
31 Years 7 and 12 Return

February
1 Years 8 – 11 Return
8 School Photos
9 Long Course Swimming Events

NEXT P & P MEETING
14 December 2016
6pm Start
School Conference Room
Administration Building

Booklists 2017
Year 7 - 10 are now available on the College public website under ‘Student’ ‘Booklists’

Private Vehicle Conveyance - Changes
What’s happening?
From 20 December 2016, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy will be progressively phased out and replaced by the School Drive Subsidy. The deadline for new applications for the existing PVC subsidy is 20 December 2016.

Parents or guardians currently receiving the existing PVC subsidy can choose to stay on it or switch to the new School Drive Subsidy after 17 January 2017. If they want to remain on the existing PVC subsidy, they don’t need to do anything.

What is the main change?
For parents/guardians driving one or more students from the same household to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school, the new School Drive Subsidy will be paid ‘per trip’ (for the complete school trip). This ‘per trip’ payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid ‘per student’.

Note, parents/guardians can’t be on two schemes at the same time. If new students are added after 17 January 2017, all eligible students will automatically go onto the new School Drive Subsidy, including existing PVC subsidy students.

How to help parents and guardians make the right choice
• Give the parent or guardian the brochure entitled ‘School trip subsidy changes’.
• Reassure them that they can find out more at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive
• The website also has an online comparison calculator where parents/guardians can check which of the two subsidy schemes is better for them based on their own individual circumstances.
• If they have more than one student on the existing PVC subsidy, they should consider staying on it.

More questions?
If you have questions about the PVC subsidy or the School Drive Subsidy for parents and guardians of children at your school, call 131 500.

CANTEEN ROSTER
30 January
Mon  No Students
Tue  Alicia Morris
Wed  Maree Ward
Thr  Cate Madden
Fri  Debbie Hackenberg

6 February
Mon  Gail Irvine
Tue  Shalini Anand
Wed  Kerry Delaforce
Thr  Amanda Preston
Fri  Julie Farah-Halls

BAKING ROSTER
30 January
Mon  No Students
Tue  Alicia Morris
Wed  Maree Ward
Thr  Cate Madden
Fri  Debbie Hackenberg

6 February
Mon  Gail Irvine
Tue  Shalini Anand
Wed  Kerry Delaforce
Thr  Amanda Preston
Fri  Julie Farah-Halls

HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS
Farewell and Good Luck to Departing Staff  As the year draws to a close we must farewell some staff who will leave us for temporary or permanent appointments elsewhere or whose contracts have been completed:

- **Mrs Jan Stubbs**: After twenty dedicated years as a teacher, Special-Ed Co-ordinator, Additional Needs Teacher and devoted parishioner, Mrs Jan Stubbs has decided it’s finally time to hang up the shingle and spend more time with her grandchildren. ‘Stubbsy’ will be greatly missed around the College and will be huge loss for our wonderful team and for our students. I wish her all the best in her retirement and believe that I speak for the entire community when I say – we love you Jan. Thank you.

- **Peter McGregor**: Similarly, Mr McGregor (Macca) will also move into retirement. Peter has spent the last twenty five years of his teaching life here at the College and has seen many changes and challenges. He says, now, that his biggest challenge will be to convince his wife to retire with him. I congratulate Peter on his achievements and dedication to education and the College, and also wish him all of God’s graces in this new chapter of his life.

- **David Pugh**: Mr Pugh’s temporary appointment concludes at the end of this year and he moves into a permanent position at Mackillop College in Port Macquarie. During his two years here, Mr Pugh has made many friends and gained the admiration of staff and students alike. I wish him well in his new venture.

- **Sonya Hume**: After three years at the College, Mrs Hume’s temporary appointment concludes. I thank Sonya for her dedication and hard work and wish her well for the future.

- **Kingsley Barnett**: Mr Barnett’s temporary appointment concludes at the end of this year. He will move back into day-to-day relief teaching and will be seen around the College on a regular basis again next year.

