



Holy Spirit College

A Catholic Coeducational Secondary College

Holy Spirit College Annual Educational Opportunities Summary 2019

The purpose of the Annual Educational Opportunities Summary is to document some of the activities and opportunities provided to students in 2019. The activities and events were organised by Middle Leaders and classroom teachers for their subject areas. These activities were 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 final STEM Extension Experience after 16 years. During Term 2 and 3 the Year 7.1 and 7.10 (the top two academic classes) STEM Extension Experience (SEE) classes spent time learning and engaging in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills. Throughout the experience students were required to find innovative solutions to 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 problems. If there was already an available solution to the problem, the students could choose to design a product that would expand or improve upon the available solution.

On the evening of Wednesday 16 October 2019, the classes held their SEE Expo Night. The Expo Night was a fantastic opportunity for the students to share their research work, discoveries and present their final products and technologies to a wider audience. The students also had the opportunity at the beginning of the evening to attend a lecture by guest speaker Dr Ellias Kyriazis Senior Lecturer in Marketing, School of Management, Operations and Marketing, Faculty of Business from the University of Wollongong. Dr Kyriazis was extremely impressed with the quality of products and ideas on display this year and even suggested that some would be great Kickstarter projects with promising futures.

Enrichment Coordinator

The Enrichment Coordinator was responsible for the development and implementation of the incoming 2020 Enrichment Class. This included liaising with Tertiary and Educational Institutions to facilitate student testing and staff training.

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Development and updating of information to the College Community through the College's Leadership Team and Key Learning Area Coordinators. The Enrichment Coordinator was involved in the tracking of accelerated student's and providing teachers support at a point of need.

Cultural Immersion Year 11 Students – Bario, Sarawak, Malaysia

A small group of Year 11 students along with three staff members travelled to Bario in the highlands of Malaysian Borneo at the end of Term 3. Students visited a cultural village in Kuching then saw the Orangutans in the wild. They flew to Bario and then travelled to Pa Amor, a small village, to live for 6 days. During this time they travelled upriver to a bush camp, learned bush craft, climbed Prayer mountain, visited the local High School, visited the salt works and participated in cultural events. Through these experiences students gained an appreciation of the pressures on the local environment and how the local people are trying to manage development in a sustainable way. This was evident in the growth of the number of guest houses in the region, the building of a new water treatment plant and promotion of ecotourism. Students were impressed with how their local guide, Rian, promoted local Kelabit culture as a blueprint for sustainability in the region.

Literacy and Numeracy

2019 has been a busy and productive year for Literacy and Numeracy.

Students in Years 7 and 8 with reading difficulties completed the evidence-based, synthetic phonics MacqLit program. The program selected students that were experiencing difficulties with reading. Once completing this program, students are monitored and receive excellent assistance from the librarian to develop good reading habits. This information is shared with staff. Multiple staff have been trained in the program.

Assistance for students to meet the NESA requirements to achieve Band 8 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy has been provided in terms of education, information and support for teachers. Students are provided with a full, independent writing assessment before undertaking the rest. A boot-camp intervention was implemented before each attempt on the writing tasks, this focus areas was the most challenging for the students.

Words their Way Word Study program for Year 7 and 8 was implemented in 2019 (the English staff have been involved in PD in this program).

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Literacy for Learning, a staff development program, has continued in 2019 with another 7 staff completing this course. Improvements in Literacy across the curriculum are driven by staff development with a total of 22 staff trained in this program to date.

Student Literacy achievements were tracked with comparison to curriculum tracking for school reporting so that underachievement can be targeted. Ongoing project work in this area to establish the relationship between assessment and Literacy improvement continues into 2020.

Numeracy

2019 saw the introduction of an intervention program designed for students who experience difficulties in numeracy called *QuickSmart*. The program provides a framework with short and targeted lesson components for teachers and SSOs to complete with their students. The aim of *QuickSmart* is to enable students to become automatic in their basic skills in order to move onto more complex problem-solving skills. This year, students from Year 8 with difficulties in Mathematics were asked to take part in the program with various success.

