



Holy Spirit College Annual Educational Opportunities Summary 2017

The purpose of the Annual Educational Opportunities Summary is to document some of the activities and opportunities provided to students in 2017. The activities and events were organised by Middle Leaders and classroom teachers for their subject areas. These activities were all implemented with the intention of providing students opportunities that extend, enrich and support their learning experiences at Holy Spirit College.

- **YEAR 7 STEM Extension Experience (SEE)**

This year saw the 14th Annual Independent Learning Program transformed into a Stem Extension Experience. During Term 2 and 3 the Year 7.1, 7.2, 7.9 and 7.10 Stem Extension Experience (SEE) classes spent time learning and engaging in Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) Skills. Throughout the experience they were required to find innovative solutions to different real world challenges by implementing the skills they learned along the way.

As part of the experience the students were also required to individually choose and research a problem and then design a product or technology to solve their identified problem. If there was already an available solution to the problem, then the students could choose to design a product that would expand or improve upon the available solution.

On the evening of Wednesday 11th October 2017, the classes held their SEE Expo Night. The Expo was a great opportunity for the students to share their research work, discoveries and present their final products and technologies to a wider audience.

SEE is an extension project that is designed to challenge the top students in the Year 7 cohort beyond the normal classroom experience. The aim of the project is to challenge and foster the independent learning skills of the students in their first year at the College, with hope that they continue developing these skills throughout their time here as they head towards their senior years. By encompassing the realm of free choice in terms of their research topics, students were encouraged to choose topics that promoted interest and motivation towards self-centred learning. Considering the top classes are selected to complete SEE from year to year, it is always encouraged that standard of work is continually impressive and of a high standard. The students once again chose topics that were vast in range and had insight beyond their years.

- **Staff Development at Holy Spirit College through provision of staff diaries**

All staff were provided with staff diaries. These contain contemporary education strategies compiled by the University of Queensland through Createl Publishing.

- **Enrichment Coordinator**

Participated at Diocesan Gifted Education Network Meetings and relayed information to the College community through the Learning and Teaching Committee, tracking of accelerated students and writing a report for the CEO of school based initiatives on enrichment.

Coordinated the Artist in Residence Program whereby every single visual arts student in the College including those in Life Skills classes, had the opportunity to work with local community artists. The College had three artists this year who participated in the program over term 2 and term 3.

- **Historic Western Battle Field Tour of France**

Students from years 9 to 11, parents and staff of Holy Spirit College embarked on a pilgrimage to the battlefields of the Great War, visiting sites of Australian sacrifice scattered throughout the countryside of France and Belgium. The study tour was academically rigorous, with students and staff having to research, find and present on the life and death of an Australian soldier. Highlights of the trip included towns whose names resound with infamy: Pozieres, Viller-Bretonneux and Polygon Wood. Walking the ground where the first AIF died in their tens of thousands was a sobering and reflective experience.

- **Cultural Immersion Yr 11 Students – Cambodia**

Students and staff travelled to Cambodia as part of the Catholic Mission Immersion to experience connections with the Cambodian people as well as learn about their culture and history. The immersion included stays in the rural villages of Chum Kiri and Ta Om, visits to S21 and the Killing Fields, experiencing the temples of Angkor Wat and Ta Prohm, and exploring Phnom Penh, Kampot, Kep, and Siem Reap. The students immersed themselves in the everyday life of the Cambodian people, made life-long connections and returned home with a truly new awareness of the challenges faced by people in developing countries.

- **Literacy and Numeracy**

2017 has been a busy and productive year for Literacy and Numeracy.

- The adoption of the evidence-based, synthetic phonics Macquillit program for students with reading difficulties was rolled out for selected struggling students in Years 7 and 8. Once completing this program, students are monitored and receive excellent assistance from the librarian to develop reading habits.
- Numeracy withdrawal support has been provided for students to boost achievement in Mathematics.
- Assistance for students to meet the NESA requirement for students to achieve Band 8 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy has been provided in terms of education, information and support for teachers.
- Teachers are developed and workshopped in affective strategies to improve Literacy and Numeracy across the curriculum.
- Words their Way Spelling program trialled for Year 7 & 8 implementation in 2018.
- Year 8 across the curriculum program continued.

