NARRABUNDAH COLLEGE & STATE OF THE STATE OF





www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au June 2020 Issue # 4

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Dear Parents and Carers

The return to classes by our students has been very smooth. Our students and teachers managed the online learning environment so well and have now transitioned back to face to face teaching comfortably.

Some of our students who have found the return challenging have been really supported through Learning Support where we have increased our staff resourcing to ensure the smoothest transition back to college as possible for all students.

Since our return in week 5, I have visited several classes across all faculty areas giving feedback to teachers on their pedagogy and student engagement. I have been impressed by our student engagement and energy; they are so very pleased to be back learning in all their classes.

The Education Directorate has an important connection to two leading educators of international acclaim: Michael Fullan and Mary-Jean Gallagher both from Canada and both who contribute to our improvement agenda as critical friends.

In their recent publication, *The Devil is in the Details:* System Solutions for Equity, Excellence and Student Well-being, their message is schools – teachers must immerse themselves in action and reflective practice. They continue to say that we need systemic thinking to fashion education as a force for tweaking evolution in a positive direction which features equity, excellence and well-being.

HOW CAN WE CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE THIS?

This term staff have recommitted to their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs - cross faculty groups) where they continue to focus on pedagogy and classroom practice to improve the learning outcomes of our students. We are undertaking to increase our focus to

ensure that equity, excellence and wellbeing are at the very core of our teaching, student engagement and support.

SCHOOL REVIEW

The college's Strategic Plan 2016-2020 leads our improvement agenda. Every five years each school undergoes a School Review. Our Review was planned for earlier this term but has been postponed until the first week in term 4.

The Review Panel of three is led by an expert from ACER supported by principals and/or deputies in our system.

This Panel will undertake the Review from October 12-16 during which time, they will interview staff, students and parents/carers. You will have the opportunity to be involved – more information will follow.

Our current Strategic Plan focusses on:

- Developing assessment strategies to improve student outcomes.
- Improving student use of feedback to enhance learning.
- Improve the quality of teaching and learning to enhance learning outcomes.

Our PLCs have been developed to address the strategies listed above to maintain and strengthen improvement in outcomes for all our students.

WHAT'S THE ATAR?

On Tuesday, 23 June and Thursday, 25 June, we presented online twice the second information session evening for parents/carers to learn more about assessment and reporting at our college. It is important that our students and you, their parents/carers fully understand how the ATAR is generated.

PARENT INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR CHILD'S PROGRESS

During the holidays you will receive information about your child's progress this session through Mid Term Reports. You will be informed later in this newsletter about booking online for the next Parent Teacher Afternoon: Year 11s Wednesday, 29 July, 2pm-4.30pm AND Year 12s Thursday, 30 July, 2pm-4pm.

I invite and encourage you to come to the next Parent Teacher Afternoon and also to consult your child's Year Adviser if you need more information or advice about their package.

I look forward to seeing you at this event.

AST

We have run the AST preparation program online this term to enhance all students' AST skills.

This is an especially important time for Year 12 students, leading up to and sitting the ACT Scaling Test (AST) at the end of this session. Year 12 students who want to gain an ATAR for university entrance must sit all components of the AST, which will be held on Tuesday, 1 and Wednesday, 2 September.

A student's performance/results in this test can make a significant difference to their ATAR and everyone depends upon each student performing to the best of their ability. Being well prepared and understanding the nature of the tests makes a real difference. Final AST Trials will be held on Tuesday, 28 July.

FRENCH BACCALAURÉAT

The Year 12 French Bac students have finished their assessments and are awaiting their results. Congratulations to those students who have already been offered places at French universities.

I look forward to attending their Graduation Ceremony at the French Embassy on Thursday July 2nd.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS:

- Eliya HQ who has been awarded a prestigious AEFE Excellence scholarship to study post Bac in France.
- Sasha B, Shannon L, Aedan M. Kalea M and Matthew W who were placed 5th in a National Ethics Competition (we were the only government school to take part).
- Brandon L placed 2nd and Pradhy K, Sreekar D and Ethan C placed 3rd in the ASX Schools Sharemarket Game 1 2020.
- Elisha A, Justin R and Caspian S, The Offbeat Trio, who performed with such energy and skill, the first of

the Lunchtime Concert Series, much to the delight of the socially distanced audience.