Year 9 and 10 students had the opportunity to compete in the Science and Engineering Challenge at the University of Wollongong. The challenges involved on the day focused around Science and Mathematics, where students use their skills to solve real-world problems. Holy Spirit College were division champions and invited to take part in the State Challenge held in Newcastle where the school placed 4th on the day.

KLA Specific Activities implemented in 2019

Careers (5)

- Careers Workshops Year 10
- Work Experience Week Year 11
- UOW Discovery Day Year 12
- ICAN Careers Expo Year 12
- Transition Planning Year 12

Creative Arts (24)

- Gala Concert
- Beauty and the Beast – Production
- Choir

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- Catholic Schools Week – Musical Performance
- College Band – Gala Night and 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
- Josephite Talent Showcase
- Modification of all programmes according to student needs – ongoing
- Year 12 Display Evening for HSC Body of Works
- Years 9 and 10 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 e.g. Gifted and Talented educational strategies
- Year 10 Photography Display in College Resource Centre Terms 1-4
- Year 12 Feedback from the BOW Marking Centre presentation Term 4
- Year 9 and 10 Drama Night
- Development of HOT section in Year 9 Visual Arts Theory Task
- Staff Development in Digital Photography, ceramics and green screen technology

English (15)

- English ICAS Competition
- Hosted South Coast Public Speaking Competition
- Year 10 Extension English Class
- Literature Circles for students in Years 8-10
- Weekly morning tutorials for English
- Woonona-Bulli and Corrimal Lions Youth of the Year competition
- Provision of Media Studies as a 100 hour elective in Year 9
- Poetry in Action incursion – Year 7
- Implementation of *Words their Way* in Year 7 and 8
- 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

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- 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 (23)

- Australian History Mysteries Case Studies Year 7-10 History
- Geography in the News Quizzes Years 7-10 Geography
- Virtual Field Studies Year 7-10 HSIE
- Koomurri Aboriginal Education Program Year 7 HSIE
- Wattamolla Fieldwork Day Year 8 Geography
- Bellambi Beach and Local Community Studies Year 8 Geography
- Australian Securities Exchange Share Market Game Year 9-10 Commerce and Year 11 Business Studies
- Business Simulation Day and Planning Years 9-10 Commerce
- Food River Station Brand Muster Logo Competition Year 9 Geography
- ANZAC Centenary School Link Program and Exchange with Lycee Hugues Capet, Reims France Year 9 History
- All My Own Work Program Year 10 HSIE
- Bellambi Point Field Trip Year 10 Geography
- Schools Constitutional Convention Year 11 Legal Studies
- Small Business Plan Year 11 Business Studies
- BlueScope Ltd Excursion Year 12 Business Studies
- Reserve Bank Excursion Year 12 Economics
- Ken Webb Lectures Year 12 Modern and Extension History
- Historiography Project Year 12 History Extension
- Personal Interest Project Year 12 Society and Culture
- Workshops and in-school seminars Year 12
- ANZAC and Armistice Day Commemorations

Languages (26)

- Multicultural/multilingual promotion assemblies
- Japanese Exchange Student visit from Kiyose High School, Japan
- Year 7 Multicultural Day including a variety of musical performances and opportunities to try traditional games and activities from various countries

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- Year 7 Italian excursion to a local nursing home to practice language skills and foster local community interaction and connections
- Italian Day College celebration - 'Perfect Plate of Pasta'
- Languages 'Sweet Treat Day' – sampling a variety of sweet treats from different countries
- In-class extension for Year 7 students who have previously studied language and usage of Bloom's Enrichment Matrix in order to cater for students who possess a heightened level of interest in Languages
- Year 9 French elective cooking and tasking experience
- Life Skills Immersion into Italian Language
- Online Interactive Language Tuition
- Origami and Ikebana Lessons – Year 7 Japanese
- Calligraphy – Year 7 Japanese
- Kawasaki Sister City and Wollongong City Council welcome
- Study of Taiko – Japanese traditional drumming including professional performance
- Setsubun Festival Mask making Year 7 Japanese
- Carnevale Mask making Year 7 Italian
- ATI Inc. Language Network Meetings
- Christmas Cards in Italian, French, Japanese
- Native Speaker of Japanese Tutor (M. Abel)
- Introduction to Buddhism
- Japanese Sushi making and cooking class
- Japanese Anime drawing class
- Traditional Japanese kimono fitting
- Extended play with traditional Japanese toys

