



8 August 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### **2024 Term 3 Week 3 College Update**

#### **School Photography Update**

We are pleased to advise that the College has partnered with [advancedlife](#) for our 2024 school photography. Photo dates are outlined below:

- **Wednesday 28 August:** Year 12 Cohort Photo (St Brigid's Square), Student Leadership, Music, and Academic Challenge and Enrichment Photos (Monica Farrelly Atrium)
- **Monday 16 September:** Year 7 – 12 Class, Individual and Family Photos (Caleruega Hall)

Planned absences: Any student who will be absent on Monday 16 September will be able to have their individual and/or family photos taken on Wednesday 28 August instead.

For further information, please refer to the [letter](#) from Dr Helen Riekie, Principal, which was sent to parents and caregivers on Monday 5 August.

#### **Intercollegiate Competition**

The annual Intercollegiate Competition against Nazareth Catholic College will take place in Term 3 Week 5. I encourage you to come along and support our students as they represent the College in this annual event.

The program can be viewed at the following link: [2024 Intercollegiate Program](#)

#### **Father's Day Community Morning**

We are very pleased to invite all fathers and father figures to join us for our Father's Day Community Morning on Friday 30 August. Please see this [Invitation](#) for further details and click here to [RSVP](#) before Tuesday 27 August.

## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year.

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- The number of school students receiving an adjustment or “help” due to disability
- The level of adjustment they are receiving to access the education on the same basis as other students

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This “help” allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

### What is a reasonable adjustment?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (e.g. ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (e.g. adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (e.g. providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed. The Disability Standards for Education 2005 define “reasonable adjustment” as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

For further information about the NCCD, please read this [Parent Fact Sheet](#). You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#). There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) available on the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and Disability Standards for Education 2005.

### Attendance

Irrespective of the reasons for absences, non-attendance does affect student outcomes. There is no ‘safe’ threshold for absences; every day counts, declines in achievement are evident with any level of absence, and the impact of absence increases with the number of absences (Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, 2019).

The school day begins with Lesson 1 at 8:50am (students should be moving to their Lesson 1 classrooms at 8:45am).

## **National Homelessness Week | 5 – 11 August 2024: Raising awareness of the women of Catherine House**

This week, to support their Social Justice Initiative (Catherine House), the Year 7 – 12 Captains of Kavanagh House created an installation in the College grounds to raise awareness about what homelessness can really look like.

Many Catherine House clients sleep in their cars when they wait 8 – 12 weeks to access the services of Catherine House, and the students wanted to raise awareness about how challenging that experience is for these women.

Inspired by the whale that appeared on the beach in Glenelg as part of this year's Adelaide Festival, on two cold mornings, the exhibition, titled "Sonya's Story", consisting of a car, complete with the contents needed by a woman living homeless in Adelaide, appeared in the school yard of Cabra. The House Captains prepared seven mini video presentations that were available through QR codes encircling the exhibition. "Sonya's Story" was based (with permission) on a real client of Catherine House, and the College community was able, through the short, narrated videos, to learn more about what Sonya's life was like before and during her experience of homelessness. We invite you to ask your child what they learned about the issue of homelessness – look out for a mention of Cabra Dominican College in the next issue of [The Southern Cross](#).

To support the important and worthy work of Catherine House, all families and friends of Cabra Dominican College are welcome to purchase a ticket to attend an upcoming movie night at the Capri Theatre, Goodwood, on Friday 13 September, Week 8!

