A feature that distinguishes this College from other High Schools is its Christian ethos of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East. This ethos permeates throughout the College. It is ingrained in our culture and all activities are done from this perspective. This Christian culture is evident in many aspects of the school, including: its policies and other documents; teaching of the subjects; Welfare Policies and Pastoral Care; regular celebration of Mass; celebration of feasts days; the provision of Christian Study for all students as part of the curriculum; the Chaplain service; the participation of all students in Spiritual Days; Staff Spiritual Days; the importance of praying - students say prayers in the morning, before recess, before lunch and before leaving school for the afternoon; every staff meeting starts with a prayers; the role of Religious Coordinator and the Religious Committee; staff and student participation in fundraising for the poor and many charities.

During Week 5, Year 10 students were involved in Work Experience. Work Experience provides students with the opportunity to participate in a workplace environment which assists the students with the transition from school to post school life. It also helps students understand the relationship between their school studies and the world of work, and to develop a greater awareness of their abilities and interests. The students reported that the program was very useful and enjoyable. We would like to thank Ms S. Isaac (College Careers Advisor) for her great organisation and commitment to the program.

Year 6 to 7 Principal interviews were also held in Week 5. All students enrolling for Year 7, 2017 were interviewed with their parents. At this stage we have well over 90 students enrolling in Year 7, 2017. Most of them are from St Hurmizd but there are about 20 or so students from other local primary schools. I would like to thank Ms A. Shakir (Pastoral Care Coordinator) and Mr. P. Bottaro (Year 7 Coordinator) for their invaluable assistance in conducting the interviews. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Maria Pacenza (the College secretary) the very efficient organisation behind the scene.

The ICT-One to One program, where students need to bring a laptop to school is progressing well. Almost every student has now in possession of their own laptop. This means that the integration of ICT in teaching and learning can progress effectively. I would like to thank parents for their assistance in this program and please encourage to bring their laptops (fully charged) every day.

Year 11 students will be start their annual exams this coming Friday. Having completed these exams, the students will then start entering the HSC study program. Also, we have decided that Term 3 Interim Report regarding Years 7 to 10 students’ progress will be issued in Week 9 of this Term. This is the first time that the college has done this and the initiative aims at keeping the parents and students informed regarding their performance.

During Week 6, the new college student leadership for 2017 was elected by the student body. This includes the captains, vice-captains and the prefects. The successful students will be announced over the next few weeks. These leaders play a vital role in the life of the College and I would like to thank Mr C. Hardman for his hard work in getting this done.

I would like to remind parents that the Year 12 Student Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, 14th September at Edessa Hall, starting at 6.00 pm. All parents and relatives are invited to attend to support the graduands. We wish the Year 12 well and to study hard in preparation for the HSC.

God Bless
A Rufo
Principal
Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

As we come closer to the end of the 2016 HSC course, our year 12 students have returned to their normal learning activities, where they are completing the remainder of their courses’ content. A number of these year 12 students have been very busy in the last few weeks putting the final touches on their major practical projects or major works.

Next week, the college is organising Year 12 Student/ Teacher interviews to distribute Semester Two reports and allow for fruitful discussions to take place about student performance to date.

The Year 11 cohort commenced their end of year examinations today in the school hall. During their six day exams, a number of students will have to sit two exams per day. Students will be permitted to leave school grounds after their exams and will not be required to attend the college if they have no exam scheduled for the day.

Students are also reminded that usual examination rules and procedures apply during this major assessment event. Some of these rules include, being on time, having the right equipment for the examinations and not bringing restricted materials or equipment into the examination hall.

Additionally, the college is organising a Year 11 Semester Two Student/ Teacher interviews in week 2 next term. Semester Two reports will be distributed during these interviews. More details will be provided closer to the date.

2016 NAPLAN student reports in individual sealed envelops were distributed to all year 7 and 9 students last week to take home. Parents are reminded to keep these important reports in a safe and handy place for future reference. Please contact the college if you have not received your child’s 2016 NAPLAN report.

The college is keen to investigate how homework is perceived by members of our college community and to take action based on the data we collect. To this end, from next week we will be sending home with your child paper based Parents’ Homework Surveys. We ask that parents fill a survey for each child (Years 7-10) based on their year level, if they have more than one child at the college.

Teachers and students will complete their surveys at school throughout next week.

Thank You,
Mr. E. Dinkha
College Event

Year 7 & 8 Cooking Club

“We never give more honour to Jesus than when we honour his Mother, and we honour her simply and solely to honour him all the more perfectly. We go to her only as a way leading to the goal we seek - Jesus, her Son.” – Church Fathers

Over the last two weeks, the year 7 & 8 cooking club students have been making vegan only dishes due to the fast that commemorates the Feast of St Mary. The fast of Saint Mary is greatly recognised and takes place to commemorate her greatness. This fast starts on the 1st of August and ends on the 15th of August. During this time, the faithful of the Assyrian Church of the East fast from meat, dairy and seafood. By abstaining from certain foods, we are growing spiritually and remembering to pray and give thanks for all that God has given us. St Mary is the mother of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Mary of Nazareth is one of the few women in the ancient world whose whole life story we know: as a girl, mother and mature woman. Mary was a woman chosen by God to be the mother of His son, Jesus Christ.

As part of cooking club, Ms David and Ms Georges chose only vegan recipes during the fast. First week we were taught how to make vegan brownies. They were very easy to make and tasted great. During our second session, we made vegan burgers with a side of homemade fries.