Maths (15)

- Australian Mathematics Competition
- UNSW ICAS Mathematic Competition
- Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians run by the Australian Mathematics Trust
- Science and Engineering Challenge – students won their way through to the state final at UON and on the day won the Bridge Building component which is arguably the most prestigious part of the day
- Maths tutorial on Thursday mornings

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- Continued faculty focus on differentiation and reading strategies to improve problem solving across all year groups and levels, with a specific focus on exam style questions
- Differentiated programs for Year 7-10
- Investigating Mathematics elective Year 10
- 4 staff completed their mini-certificate on gifted education
- Individualised thematic units for Life Skills students
- NICS – Numeracy and Science focus day
- Staff continued with the Stage 4 Mathematics Project
- Staff participation in ongoing online workshops WINDSSM – Year 11 Maths Standard, Year 12 Maths Standard, Year 11 and 12 Mathematics Advanced, Year 11 and 12 Mathematics Extension 1 and Year 12 Mathematics Extension 2 to better prepare for the new senior courses
- Staff participated in an online workshop run by UNSW on Networks to improve teaching of the new senior content

PDHPE (10)

- 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 the majority of outcomes in Year 7. The aim is to extend these students in both physical and theoretical aspects of the Year 8 course
- Higher Order Questioning strategies in 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 10.1, 10.2 and 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 PDHPE 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 PDHPE, Sport Lifestyle and Education students assist with Junior PDHPE classes
- Years 7-10 PDHPE workbooks have a variety of differentiation activities to cater for all students

Religious Education (9)

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- Liturgies, Masses and Liturgical Preparation including student and staff training in Eucharistic Ministry and Proclamation of the Word
- Leadership days including 'JJAM' and Josephite Leadership Program for the 2019 College Captains and the Marist Leadership Training Program, Lismore for the Year 12 Leadership team 2020
- Youth Ministry Leaders – Training and 'Live' Engagement Activities (Diocesan Youth Ministry Engagement Program)
- Catholic Mission Immersion Program
- Reflection Days and Retreats
- Catholic Mission Project Compassion Launch
- Year 9 and 10 Catholic Studies Enrichment classes
- 'Conversation with the Bishop' included all Year 12 students
- Student and Staff 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

Science (16)

- Use of LabQuest data loggers and sensing probes Years 7-12
- Development of skills with technology – data loggers, spreadsheets, databases, Google applications for education
- Year 7 Student Research Projects – Study water salinity of a local waterway
- Year 8 Student Research Projects – Design a sustainable house
- Year 9 Student Research Projects – Design and conduct an experiment that will test a hypothesis and answer a question
- Year 10 Student Research Projects – How have developments in technology advanced our biological understanding?
- Year 11 Chemistry, Physics and Biology students encouraged to try out for the National Youth Science Forum
- Year 12 Biology enrichment to the Museum of Human Disease at the University of New South Wales
- Year 11 Biology field study at Sandon Point Rock platform
- Stage 6 Biology, Chemistry and Physics students gained access to HSC Study Lap website
- Use of new STELR sustainable housing investigation kits in Year 8
- Environmental Group
- Year 12 Physics excursion to ANSTO Lucas Heights
- Year 11 EES field trip to Coutss, Waterfall

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- 3 Year 12 students taking Science Extension and accepted into research groups at UNSW
- University of Sydney Year 11 and 12 Chemistry Lectures

Support Department (57)