- Tracking of student Literacy achievement with comparison to curriculum tracking in school reports so that underachievement can be targeted.
- **KLA Specific Activities implemented in 2017**

Careers:

- Year 10 Careers workshops
- UOW Discovery Day Year 12
- ICAN Careers Expo Year 12
- ICAN Trades Road Show Year 10
- Transition Planning Year 12
- TAFE Taster selected Year 10 & 11 students

Creative Arts:

- Gala Concert
- The Jungle Story – School Production - Play Years 7 and 8
- The Wind and the Willows– School Production – Musical Years 9, 10 and 11
- Choir
- Catholic Schools Week - Musical Performance
- College Band – Gala Night, Open Mornings
- Holy Spirit Day Mass
- Consoling Mass
- Deceased Mass
- Year 12 Graduation Mass
- Musicians and Vocalists for College Liturgies
- Junior Rock Band
- Engadine Band Festival
- Music Camps
- Corrimal RSL, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day Choir Performance
- Modification of all programmes according to student needs - ongoing
- Year 12 Display Evening for HSC ‘Body of Works’
- Year 9 & 10 Photography Display Evening for ‘Senior Visual Arts Photography Display Evening’
- Visual Arts Senior School Display Evening
- Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts Excursion to ‘Art Express’ Art Gallery of NSW
- Adjustments of all programs to differentiate the curriculum according to the needs of our students eg. gifted and talented educational strategies
- Artist in Residence – Jennifer Frappel Years 7, 8, 10 & 12. Year 9 & Lifeskills - Tammie Castles, Year 11 Iain Whittaker, workshops and seminars including student’s own art making and display including Life Skills students
- Year 10 Photography Display – In College Resource Centre Terms 1 to 4
- Year 12 Feedback from the BOW Marking Centre presentation Term 4
- Drama Night Pre-HSC performance
- Development of individual resources for specific student needs in 7, 8 & 9
- Development of HOT section in yr 8 Visual Arts Theory Task

English:

- English ICAS Competition
- Hosted South Coast Public Speaking Competition
- Year 10 Extension English Class
- Literature Circles for students in Years 8, 9 and 10
- Weekly morning tutorials for English
- Woonona -Bulli and Corrimal Lions Youth of Year competition
- Provision of Media Studies as a 100 Elective in Year 9
- Shakespeare Immersion – Year 9 and 10
- Poetry in Action incursion - Year 7
- Implementation of Words Their Way in Year 7
- Targeted selection of texts to meet the interests and needs of students
- Stage 6 excursions - drama performances and HSC symposiums
- Entry in the Whitlam Institute What Matters? writing competition
- Entry in the Australian Centre for Leadership for Women International
- Women’s Day writing competition
- Staff participation in English Teachers’ Association webinar series and workshops in preparation for the new Stage 6 syllabus
- Provision of full range of levels in senior years including English as an Additional Language/ Dialect, English Studies, Standard English, Advanced English, Extension 1 English and Extension 2 English
- Opportunities in Public Speaking and Debating

HSIE:

- Australian History Mysteries Case Studies (Years 7-10 History)
- Geography in the News Quizzes (Years 7-10 Geography)
- Virtual Field Studies (Years 7-10 HSIE)
- Platypus Dreamin’ Aboriginal Education Program (Year 7 HSIE)
- Resource Centre Orientation Program (Year 7 HSIE)
- Australian History Competition (Year 8 & Year 10 History)
- Medieval Man Presentation (Year 8 History)
- Minnamurra Rainforest, Illawarra Fly and Mt Keira Field Trips (Year 8 Geography)
- Australian Securities Exchange Share Market Game (Year 9-10 Commerce & Year 11 Business Studies)
- Business Simulation Day and Planning (Years 9-10 Commerce)
- Presentation (Years 9-10 Commerce)
- ANZAC Centenary School Link Program and Exchange with Lycee Hugues Capet, Reims France (Year 9 History)
- Mad About Money Presentation (Years 9&10 Commerce)
- Guest speaker Tim Silverwood ‘No Time to Waste’ (Year 9 Geography)
- Mount Kembla Heritage Field Study (Year 9 History)
- Simpson Prize (Year 9 History)
- All My Own Work Program (Year 10 HSIE)
- Bellambi Point Field Trip (Year 10 Geography)
- Sustainable House and Powerhouse Museum Visit (Year 10 Geography)
- Mock Trial Competition (Year 11 Legal Studies)
- Historiography Project (Year 12 History Extension)