Congratulations to one of our alumni, Libby Hanrahan, a Critical Care Paramedic, who played a vital role in the extremely dangerous recent rescue in the Blue Mountains.

Parent Teacher Afternoon

<u>Year 11</u> - Wednesday, 29 July 2.00pm – 4.30pm

<u>Year 12</u> - Thursday, 30 July 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Please see important on-line booking instructions (See under Student Services News)

(On-line bookings open 20 July)

SITE WORKS DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

As part of the modernisation program for our College, some feasibility works will be undertaken during the school holidays to test the sub-surface soil of the College grounds.

This work will involve groundwater sampling, and testing the sub-surface soil to assess the ground quality and detection of possible historic building rubble or contamination, for example, asbestos.

Qualified field staff will be undertaking the sampling and the work will be undertaken in accordance with work, health and safety regulations, including the requirement for the field staff to wear personal protective equipment such as full body protection suits. As a further safety measure, Robson Environmental consultants will undertake air monitoring assessments while the work is being undertaken.

The safety of students, staff, visitors and the local community is the highest priority for us, therefore staff, students, visitors and community members, will not be able to visit the campus grounds while this work is being undertaken. Signs will be posted on the perimeter of the school campus informing visitors the college is closed and they are unable to access the campus. The immediate work areas will also have clearly identifiable exclusion zones.

The work will be carried out from Monday 6 July to Friday 17 July. A licensed consultant will then carry out air quality testing before issuing a Clearance Certificate for the students and staff to return to College with the start of term 3 on 20 July 2020.

School Newsletter Item – COVID-19 and School Arrangements for Term 3 2020

We are pleased to let you know there will be a further easing of restrictions on our school activities and parent/carer engagement in line with the broader easing of COVID-19 restrictions across the ACT.

Earlier this week, the ACT Education Directorate released a 'roadmap' based on the ACT Government's COVID-19 recovery plan. This roadmap is based on health advice and was attached along with a letter from the Chief Health Officer, in an email sent out on Tuesday, 23rd June 2020.

In term 3 we plan to welcome back our families for events such as parent teacher interviews and small assemblies with physical distancing and hygiene measures in place.

However, where possible parents and carers should still routinely avoid entering school grounds and ensure they practice physical distancing around adults at schools.

We encourage you to review the roadmap and letter and look out for future school newsletters and communication about how we will be implementing the roadmap in our school.

Kerrie Grundy Principal

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE NEWS

YEAR 12 NEWS

All students should have submitted their Extended and TOK essays. It is important that you complete these essays as soon as possible so you can concentrate on your remaining assessment tasks. Your list of assignments is slowly getting smaller and you are now in the home stretch. It is important to keep to your due dates and remain as focused as you have all done throughout your IB programme. Keep up the good work!

YEAR 11 NEWS

The extended essay presentation was held for students on June 11th. Students started thinking about a variety of topics and the discussion produced some very interesting extended essay concepts. All information about the extended essay is on the IB Google Class page including the PowerPoint presentation. I hope you are also enjoying your TOK lessons and your IB experience

at Narrabundah College. Many students have launched into their CAS programme and have started to write some excellent reflective journals. – Well done!

ALUMNI NEWS

Tamasine Crocker Cohort 2016



Tamasine studied a degree at ANU and was awarded the Ethel Tory Scholarship for Arabic. Tamasine completed majors in Arabic and War Studies and a minor in Middle Eastern Studies. She is embarking on a Defence force career in the Australian Navy and we wish her all the very best.

Christine Ward
International Baccalaureate & CAS Coordinator

FRENCH BACCALAURÉAT News

RÉSULTATS DE PARCOURSUP

All EFS Year 12 students who applied for Parcoursup (platform receiving students' applications for post-French Bac studies), received very encouraging responses. Some received up to 11 admission proposals. This is a success for our students who worked hard to achieve these results. Some students have also chosen to study in Australia (at ANU, University of Canberra or University of Sydney). These students will have the opportunity of taking a six-month gap and maybe, travelling around the world and practise their French even more. They can also join some of the ACT stream classes at Narrabundah College to consolidate their knowledge of the subject they want to study.

