MT ST MICHAEL’S COLLEGE
IN THE TRADITION OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY
Senior School Bulletin
Welcome to Year 11 & 12

Year 11 students have three central programs which assist them to develop strong and resilient skills and a balanced academic and personal approach: the Positive Education program, Life Coaching Program and the SCIPA program.

Two lessons per cycle, all Year 11 students participate in the SCIPA program, where they will develop study skills and improve exam techniques. SCIPA sessions develop general academic skills and prepare students for the Qld Core Skills Test in Year 12.

Life Coaching Program

• 8 week program, running in SCIPA session time during terms 1 and 2
• Program enabling students to work in groups with a life coach to set personal and academic goals
• Students also have the opportunity to cultivate mindfulness

*For further information about this program please check under Recent News & Facebook

Study Lessons

• 8 lessons per cycle
• Supervised study room, enabling quiet individual study
• Students will participate in study skills workshops during some lessons timetabled for study

Skills
Confidence
Information
Preparation
= Achievement

The POS-Ed Program in the Senior School provides the foundation for a balanced, positive and resilient approach to personal life and school in the Senior School

Purpose Optimism Strategy ED
Positive Identity • Positive Relationships
Positive Purpose – Finance
Positive Purpose - Service

The Home Room teachers, working with Ms Potter, Ms Ahern and Kathy James, provide support and skills though POS-Ed
ASSESSMENT IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL

Criteria and Profiles

- Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority syllabus documents set the guidelines for criteria and assessment in subjects.
- Students receive a Criteria Sheet for each assessment piece, indicating how it will be assessed.
- Each semester and when exiting (finishing) a subject, students receive A-E grades on each criterion and overall. Only the final exit result is shown on the Senior Statement, not individual semester results.
- Most assessment in Year 11 is formative, which means it won’t contribute to the exit (final) level. Results in Year 11 are important, though – without strong learning in Year 11 there cannot be strong results in Year 12.
- If a student exits (leaves) a subject before the end of year 12, the result to date will appear on the senior statement.

Assessment Policy

In your diary and on MSM website - You need to know it!

Some important points from the Assessment Policy:
If you are absent on the day of an exam, oral or prac; or unable to submit an assignment, you:
- need a medical certificate from your doctor
- must communicate with the Head of Department
- refer to the assessment flowcharts in the policy document for the procedure to follow

Due dates for drafts and final for assignments must be strictly adhered to. Drafts should be a polished version of the final piece.
Non-submission of a task will lead to an academic detention and may compromise eligibility for a semester result and a QCE.
Cheating and plagiarism are serious issues, with academic consequences. Take care that work you submit is your own writing, and is well-referenced.

How do I know when assessment is due?

The Assessment Calendar; available through LMS, gives all deadlines for assessment, orals, pracs and exams during the term.

There is an exam block at the end of each term. Students are only required to be at school during exams during the block. Students with outstanding assessment or students whose commitment to their subjects is deemed less than satisfactory will lose this privilege. Details of the start date and sessions for the exam block come out during each term.

I must not forget ….

- To back up all my computer work to H Drive and to print and back up to an external device all assessment regularly
- That IT problems cannot be used as the basis for extension or as an excuse for lateness of work

How do I know when assessment is due?

For help with my subjects … My teacher!
Regarding assessment, an extension or missed exam in one subject if I am sick … HOD
Regarding special consideration if I am unable to meet deadlines across a number of subjects … DP Curriculum
For general academic help, study skills or subject advice ….
Mrs Statham (Senior Schooling Program leader)
For career pathway advice and if I am having trouble managing my VET commitments……
Mrs Caro (Future Pathways Program Leader)
If I feel I am not coping … subject teacher, Home Room teacher, Year Co, Kathy James, Senior Schooling Program leader
If my VETiS program off campus clashes with my assessment? ….
See Mrs Caro (she will advise you)
INTRODUCTION TO STUDY SKILLS

Students in year 12 have been asked to share with the year 11 students some strategies for improving their capacity as an effective learner. The year 11 and 12 students have been asked to implement a Study Action Plan by setting three practical short term goals which focus on strategies to make them more effective learners in some of these areas:

• in their lessons
• in their planning and organisation
• at home
• in their life balance

The Year 11 and 12 students have been given an assessment calendar for term 1 this week. We provide this as a word document so that they can use it as a planner for the term.