- Personal Interest Project (Year 12 Society and Culture)
- Workshops and In-school Seminars (Year 12)
- HSIE - Year 12 Modern History visit to the Sydney Jewish Museum
- Years 11 and 12 Modern History guest speaker Phillip Dutton on General John Monash

Languages:

- Multicultural/multi-lingual Promotion Assemblies
- Italian Medieval /Renaissance Costume Parade
- Italian Day College celebration - Perfect Plate of Pasta
- Carnevale Cannoli Cake Day
- In-class extension for Year 7 students who have already studied Italian OR Usage of Bloom's Enrichment Matrix: (Content/Analysis/Synthesis/Evaluation/Product) in order to cater for students who possess a heightened level of interest in Languages
- Participation in the "Pietro Tedeschi" IATI inc. Poster Competition
- Native Speaker of Italian as a Senior Tutor (S. M. Vescio)
- Soprano Opera Presentation for Staff and Students
- Participation in the "Tutti in Piazza Day" in the Wollongong Mall
- Life Skills Immersion into Chinese Language
- Chinese Dragon Dance Participation
- Online Interactive Language Tuition
- Origami and Hiroshima Lessons – Year 7 Japanese
- Calligraphy - Year 7 Japanese
- Kawasaki Sister City and Wollongong City Council welcome
- Japanese Drums and Cultural Activities Day
- Spanish Mask Making
- IATI Inc. Language Network Meetings
- Creation of a Creative Spanish Cookbook
- Christmas Cards in Spanish
- Native speaker of Chinese Mandarin Tutor (Z. Zhang)
- Tai chi and Meditation
- Calligraphy and Origami - Year 7 Chinese
- Introduction to Buddhism/ Confucius
- Japanese Sushi making
- Japanese Student Exchange Program and Home Stay
- In depth study of traditional Japanese clothing
- Conversations with Italian Sister School Project
- Extended play with traditional Japanese toys
- Year 10 Elective Italian 'Cene Assieme'
- HSC Pizza Night at "Da Orlando"
- PVO and VCL Preview Study Tour of Italy 2018 in Italy
- Mandarin Students Immersion – Hong Kong HS
- Preparation for visiting the Woonona Marco Polo Nursing Home
- Christmas Cards in Italian

Maths:

- Australian Mathematics Competition
- UNSW ICAS Mathematics Competition
- Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians run by the Australian Mathematics Trust
- Year 10 Talented Mathematics Day at UOW for future Mathematics Extension 1 and 2 students
- 'Work Like a Mathematician' Day at UOW for talented Mathematics students in Years 8 and 9
- Tutorial run before school on Thursdays
- Run differentiated programs for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10
- Investigating Mathematics elective in Year 10
- Staff attended a HSC Markers Day
- Collegial mentoring for student enrichment
- Individualised thematic units for Life Skills students
- NICS - Numeracy and Science Day
- All year 7 Mathematics teachers participated in the Stage 4 Mathematics Project
- Enrichment Day at UOW for the top 15 Mathematics students in Years 7 and 8
- Staff participation in an ongoing online workshop WINDSSM - Year 11 Maths Standard to better prepare for the new senior course starting in 2018

PDHPE:

- Students who demonstrate excellent skills in the practical units are encouraged to trial for the College's sporting teams which provide a pathway to possible Diocesan and NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Teams
- Students with significant skill development are often used as demonstrators, peer teachers, and/or referees in game play
- 8.1 PDHPE class this year consists of students who achieved an A in majority of outcomes for PDHPE in Year 7. The aim was to extend them in both physical/theoretical aspects of the Year 8 course
- Higher Order Questioning strategies in 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 classes
- Students who have excelled in Stage 4 PDHPE are encouraged to select the extension elective course in Stage 5 – 'Physical Activity and Sports Studies'
- Stage 5 PDHPE high achievers are encouraged to select PGHPE Stage 6 courses
- 8.1 Higher Order above stage practical and theory enrichment
- Year 9 and 10 PASS students – assistance with field and track events at local Primary School Athletics Carnivals
- Year 11 and 12 Sport, Lifestyle and Education students assist with junior PDHPE classes
- Years 7 to 10 PDHPE workbooks have extension Gifted and Talented activities included

Religious Education:

- Liturgies and Liturgical Preparation
- Leadership days including 'JAAAM' the Josephite Leadership Program for the 2017 College Captains and the Marist Leadership Training Program, Lismore the Year 12 Leadership Team 2018
- *'We Stand'* Student Faith Engagement Program - Year 11 student leaders
This group also trained a new generation of leaders for the ongoing development and the longevity of this initiative.
- Catholic Mission Immersion Program - two groups of Year 11 students went to Cambodia
- Reflection Days and Retreats
- Catechist Program
- Ethics Olympiad
- Social Justice Day
- Year 9 and Year 10 Catholic Studies Enrichment classes
- 'Breakfast with the Bishop' included all yr 12 students.
- Fundraising including the St Vincent De Paul Society Vinnies' Night Van, Winter Appeal and 'Christmas @ the Spirit' a community building and fundraising event for the Christmas Appeal
- Project Compassion Diocesan Launch
- Catholic Youth Ministry Engagement Program
- Catholic Mission Diocesan Launch
- LIVE - Catholic Youth Festival
- Eucharistic Ministry Training

Science:

- The Big Science Competition - all students in Academic Science classes Years 7 to 10
- 2 x Year 10 Science students competed in the Australian Science Olympiad Exam
- Use of new LabQuest data loggers and sensing probes - Years 7 to 12
- Development of skills with technology - dataloggers, spreadsheets, databases, Google apps for education
- Year 7 Student Research Projects – Study water salinity of a local waterway
- Year 8 Student Research Project – Design a sustainable house
- Year 9 Student Research Project – Design and conduct an experiment that will test a hypothesis and answer a question
- Year 10 Student Research Project – How have developments in technology advanced our biological understanding?
- Regional Science Fair - Top student projects in Year 8
- Year 10 Academic class students to judge St Columbkille's Science Fair
- Year 11 Chemistry, Physics and Biology students encouraged to try out for the National Youth Science Forum
- Guest speakers
- Year 12 Biology and Senior Science enrichment to the Museum of Pathophysiology at Sydney University
- Year 11 Biology field study at Kiama Rock platform
- Year 12 Chemistry - trip to Lucas Heights nuclear reactor
- CSIRO Workshop - A Case of Conspiracy workshop - Year 10 Top 3 classes
- All years have access to the popular Science Magazine – COSMOS

- All students can access the Stile website. This website uses the COSMOS magazine articles as stimulus materials to enhance student's engagement with current issues in Science
- Stage 6 Biology, Chemistry, Physics students gained access to HSC Study Lab website
- Use of new STELR sustainable housing investigation kits in Year 8
- Stage 4 Science Club
- Environmental group

Support Department:

- Training of mainstream students as reader/writers for Disability Provision students. Use of scribes for the Higher School Certificate examinations and Years 7 to 11 examinations.
- Maintenance, replanting and development of Stage 6 garden adjacent to the water tanks. Expansion of plant types
- Greenacres, House With No Steps, Flagstaff and Essential Employment and Training 'Taster Course' program for Stage 6 Life Skills students
- RYDA driving awareness program attendance and participation for Year 11
- Year 7 participation in Peer Support Program with mainstream Year 7, and Year 10 leaders
- Preparation for Year 12 end of year Liturgy
- Stage 6 Year 12 Life Skills banner for Year 12 Mass and Graduation
- Year 7 Welcome barbecue attendance
- Police Liaison Participation Years 7 and 9
- Participation in the Year 8 Gym Day
- Participation in the Year 9 Spirituality Day
- Participation in the Year 11 two-day Retreat Days
- Years 10, 11 and 12 attended mental health production
- Year 9 Girls attendance at 'Crisis of a Female Kind'
- Years 9 and 10 Life Skills students participation in mainstream elective subjects
- Stage 6 Life Skills student in English Studies
- Stage 6 Life Skills student in mainstream sport and PDHPE classes
- Extended Transition Program for Year 7 2017 Life Skills students
- Extended transition for Year 7 2017 mainstream students with additional needs
- Gala night concert participation
- Community Access Program for Stage 6 Life Skills students
- Student participation in Diocesan Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country carnivals
- Participation in College Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country carnivals
- Year 10 students participation in the computer boot camp
- 'Cyber Safety' presentations Years 7 to 12
- Stage 6 Careers Expo at The Builders Club
- Participation in Holy Spirit Day activities
- Post School Option program offered to all Stage 6 students
- Year 12 Stage 6 Life Skills students attending classes throughout Term 4
- Coffee Shop – preparation of, and serving of coffee and biscuits and slices

- Some work placement activities for Year 12 Life Skills students
- Years 7 and 9 overnight camps
- Student participation in school production
- University of Wollongong Practicum students - Mathematics Education Program
- TAFE students - Certificate III and IV in Education Support
- CCC participants in a variety of sports for Students/Athletes with a Disability
- Preparation and food service for the Volunteer Thanksgiving Luncheon
- Participation in 'St Vincent de Paul Winter Clothing Appeal' and other collection activities
- Transition to high school support program for mainstream students
- Participation in opening College Liturgy and Year 12 Liturgy
- Life Skills parent meeting to develop policy
- Stage 6 Visual Arts excursion to Bellambi Beach and other local locations
- Illawarra Schools Careers Expo
- 'Perfect Plate of Pasta' participation
- Mandarin Excursion with students from Pope Paul VI College Shanghai, China
- Museum of Sydney Year 7 excursion
- Bstreetsmart program attendance Qudos Bank Arena, Homebush
- Sky's the Limit Mini Olympics at Beaton Park
- 'Uni 2 Beyond' (Sydney University) Open day and course information for students with an intellectual disability
- NDIS forums and information gathering meetings
- Year 9 Mount Kembla History excursion
- Medieval Man HSIE Year 8
- Year 12 Life Skills students involved in Year 12 mainstream farewell activities

TAS / VET:

- Nominations for VET Student of the Year - Hospitality, Electrotechnology – Illawarra region
- Hospitality excursion to Novotel Wollongong
- Chef visit to Hospitality class for enrichment of current trends
- Expanded design briefs for selected students
- Australian Vocational Student Scholarship
- Wollongong Faculty of Engineering - NSW Senior High Schools Technology Competition
- 'Game Training' for Year 9 Multimedia
- Stage 4 Graphics – extension perspective drawing tasks using Adobe Illustrator
- Stage 5 Marine and Aquaculture Technology – surfboard design unit
- Stage 5 Marine and Aquaculture Technology Lure construction and folio project
- Stage 5 Marine and Aquaculture Technology Fishing excursion to test lure prototypes
- Student Technology Panel Years 7 to 11 Wollongong CEO
- Year 12 TAS and Industrial Furniture Design display evening

- Stage 4 STEM
 - mBot construction and coding challenges
 - cardboard bridge research, design and build that will allow mBot to cross

The Resource Centre runs the following programs:

- Homework afternoons
- Book week and end of year morning tea for recognition of avid readers
- New South Wales Junior Chess League - Country Secondary schools Competition
- Chess In-school activity
- Senior Research lessons
- Junior HSIE information literacy lessons
- Reading assistance program for individual students
- Games Club at lunchtimes

Total of **260** opportunities provided in 2017

Compiled by Maria Silva Learning and Teaching Coordinator with the assistance of KLA/Support Department Coordinators.