Book here: [www.trybooking.com/CAPRIforCatherineHouse](http://www.trybooking.com/CAPRIforCatherineHouse)

## **Year 9 Rite Journey | The Abyss**

We wish Year 9 students and Rite Journey staff well as they embark on The Abyss (held at various locations, including Mt Crawford Forest, Parra Wirra Conservation Park and Kuitpo Forest) in Week 5. Year 9 parents/caregivers are asked to note the final reminders below:

- Students are to meet on the Small Oval on Wednesday 21 August at 8:00am.
- Buses will depart Cabra at 8:30am.
- Students will return to Cabra on Friday 23 August at 2:45pm.
- All students need to provide their Recess and Lunch on the first day.
- In addition, students will also need to provide their own meals (1 x breakfast, 1 x lunch and 1 x dinner) for the expedition stage of the camp. They will prepare their meals with their tent and cooking partner and cook their dinner using a lightweight portable Trangia stove under direct supervision.
- Wilderness Escape will provide one solo dinner, breakfast and bakery lunch.

Please also refer to previous parent correspondence (what to bring, group itinerary etc) and information from Wilderness Escape Outdoor Adventures for further details and note that there is no programme in place at the College for any Year 9 student unable to attend The Abyss.

Please email Andrea Emerson (College Administration) via [camps@cabra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:camps@cabra.catholic.edu.au) with any queries.

## **Little Street Entrance | Wednesday 21 August**

Please note that with Year 9 students embarking on their Rite Journey Abyss on Wednesday 21 August (as outlined above), traffic flow on this day through the Little Street entrance after 8:00am will change and be restricted to accommodate the buses and coaches.

This ensures traffic does not get banked up on Little Street and Eaton Street, respects our neighbours and surrounding businesses, and allows for the smooth and on-time departure of buses.

Importantly, please note that:

- There is no entry for parent drop offs via Little Street carpark on Wednesday 21 August
- A traffic controller will be stationed in the morning at the intersection of Eaton and Little Streets, guiding parents away from this entrance
- The College's on-site roadway in the morning via Little Street will only be accessible for bus access through the back entrance to the school
- As usual, there is no drop-off access to the main carpark off Cross Road

We anticipate all buses to have departed by 8:45am.

Please also remember that the City of Mitcham regularly monitors the streets surrounding the College and in particular, the "No Standing" zone on Eaton Street.

Thank you for your support with this undertaking.

## **Flinders to City Bikeway Project**

The Flinders to City Bikeway project aims to provide users with a safer means of active travel through the City of Mitcham. This new bikeway prioritises safety, offering a dedicated route to enhance accessibility and reduce potential risks for all active travellers. By addressing areas with high vehicle volumes and a history of accidents involving vulnerable road users, the project seeks to improve safety and accessibility.

This project is a joint effort between the City of Mitcham and the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT). Council has facilitated the design of this portion of the Flinders to City Bikeway recognising the immediate and long-term transport needs of our community.

To stay updated on the project, view the design, and share your feedback, please visit the "Your Say" page at <https://yoursay.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/flinders-to-city-bikeway> by 5:00pm Thursday August 15.

## **Parking Control | Eaton Street**

With the commencement of a new school term, the City of Mitcham will continue with the monitoring of parking areas around the College, in particular, the "No Standing" zone on Eaton Street. Thank you in advance for being mindful of parking restrictions and speed limits and driving with care.

## On the Horizon

Please see some general dates below for upcoming events. If we have not already, we will write to you with details of the below events if they affect your child.

| Date                                   | Event  |
|--|--|
| Friday 9 August                        | Year 9 Rite Journey Abyss: Hike Activity   |
| Thursday 15 August – Friday 16 August  | Year 11 Retreat  |
| Wednesday 21 August – Friday 23 August | Year 9 Rite Journey Abyss  |
| Wednesday 21 August                    | Year 8 SAPOL Domestic Violence and the Law Presentation (St Dominic's Hall, Lesson 3)  |
| Friday 23 August                       | Year 10 SAPOL Domestic Violence and the Law Presentation (St Dominic's Hall, Lesson 3) |
| Saturday 24 August                     | 2024 Intercollegiate v Nazareth Catholic College                                       |

The College Calendar is located on SEQTA Engage and the [College Website](#).

Please feel most welcome to contact us if you have any questions about this information or if you have any concerns about your child's progress.

Yours sincerely,

**Jarrad McCabe**

Deputy Principal: People, Culture and Operations