

# CAROLINE CHISHOLM COLLEGE

## Welcome to Year 11



*Faith, Courage, Tolerance*

4<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11,

I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you to the 2019 school year. This is an important next stage in your daughter's education, which will see the commencement of Stage 6 learning. Year 11 is an important foundation for the Higher School Certificate and I will be working closely with the Year 11 Pastoral Team and subject teachers to ensure the best possible learning environment is provided for your daughter this year.

The Year 11 courses have commenced and will be completed at the beginning of Term 4, with HSC courses starting just a few weeks after the October holidays. This is quite a short period of time and students need to be aware of the critical importance of organisation and self-motivation. The expected workload has increased and students will definitely benefit from ensuring that they continue to develop sustainable routines to keep track of work required and assessment tasks. It is important that students refer to the **Year 11 assessment plan** for important dates and the **Year 10 - 12 Assessment Policy and Procedures** which can be **sourced on the College website under the Learning and Teaching tab**.

Important information and details regarding the Preliminary Course will be provided at the **Year 11 Information Evening on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** in the **College West Wing** starting at **6:00pm**. It is compulsory that your daughter attends this night with at least one parent or carer.

Attendance at school every day is essential for your daughter to achieve her educational best and increase her career and life options. The correlation between attendance and performance is very clear. Punctuality in the mornings and a high level of attendance will again be a focus of the Pastoral Care team this year. When unavoidable absences occur we would ask for your assistance in providing an explanation by replying to the school's SMS notification or sending an absence note on the very next day, or an email to the homeroom teacher, or by requesting approved leave beforehand where possible. Phone calls on the day of absence are appreciated but not mandatory and still need to be accompanied by a written or texted explanation. Any absence will require students to ensure that they have caught up on all work missed and collected all information provided in those lessons. As we monitor attendance we will endeavour to address any issues as early as possible. Students need an attendance rate of at least 90% to have study leave privileges as well as opportunities to represent the College at sporting and cultural events as well as in leadership positions.

In relation to part-time work, it is interesting to note that studies have shown that working up to 10 hours per week is beneficial in developing organisational and prioritising skills. Unfortunately, these studies have also shown that statistically for every hour of work over 10 hours per week results in a loss of 5 ATAR marks. Thus, it is critically important for you and your daughter to know this information and to make suitable arrangements to avoid a negative impact on her learning.

I will be working closely with the Pastoral Care team and the Year 11 subject teachers to ensure the best possible learning environment is provided for your daughter. Your daughter's homeroom teacher should generally be the first point of contact for any enquiries or concerns. It is important for you to develop an ongoing relationship with your daughter's homeroom teacher. This can be achieved through use of the College Diary, email or phone calls as necessary. This information will then be passed on to me by the homeroom teacher. If your daughter has any issues with a subject it is best to address them as early as possible by discussing them firstly with the subject teacher. Follow on discussions may then involve the KLA Leader of Learning or the Assistant Principal, Ms Deborah Scollard.

The Year 11 Pastoral team for 2019 remains mostly unchanged and we welcome Mr John Corrigan to the MacKillop homeroom.

11 Gilmore	Vanessa Brown Natalie Vella	<a href="mailto:vbrown@parra.catholic.edu.au">vbrown@parra.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="mailto:nvella19@parra.catholic.edu.au">nvella19@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
11 Jackson	Glenda Wilson Cheryl Duchesne	<a href="mailto:gwilson2@parra.catholic.edu.au">gwilson2@parra.catholic.edu.au</a> <a href="mailto:cduchesne@parra.catholic.edu.au">cduchesne@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
11Kenny	Sarah Eyles	<a href="mailto:seyles@parra.catholic.edu.au">seyles@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
11 Macarthur	Sara Lemaire	<a href="mailto:slemaire@parra.catholic.edu.au">slemaire@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
11 MacKillop	John Corrigan	<a href="mailto:jcorrigan@parra.catholic.edu.au">jcorrigan@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
11 Wright	Martin Edwards	<a href="mailto:medwards2@parra.catholic.edu.au">medwards2@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>
Assistant to the Year Leader	Junelle Dunne	<a href="mailto:jdunne@parra.catholic.edu.au">jdunne@parra.catholic.edu.au</a>

It is vital that your daughter develops her skills as an independent learner – that she works to the best of her ability in class and then supports this with a daily revision, study and assessment preparation at home. The College Diary is a key tool to assist with organisational skills and self-planning and you are asked to please check the Diary each weekend to keep track of your daughter's progress. It is also an important communication channel between home and your daughter's teachers.

In recognition of their role as independent adult learners, students have been timetabled with a number of study periods each fortnight and it is expected that they use this time productively. Many students will also be given permission to leave school during periods 5 and 6 on a Wednesday if they have study during these periods. This is a privilege that will be regularly monitored based on the student's report, punctuality, attendance, and meeting all College expectations. Further details including a permission slip will be provided in a separate letter to you within the next week.

One of the key social justice initiatives that we undertake this term is to raise awareness and funds during Caritas' Project Compassion campaign. Each homeroom will be conducting fundraising activities on Caroline Chisholm Day in Week 4. More information will be provided in the College Newsletter.

To support students' wellbeing the College will continue implementing a Pastoral Care program based on the models of Positive Psychology. The program will focus on identifying the character strengths that make us unique, developing specific skills to assist students to strengthen their relationships, face challenges in life and enhance their personal resilience.

I continue to have high expectations for Year 11 in 2019 and challenge them to give their best in all they do. With your assistance at home we can work together to ensure your daughter reaches her full potential this year. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have any concerns, queries or require further information by calling 4737 5500 during school hours or on email [dwhite2@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dwhite2@parra.catholic.edu.au)

I look forward to working with you and your daughter again during 2019. I hope that this will be a rewarding and successful year for your daughter.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms Debbie White**

**Year 11 Leader of Learning**

<b>Upcoming Events for Term 1</b>	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 Information Evening 6pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Student Leader's Development Afternoon
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Opening School Mass and Caroline Chisholm Day
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	College Open Night
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	College Swimming Carnival; Year 7 and Competitors
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Final Day Term 1