YEAR 12 BACCALAURÉAT

This year, the marks of the Baccalauréat will be based on continuous assessment. There will be no final exam. The official results will be out by the end of this week.

Year 12 students are working on a personal project based on their further studies projects. They will present their project on Week 10 with their last oral presentation in French of their College years. They are working on a variety of projects such as producing a music video, writing a smartphone application, redesign Narrabundah College neighbourhood by taking into account sustainability or organising a world tour in a sailboat.

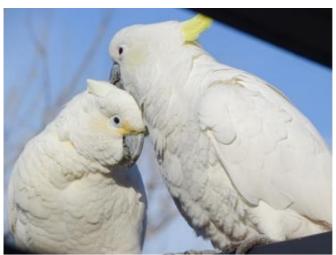
YEAR 11: WRITING A FABLE WITH AUSTRALIAN BIRDS

We, the class of Year 11 French Bac, took part in a project, involving our French class and Biology class.

This project entails the creation of a fable about Australian birds.

In French class, we have been studying Jean de La Fontaine's fables and in Biology, we have been studying biodiversity and different types of Australian birds and learnt about how they behave in nature: its characteristics and traits.

Thanks to that knowledge, we were able to write about our birds and use their traits to create a story with a moral at the end, called a fable.



Sulphur-crested cockatoo and long-billed corella mix Picture taken by Marion H.



Eastern Rosella Picture taken by Eileen D

Article written by Niamh H. and Pauline O.

AGENDA

2nd July – French Embassy: Graduation ceremony "Remise des Médailles du Bac".

Many of our Year 12 students have been together in the English French stream at Telopea Park School since kindergarten, and for some of them the journey started even before, at the French Australian Pre School in Red Hill. It will be a very emotional moment and we cannot wait to celebrate their success together.

Floriane Michel

French Bac Coordinator

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS

We are close to the well-earned winter break and students will have completed assessments in all their classes. V-Grade warnings have been recently issued but these are only warnings at this stage – either for unexplained absences or missed assessment. If students have a warning, they should talk to their teachers to ascertain the reason and determine how the warning can be withdrawn. Come and see the advisers if there are issues with this as there are always options of which students may not be aware.

ATTENDANCE

Students should attend all classes. Students can miss vital class content and may not meet the BSSS attendance requirements if too many classes are missed. We do understand students miss classes for legitimate personal reasons and sickness at times. These absences can be covered in **two ways**.

The College uses an automated messaging system for attendance. The preferred system is for Parents/Guardians to reply directly to the SMS notification within 15 hours. Otherwise an email to info@narrabundahc.act.edu.au or complete hardcopy absence notes to be returned to the College will be needed.

Medical Certificates are required for extended periods of sickness and also for missed tests and assignment deadlines.

The College does not authorise or encourage students to miss scheduled classes to complete assignments.

UNIVERSITY/CIT APPLICATIONS

For students moving on to university, CIT or TAFE next year, it's time to start thinking about the application processes. ANU had an early admission process. If you missed applying in time, there is still the opportunity to apply through UAC.

For university in the ACT or NSW, applications are through the University Admissions Centre (UAC). The 2021 UAC Guide for admission in Semester 1, 2021 is available at the college for all Year 12 tertiary bound students. Students should be aware that UAC applications should be submitted online by the end of September. Student Services will advise you of specific dates as soon as they are available. Each state and territory has their own university admissions centre – VTAC in Victoria, QTAC in Queensland, SATAC in South Australia, etc. For students wanting the option of studying in other states, they need to submit a separate application to the states or territories they are interested in. Students can submit applications to more than one state and may possibly receive more than one offer.

Students who do not think they will get an ATAR or a high enough ATAR should see an Adviser or the Transition and career officer regarding alternate pathways.

Most institutions that participate in the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) have an Educational Access Scheme (EAS) for applicants who have experienced long term educational disadvantage. To qualify applicants must demonstrate, with supporting evidence, that during Years 11 and 12 or equivalent, they have been seriously affected by circumstances beyond their control. Forms and eligibility criteria are available from the UAC website and any enquiries should be directed to Student Services.