Students can access the Study Skills area on the student information page on the wiki at: http://portal.msm.qld.edu.au/sites/resources/studinfo/Study/Home.aspx to find:

• A semester calendar/planner complete with the days indicated for the 10 day cycle and the events relevant to the students during the term
• Learning and Study Tips— including tips for better organisation, balance, planning and effective application to studies.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WEEKLY TUTORIAL SESSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>SCIENCE</th>
<th>MATHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3:15-4pm</td>
<td>Monday 3:15-4pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 7:45-8:15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library (Biology and Chemistry)</td>
<td>IO1 (Y8-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 7:45-8:15am</td>
<td>Thursday 3:15-4:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>122- Chemistry</td>
<td>K11 (Yr10-12), K14 (Yr 10-12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At the end of Year 12, all students will receive a statement indicating the subjects studied and results achieved.

Students who meet specific criteria will receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). In order to be eligible to receive a QCE, students must:

- Pass at least one semester of English or English Communication; and
- Pass at least one semester of Maths (A, B or PV); and
- Achieve 20 credits, 12 of which come from three subjects continued for the whole of Year 11 and 12.

The 20 credits can be made up of:

- Semesters completed of subjects which students pass at exit
- Certificate III completion

In other words, you need to have a subject mix which is right for you, achieve a ‘C’ standard, complete your VETiS modules and ensure that if you change subjects, you will still be QCE eligible.

VETiS Pathway (Vocational Education and Training in School)

- Students complete Certificate III via TAFE course or traineeship
- Subject mix: less than 5 authority subjects
- Approx 25% of students
- Students access university or TAFE courses in Queensland after Year 12
- Eligible students receive a QCE
- QCST can increase individual rank, students are encouraged to sit for it
- If applying for tertiary studies, QTAC will calculate a tertiary selection rank for OP ineligible students

Tertiary Rank Selection Pathway students learn in practical ways. They must be extremely well-organised.

OP-Eligible Pathway

- Students focus on their academic work
- Subject mix: 5 or 6 authority subjects
- Students access university or TAFE courses after Year 12
- Eligible students receive a QCE
- Students must sit the QCST

OP Eligible students place priority on their academic work. They must have a balance in their lives between study, work and leisure.

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover” - Mark Twain
WORK EXPERIENCE

A Worthwhile Opportunity!

- Work Experience Week 22-26 June 2015 (first week of June holidays)
- Students can opt to participate in a 5-day work experience placement
- Placements are organized by Worklinks, cost $88
- Forms and online payments are due 27 February to Student Reception; all forms on LMS
- After students are notified of placement, they organise to meet their employer and contractual documentation is to be returned to the College
- Work experience induction during Term 1 Exam Block
- Students give information to Worklinks regarding the type of placement they would like - ranging from architecture, creative industries, vet surgery, research, pharmacy, teaching. Note that placements in the medical area are not available; and that students will not necessarily receive a placement in the students’ first preference for a career option.

IMPORTANT CAREER DEVELOPMENT WEBSITES:

Student Connect – where students access records of their Learning during Year 12 and beyond
www.studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au

My Future – comprehensive guide to careers, jobs and training - www.myfuture.edu.au

Australian Jobs 2014 – the best resource to answer the question “Are there jobs in this field”?
http://docs.employment.gov.au/node/32635

Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) – best way to research courses – every course in Qld listed - www.qtac.edu.au

DATES FOR YOUR 2015 FRIDGE CALENDAR:

National Careers & Employment Expo
(Brisbane Convention Centre)
29-30 May 2015

Tertiary Studies Expo
(RNA Showground)
18 & 19 July 2015
http://www.tsxpo.org/event.php