- **Brad Taylor**: Mr Taylor has taken twelve months’ leave to work in the Northern Territory in the Tiwi Islands. In his time at the College, he has worked almost exclusively as a Year Co-ordinator and classroom teacher of Wood and Metal Technology. We look forward to seeing him when he returns.

- **Sam Preston**: Mr Sam Preston will take twelve months’ leave to focus on family and interests outside of school. I thank him for his dedication and hard work and look forward to seeing him return in 2018.

- **Zoe Clarke**: Zoe has been a wonderful and innovative Youth Ministry Trainee who will now enter into tertiary study. Zoe has done a fantastic job in a very demanding role and I thank her for her faith-filled dedication and hard work. We look forward to hearing about your new life as it unfolds for you, Zoe.

- **Corey Stocks**: Corey has similarly completed his traineeship as a Sports Assistant. We wish Corey all the best for the future.

- **Heath Needs**: During the latter half of this year, Mr Needs joined us as a PDHPE teacher. His appointment concludes at the end of this year, but I am certain we will still see his face around the College in other roles during 2017.

- **Ms Lara Wasilewski**: Lara has done a very good job sharing a load with Mrs Kristy Carney and, in more recent times, has started our writing intervention program. Her temporary contract has concluded but Lara will still be seen around the College in a relief role next year.

I wish all of our departing staff all the best in whatever role their futures hold.

Return Dates: A reminder to you that students return in 2017 on the following dates:

- Year 7 and 12 – Tuesday, 31 January
- Year 8 to 11 – Wednesday, 1 February

God Bless

Mr Kevin Lewis – Principal
klewis@lism.catholic.edu.au

**RETURNING TEXT BOOKS**

Overdue letters will accompany school reports where necessary

**Please note...any overdue loans originating this year will mean that textbooks may not be issued to those students next year.** This policy will only be altered on the rarest of occasions, so start searching and return or pay for them as soon as possible.

Year 11 retain any books issued this term (along with Religion and Maths texts) as they will be needed for their HSC.

**Any overdue texts will generally have to be replaced or paid for before further ones are issued.**
The conclusion of the 2016 academic year is again upon us, with this Friday being the last day before students break for the Christmas celebrations. I believe we have again been very successful this year in our pursuit of giving every student the ability to reach their personal best over many aspects of life. Academic achievement, personal best and goal setting has again underpinned Christ-centred learning.

Just a reminder about what is happening at the end of this week for students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, 15 December</th>
<th>Reports which are not collected at the Awards Ceremony can be picked up from the front office after 10 am only. HSC results available to students. No normal lessons will be held. Supervision will be provided.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 16 December</td>
<td>ATAR results will be available from 9 am. HSC/ATAR morning tea for all 2016 Year 12 students. Starting at 11 am. Parent/Teacher interviews are available by appointment ONLY from 9 am-1 pm. Please ring the College to make an appointment. No normal lessons will be held. Supervision will be provided.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examination/Assessment And Staff Professional Learning Dates For 2017
These appear below, however can also be found on the live College calendar. Please note, the HSC Trial Exam dates are tentative dates only, and will not be published until 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Year 12 Mid-Course Exams: 27 March – 31 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Year 11 Mid-Course Exam Week: 22 – 26 May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 10 Assessment Week: 29 May – 2 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC trial Exams (Tentative dates TBC): 1 August – 17 August</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 11 Preliminary Exams: 11 – 15 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Year 12 HSC Exams: 16 October – 10 November (conclude no later than this date)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 7-9 Exams: 24 November – 30 November</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 10 Exams: 24 November – 28 November</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 11 Assessments: 24 November – 30 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Staff Professional Learning Days for 2017 are:**
Friday 7 April (Term 1) – Parish School Retreat.
Monday 24 April (Term 2) – Catholic Pedagogy Staff Professional Learning.
Monday 17 July (Term 3) – Staff Professional Learning day.
Friday 22 September (Term 3) – Staff Professional Learning Day.
**Note:** Term 4 will conclude for students on Friday, 15 December 2017.
Monday, 18 and Tuesday, 19 December will be Staff Professional Learning Days.