PACKAGE CHECKS

Year 11 and 12 students must ensure they check their packages for the ACT senior Secondary Certificate and ATAR. Year 12 should check their 'Profiles Online' on the BSSS website and check that they are on track to meeting the requirements for the Certificate and ATAR. If students are unsure about any part of their package, they should see their Student Adviser.

Delisia Wiild

Executive Teacher, Student Services

Student Adviser Contact Details and Student Surname Alphabet

Phone No. Julie Bauer 6142-3219 Student Surnames A - F julie.bauer@ed.act.edu.au Assunta Corrado-Nitz 6142-3215 Student Surnames G - L assunta.corrado-nitz@ed.act.edu.au **Birgit Matwijiw** 6142-3216 Student Surnames M - Sm birgit.matwijiw@ed.act.edu.au **Delisia Wiild** Student Surnames Sn - Z 6142-3220 delisia.wiild@ed.act.edu.au **Glenda Nimmo** Careers/Transition/WEX 6142-3218 glenda.nimmo@ed.act.edu.au

Mary Weddell

Student Support 6142-3200

Rosanne Biernaux

School Psychologist 6142-3200

International Baccalaureate Contact

Christine Ward

6142-3212

christine.ward@ed.act.edu.au

INTERNET BANKING - DIRECT PAYMENT

There is a 'Payment' option on the school website (www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au)

Westpac QuickWeb.

Go to: the Payment tab on the home page. Please identify your payment by including the student's name.

2020 Student/Parent Calendar & Student Info Handbook

can be found on our website.

http://www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au/resources_and_forms/other_resources_and_forms

Click on 2020 Student Calendar

Instructions for Year 11 and Year 12 Parent Teacher Mid-Session Interviews

We invite you to attend a Parent Teacher interview on the following dates:

Year 11 - Wednesday, 29 July - 2.00 - 4.30pm

Year 12 - Thursday, 30 July - 2.00 - 4.00pm

The Student Services Team; Careers and Transitions Advisor, Glenda Nimmo (Wed & Thurs) and the School Psychologist, Rosanne Biernaux (Wed only) will be available in the Student Services area, A Block from 3.00pm.

No bookings are required for these interviews.

On Friday, 3 July, you will be sent a login and a PIN number by email. All parents will need a PIN number to access the Parent Teacher Online (PTO) system and make a booking.

The PTO booking system will be available to make a booking from **9.00am**, **Monday**, **20 July**.

All Year 11 online bookings will <u>close</u> at 1pm on Wednesday, 29 July and all Year 12 online bookings will <u>close</u> at 1pm on Thursday, 30 July.

PTO will be available on the College website at: http://www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au/contact_us/p arent_teacher_online

You can access PTO by clicking on the above link or scrolling down the College homepage and clicking on the Parent Teacher Online icon. PtO

- 1. Access the Narrabundah College website: www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au.
- 2. Use the link for "PTO" to gain access to the login page of the online booking system.
- Use your login/PIN that has been emailed to you to access the PTO portal and make a booking.

If you don't have access to a computer or have any problems accessing your PIN (you may have changed your email address), please call the Narrabundah College Office on 6142-3201 between 20 and 28 July for assistance.

When booking, if any of your teachers are unavailable, please click on the dropdown arrow and "request contact". This will ensure the teacher is advised of the request and they will follow up by contacting you in the following weeks.

The system will ensure that you have no 'back to back' interviews between your appointments as you will be moving between areas to follow social distancing guidelines.

Please note: Due to the current environment, some teachers may be unavailable on the afternoon of interviews.

P&C News

It's mid-session exam time already and we understand this can be a stressful time for students and families alike. We wish your children good luck for their exams, following their return to classroom learning in May.

The P&C is pleased to announce that we now have a website so we can be in touch with parents and parents can be in direct contact with us. The website is packed with useful information about our activities and you can find it at https://narrabundahpandc.org Please send us any stories or photos you would like to have included to our email. Big thanks to our Vice-President Renae Scott for initiating and designing this great new communication platform.

Your P&C continues to advocate for students and families while we are in this transition phase. On Tuesday, 23 June, I attended the ACT P&C Council for an interaction with **Director General of Education Katy Haire** to discuss **COVID-19 education issues**.