- Training of mainstream students as reader/writers for Disability Provision students in all years
- Use of scribes for the Higher School Certificate examinations and Years 7-11 examinations
- Maintenance, replanting and development of the Stage 6 garden in the Eastern Quad. Expansion of plant types and the planting of new vegetables
- Greenacres, House with No Steps, Flagstaff and Essential Employment Training 'Taster Course' program for Stage 6 Life Skills students (SLES Program)
- Years 10-12 participation in Greenacres after school program
- RYDA driving awareness program attendance and participation for Year 11
- Year 7 participation in Peer Support Program with mainstream Year 7 and Year 10 students
- Preparation for Year 12 end of year liturgy
- Stage 6 Year 12 Life Skills banner for Year 12 Mass and Graduation
- Year 7 Welcome Barbeque attendance
- Police Liaison Participation Years 7 and 9
- Participation in the Year 8 Gymnastics Day
- Participation in the Year 9 Spirituality Day
- Participation in the Year 11 Retreat Day
- Years 10, 11 and 12 attendance at the mental health production
- Harmony Day participation
- Teacher training in MacqLit 'Mini Lit'
- Life Skills student participation in MacqLit 'Reading Tutor Program'
- Life Skills participation in aspects of the QuickSmart program
- Year 9 girls attendance at 'Crisis of a Female Kind'
- 'LIVE' Twilight retreat participation
- 'Cyberia' Anti Bullying presentation
- Years 9-10 Life Skills students participation in mainstream elective subjects
- Extended Transition Program for Year 7 2020 Life Skills students
- Extended Transition Program for Year 7 2020 mainstream students with additional needs
- Gala Night participation
- Community Access Program for Stage 6 Life Skills students

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- Student participation in Diocesan Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals
- Year 10 students participation in the computer boot camp
- 'Cyber Safety' presentations Years 7-12
- 'Wired' Mental Health presentation
- Participation in Holy Spirit Day Mass and activities
- Year 12 Life Skills and mainstream students in a 'Conversation with the Bishop'
- Attendance at the Paul Dillon presentation
- Wollongong Surf Awareness presentation
- Stage 6 Careers Expo at The Builders Club
- NDIS Northcott Information Session
- Marco Polo Nursing Home visit
- Greenacres Kickstart for Life program
- Sport and Activities at the Mater Dei, Camden
- School Leavers Employment Scheme (SLES)
- Participation in Holy Spirit Day Activities
- Post School Option program offered to all Stage 6 students
- Some work placement activities for Year 12 Life Skills students
- Life Skills student participation in the school production
- University of Wollongong Practicum students – Mathematics Education Program
- CCC participants in a variety of sports for Students/Athletes with a Disability
- Participation in 'St Vincent de Paul Winter Clothing Appeal' and other collection activities
- Years 10 and 11 Life Skills engagement at Wollongong Youth Centre

TAS/VET (15)

- Nominations for VET Student of the Year - Illawarra region (Holy Spirit College students have been awarded VET Student of the Year in both Hospitality and Electrotechnology for 2018 and 2019)
- Hospitality excursion to Novotel Wollongong
- Chef visit to Hospitality class for enrichment of current trends
- Expanded design briefs for selected students
- Wollongong Faculty of Engineering – NSW Senior High Schools Technology Competition
- 'Game Training' for Year 9 Information Software and Technology
- Stage 4 Graphics – extension perspective drawing class using Adobe Illustrator and SketchUp

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- 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 7-11 Wollongong CEO
- Year 12 Design and Technology/Industrial Technology Furniture display evening
- mBot construction and coding challenges
- Cardboard bridge research, design and build that will allow mBot to cross
- Micro Bits challenges in Stage 4 Digital and Information Technology and STEM

Resource Centre (9)

- Senior research lessons
- Junior HSIE information literacy lessons including lesson plans for Fake News lesson
- Reading assistance for students involved in the MacqLit program
- Book talks for English classes Years 7-10
- Assistance for students with their reading for pleasure choices
- Coordination and assistance with the Premier's Reading Challenge
- Homework afternoons
- Book week and end of year morning tea for recognition of avid readers
- Chess in-school activity

Total of **228** opportunities provided in 2019.

Compiled by Maria Silva. Learning and Teaching Coordinator with the assistance of KLA/Support Department/SEE/Literacy and Numeracy/Resource Centre Coordinators.

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