**2017 Photo Day: 8 February** Photos will be taken for all students on Wednesday, 8 February, 2017. A catch up day has been planned for Friday, 10 February. All students are to wear their full summer uniform, while Year 12 students will need to bring their ties. Sports uniforms, if required on this day, are to be brought separately and changed into, outside of the scheduled photo times. Payment for photos are due on this day. Individual student envelopes with prices will be sent home in the first week of school.

**New College Uniform** Williamson International will be the sole suppliers of our new 2017 College Uniform. This will be purchased, on-line, directly to Williamson International with credit card facility for payment (Visa and MasterCard only). One sample set of each item and size will be available at St Paul’s as try-on samples to determine the correct size prior to placing on-line orders. Customers will choose a method of freight when ordering:
- Australia Post to their home address, order dispatched within 48 working hours (1-3 items $16, 4 or more items $20).
- Order will be dispatched to the College when the next bulk shipment is sent ($3.50 per order).

**Returns and Exchanges** Goods must be returned in their original packaging and the cost of return postage in both directions is the responsibility of the buyer.

Please Note: Try-on uniform samples for sizing will be available at St Paul’s from Monday, December 12, and the College Hall will be set up solely for sports uniform purchases and uniform sizing from:
December, 19 – 20 from 8 am – 4.45 pm
January, 23 – 25 from 8 am – 4.45 pm
January, 27 and 30 from 8 am – 4 pm

The online ordering website will be available from December 19. Notifications by text message and through postings on the College web site, schoolbag app and Facebook page will occur as required.
Finally, thank you to all parents who support us in our endeavours to allow all students to ‘let their light shine’. This support makes the vocation of teaching so much more rewarding. I hope all families have a happy and Holy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the new school year.

Mr Guy Campbell – Assistant Principal

STUDENT SERVICES

As I am retiring at the end of this year, I say ‘good bye’ to the school and my long, productive relationship with staff, parents and of course, the students. I have been blessed in this role, to have the support of many talented people, both in the Additional Needs Team of Teacher Aides and in the wider community of staff and parents. I have been very happy to work with numerous students over the years and to see their growth and sense of achievement. It has been an extremely rewarding vocation, for which I will always be grateful.

Meanwhile, we will have the young, enthusiastic and talented teacher, Kristy Carney, taking over the role of Additional Needs Teacher next year. Please feel free to contact her with any of your enquiries.

Homework Club will continue in 2017, each Wednesday afternoon, from 3.25 to 4.25. Next year’s Newsletter will have the Homework Club form to complete if you are interested. Kristy will be available to support the students with their homework or assignments. This is a great opportunity to get tasks done with some guidance and encouragement. Peter Garty will also have the Library open after school, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Thank you for your interest and support over the years.

Mrs Jan Stubbs – Additional Needs Teacher

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Christmas Calendar

Christmas Eve
Saturday 24th December
Both the Children’s Masses with the Placing of the Baby Jesus in the Crib & the lighting of our Christmas Candle
6.00pm Kempsey Children’s Mass
6.00pm South West Rocks Children’s Mass

Midnight Mass
12.00am Smithtown

Christmas Day
Sunday 25th December
7.30am Kempsey
9.30am Kempsey
7.30am South West Rocks

Church Locations:
Kempsey All Saints Catholic Church
Car Kemp & Marsh Street West Kempsey

South West Rocks Our Lady Star of the Sea
Gregory Street South West Rocks

Smithtown St Patricks
Main Street Smithtown

Crescent Head Star of the Sea
Main Street Crescent Head
Willawarrin St John’s
Main Street Willawarrin

The * means we have at the following services –

Reconciliation
Kempsey 5.00 - 5.45pm (Saturday Vigil)
Tuesdays 6.50pm to 7.20pm

South West Rocks 7.00am-7.20am every Sunday
Smithtown Before 8.00am Wednesday Mass
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM FRANCIS FARM

Our new mobile pig pen

Crops are in!