The dishes we have made so far have tasted great and all the students are having lots of fun and learning new techniques. We are excited about the weeks to come to see what’s on the menu next!
Seleucia House Daffodil Day Fundraiser

Daffodil Day is one of Australia’s best known and most popular fundraising events. The vibrant yellow daffodil represents hope and a continuing fight against cancer. The general public are encouraged to join the fundraising efforts to help defeat cancer and that’s exactly what the Seleucia house did on the 26th of August.

Eager Seleucia house students throughout years 9 and 10 gathered together on Friday morning ready to assist those in need. Our year 10 group had the morning shift and without dawdling we were off to Carnes Hill shopping centre to set the table and start selling.

Once there, the bright yellow table was ready and bursting with daffodil merchandise. We only had beautiful, fresh daffodils to sell as opposed to the usual merchandise but nonetheless people were already approaching the table in interest. Countless of people approached the table commending us on our efforts whilst buying the daffodils for themselves. As the day went on we saw people of all ages and colour donate willingly or actively walk up to us and ask us what the whole setup was about, after explaining they were keen to support the Cancer Council.

After selling almost all the daffodils we packed up and moved to Bonnyrigg shopping centre, where the next two groups would be selling the merchandise. The students of snacc also supported the charity on Tuesday, buying any leftover merchandise and gladly donating great amounts of money.

Collectively, we raised $1550.85 and on behalf of the Seleucia house we would like to thank all those who bought merchandise and donated money, your efforts will be greatly appreciated by those suffering from the terrible illness. We would also like to thank the teachers who contributed and organised the morally rewarding event.

Written by: Edessa Shmoel

Year 10
On Friday 26\textsuperscript{th} August 2016, Year 12 students attended their final excursion together as a cohort. A Spiritual Day was organised for the grade at Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa. The theme of the day was 'strength', strength through Christ and one another.

The day started off with prayers, poems and bible readings, by both students and Rev Ninos Elya. Students then enjoyed a beautiful morning tea prepared by Mrs. Joseph. Students munched on their crumpets, raisin toasts and nibbles out in the sun room and lawn before starting their main spiritual activity.

Students engaged in a replica of the infamous ‘Amazing Race’ in Mt Schoenstatt’s Challenge Valley. They were divided into small groups, given maps of the Valley which lead them to various stations where they had to perform certain activities before collecting their next clue. These activities took students back to biblical ages; helping Christ’s disciples catch fish in Galilee, save their friend from the burning city of Sodom and Gomorrah, and making it through the narrow gate. These activities involved some sort of strength, whether visionary, intellectually or physically. Congratulations to the Brown team, who won the race. They included Isabella Daniel, Joseph Moushi, Sarah Akram, Diana Ieso and Michael Younan.

We all undoubtedly rely on God’s strength every day of our lives, some days more than others. As Christians, we are freely given this strength and comfort from Christ, however it is up to us whether we ask for and accept it. The scriptures tell us that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Nothing is ever too difficult or challenging if we seek the Lord. As the students prepare for the final HSC exams and the stress builds up, life may seem too difficult or hard. However, their strength should rely solely on the Lord who will guide and protect them during this time. I wish all the Year 12 students the very best in their final weeks of schooling and their HSC. May the Lord’s strength be a pillar of hope for you all. Remind yourselves of the prayer said on the day in such difficult times.

**Prayer- Give Me Strength, Lord**

Lord, you are Holy above all others, and all of the strength that I need is in your hands. I am not asking, Lord, that you take this trial away. Instead, I simply ask that Your will be done in my life. Whatever that means, that is what I want.

But I admit that it's hard, Lord. Sometimes I feel like I can't go on. The pain and the fear are too much for me, and I know that I don't have the strength on my own to get through this. I know that I can come to you, Jesus, and that you will hear my prayer. I know that it is not your intent to bring me to this point just to leave me in the wilderness alone.

Please, Lord, give me the strength that I need to face today. I don't have to worry about tomorrow. If you just give me the strength that I need today that is all I need. Keep me from sinning during this trial. Instead, help me to keep my eyes on you. You are the Holy Lord, and all of my hope rests in you.

Thank you for hearing my prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I would also like to thank Miss Jessica Kako and Deacon Ramen Youkhanis for the assistance on and prior to the day. It wouldn’t have been a success without your help and input.

Miss. Sandy Nona

Christian Studies teacher
All Parents and Friends of St Narsai Assyrian Christian College are invited Parents and Friends (P&F) Association meeting

Details of the meeting are as follows:

- Date: Tuesday 6th September 2016
- Time: 6.00pm – 7.00pm
- Venue: College Library

Educational Session:

*New College Site Update – Mr. Paul Leotta*

*(Paul will up-date the P&F regarding progress of the new college & when we will be moving to the new site at Horsley Park)*
AKAD UNIFORM SHOP
School uniforms are now in stock and available from AKAD uniform store
Open Monday and Tuesday
 9am-11am
Wednesday
2:30pm-4:30pm
7-9 Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Park

**School Hours**
8:40 am
To
3:00 pm
**Office Hours**
8:am
To
4pm
Monday to Friday
Tel: 9753 0700
Fax: 9753 0800
**Website**
WWW.snac.nsw.edu.au
**Email Address**
school.office@snac.nsw.edu.au

Need to talk? Kids Helpline counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Nothing is too big or too small to call us

Help is available. No one needs to face their problems alone.

Call Lifeline on 13 11 14 for support or dial 000 if life is in danger.

**Parentline**

Parent line is a confidential telephone counselling service providing professional counselling and support for parents and those who care for children.

Phone: 1300 1300 52 (cost of a local call) - 24 hours a day, seven days a week- [www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au)