Among the issues I raised were:

- plans for when parents will be welcomed back on campus, including to engage with teachers on our children's school progress.
- school sports to support student wellbeing (given club sports are still largely suspended due to COVID).
- Year 12 graduation celebrations and planning.
- the return of international students (we had around 60 at the College and many remain overseas due to COVID travel restrictions).
- moving forward with the modernisation of Narrabundah College so it can continue to deliver high quality, future facing education as population density grows in the Inner South.

If you have other ideas you would like raised with the P&C Council, please send us an <u>email</u> marking the subject line 'Education feedback'.

We were very happy to hear that a group of 20 business and other students from the Governance and Environment Groups have taken up the challenge of doing a Business Case for the P&C-run college canteen. The students would like to see a review of the menu and environmentally friendly packaging. This project, led by Humanities teacher Laura Juratowitch, dovetails with a review that the P&C has been conducting of the canteen operations and what foods we offer to ensure the canteen has a strong future. We hope that this collaboration between students and the P&C will result in some creative menu options and business ideas to help to make our not-for-profit canteen a success. continue to appreciate the efforts of our Canteen Manager Nicole, staff member Pauline and volunteer Emma who provide this vital service to our children. Please encourage your children to keep supporting the canteen.

Our next regular P&C meeting will be held at **6pm on Wednesday**, **12 August** at the College. The Executive Committee will hold a separate discussion on fundraising (for Committee members) on 1 July. We welcome any ideas via email at narrabundahpc@gmail.com with the subject line 'fundraising'.

Finally, although COVID is being well managed in the ACT, we cannot become complacent. So that we all stay safe, let's occasionally remind our College children over breakfast to give the teachers the social distance they need to stay safe. Regular hand washing and other hygiene practices are still the best way to protect our children and families through this time.

Take care,

Jenny Grant-Curnow

President, Narrabundah College P&C

LIBRARY NEWS

ClickView Movies + TV is now available! Movies + TV contains a diverse and engaging video content selection which includes documentaries, films from Disney, theatre including Shakespeare productions and other educationally and culturally relevant programs. For parents' peace of mind, students will only see relevant and appropriate content. Students can now access Movies + TV via the main navigation bar in ClickView.

In some cases, some students have not returned their ClickView permission form. This form can be found on the college's website www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au/ under the resources and forms tab. Please note that it takes 24 hours for ClickView to synchronise with the college's IT system before being active.

CiteMaker is an **online reference generator** custom designed to meet the needs of Narrabundah College students. The college has subscribed to this tool so that there is consistency in how students cite their sources across all curriculum areas. CiteMaker provides tutorials on each of the citation styles – APA, Harvard and Oxford (Footnotes). Citations can be saved in folders and copied or exported to the relevant documents. Information on using Citemaker can be found on the Library Google page **(4siaes4).** Library staff are always available to assist students in any aspect of CiteMaker.

COVID 19. The Narrabundah College library staff acknowledge and thanks all students and staff for their efforts in keeping the library a hygienic, healthy and a safe place by sanitising their hands on entry and their desks on departure. In addition, during the day, cleaning officers regularly clean library touchpoints (desks, switches, photocopiers/printers). After hours, the library is professionally cleaned and sanitised. We thank all students who have adapted to this new normal.

Jenny Howard Teacher Librarian

LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

The opening times are:

 Monday
 8.15am - 5.30pm

 Tuesday
 8.15am - 4.00pm

 Wednesday
 8.15am - 5.30pm

 Thursday
 8.15am - 4.00pm

 Friday
 8.15am - 4.00pm

The Library will also open at 8.00am during exam periods. Each day borrowing and returning will be available from 8.30am.

STUDY HUB

On Monday and Wednesday afternoons, the Library has extended opening times.

(3.00pm - 5.30pm for Study Hub)

Staffed by a teacher and qualified peer mentors (alumni students) that support students in many curriculum areas including English (includes the drafting process and preparation and presentation of orals), History, TOK, all Sciences and all levels of Mathematics. There is also specialised support for some H courses (ANU) and IB. FREE to Narrabundah students.

HISTPHILENGPOL HAPPENINGS

(News from the History, Philosophy, English, Politics Department)

PHILOSOPHY

Congratulations to Sasha B, Shannon L, Aedan M, Kalea M, and Matthew W!

On Wednesday, 27 May, these 5 philosophy students participated in a national Ethics Olympiad. Due to COVID-19, the event was organised in an online format using video conferencing apps to compete against school teams from around Australia. Students were presented with a range ethical case studies that they had to analyse and discuss. They also needed to respond to the ideas of other teams and were judged based on a range of criteria relating to respectful discourse, strength of arguments, range of ideas and knowledge of ethical theories and considerations. Our students represented the school fantastically, and were able to overcome a number of technical and practical issues in order to achieve a very credible 5th place! This result is even more impressive considering that Narrabundah College was the only public school in Australia that took part. We're very proud to have been such amazing ambassadors for ACT public education!

Chloe Diggins

Teacher

GENERAL NOTICE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Parents are welcome to visit the Narrabundah College Front Office or call 6142-3200 to make enquiries regarding our students. Please do not walk around the college looking to make contact with staff.

HUMANITIES NEWS

All students are completing their first assessments in their units of study for Session 2.

<u>BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES - PSYCHOLOGY AND</u> SOCIOLOGY

In Year 12, Psychology students are currently conducting non-experimental research using questionnaires on topics resulted to stress. Students will have a guest speaker after the holidays present on mental health. In Year 12 Sociology, students are currently writing a literature review using data related to social epidemiology.

Along with Architecture, Sociology students were part of redesigning the community spaces in Narrabundah. While students will be focusing on the sociology of urbanization after the July break, the opportunity to be part of Transport Canberra and City Services urban design consultation process was just too much fun.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Students are working on their first project in the following units

- Robotics and Mechatronics
- Networking and Cybersecurity
- 3D Modelling and Animation

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS AND ACCOUNTING

Year 12 Economics student Brandon L. has won ACT 2nd place and Year 11 Economics students Pradhy K., Sreekar D. and Ethan C. together have won ACT 3rd place in the ASX Schools Sharemarket Game 1, 2020. They were awarded a certificate to mark their achievement. Congratulations!

Archana Aggarwal

School Leader C

SAS Change Rep and Timetabling solutions, Humanities & Information Technology, Certification and Learning Technologies

FIRST AID NOTICE

Please Note:

We <u>DO NOT</u> supply ANY medication to students.



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Each year, for the past 7 years, a group of community sector organisations usually host a fun family and community event on the Tuesday of NAIDOC Week, to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

The event showcases Indigenous culture - arts and crafts, live entertainment, food and more.

This year, due to COVID 19, official NAIDOC Week celebrations have been deferred. However, the community plans to still come together to commemorate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, during NAIDOC Week, via a digital event.

Don't miss the livestream Facebook event on Tuesday, 7 July, from 11.00am to 12.30pm, to yarn about the meaning and importance of Aboriginal culture, with particular focus on this year's theme – 'Always was, always will be'.





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saverplus

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Leurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Banasolent Society and The Swith Family and other is community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.ids. gov.us for more information.

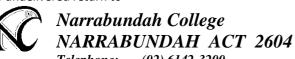
Important Dates

3 July	Mid-Session progress and absence reports emailed.
	Parent Teacher Online (PTO) information emailed.
6 - 17 July	School Holidays
20 July	Parent Teacher Online bookings open.
28 July	Year 11 & 12 AST Trials.
29 July	2.00 - 4.30pm - Year 11 Parent / Teacher Interviews.
30 July	2.00 - 4.00pm - Year 12 Parent /Teacher Interviews.
31 Jul	School Census Day.
5 August	Canberra Careers Xpo
7 August	ESL Census.

10 August	WEX & Voc Placement close.
12 August	Session 3 Grid available to students.
	4.30 - Board meeting.
	6.00 - P&C Meeting.
14 August	IB Music Recital.
19 August	Test timetable published.
	Session 3 student choices due.
20 August	Moderation Day (Student Free).
1 September	AST Sessions 1 and 2 - Multiple Choice and Short Response
2 September	AST Session 3 - Writing Task

Newsletter of Narrabundah College

If undelivered return to



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