

Magis Matters

June 2026

Across Sydney Catholic Schools, there is so much to celebrate. This month's newsletter highlights the extraordinary achievements, talent and spirit of our students and staff from leadership formation and VET success to inspiring performances in the arts, sport and community life.

It's an exciting time for our system as we work to bring the mission, vision and values of *Magis 2033* to life, ensuring that everything we do remains centred on forming young people who flourish in learning, faith and wellbeing.

Danielle Cronin, Executive Director



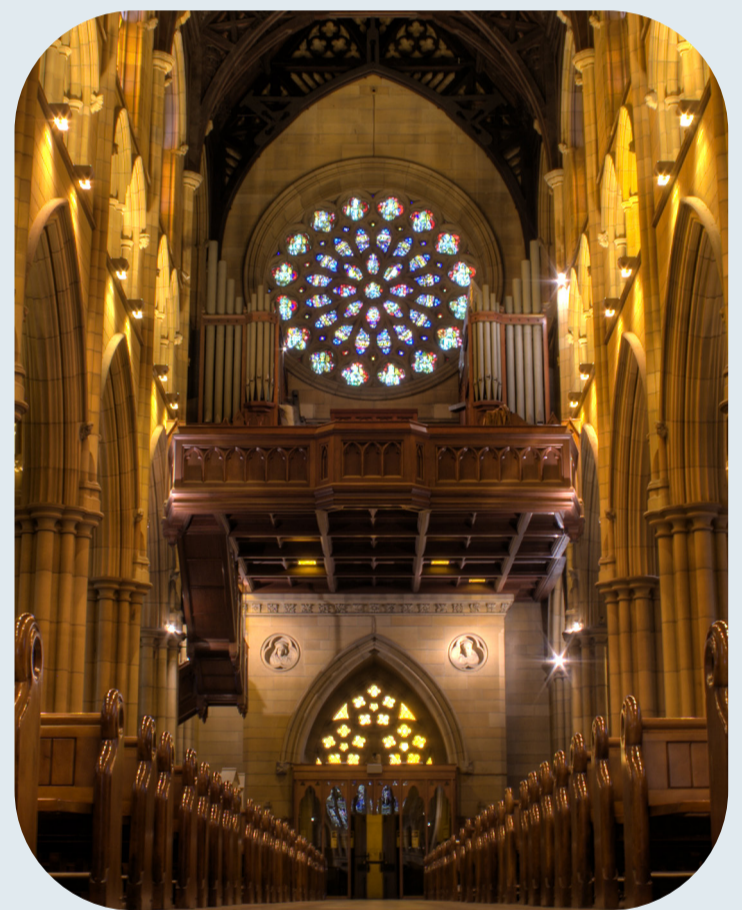
Sydney Catholic Schools emblem to reflect our next chapter

In Term 3, Sydney Catholic Schools will unveil a refreshed look that visually reflects our shared mission, Catholic identity and vision for the future.

While Sydney Harbour and its iconic landmarks have served as a familiar visual shorthand for the city, they represent only a small fragment of the communities we serve. Our 147 schools are part of a diverse and vibrant network across Greater Sydney - north to south, east to west - each with its own unique story, community and character.

The refreshed design intentionally anchors our identity in something deeper. Inspired by the heart of the Archdiocese, it reflects the unifying foundation that connects every school community, regardless of location.

In anticipation of the launch, we've created the [System Identity Hub](#) where you can find more information about what's coming. Stay tuned for the big reveal!



Bringing the Sistine Chapel to life

From students exploring artistic mastery to staff experiencing one of the world's greatest cultural treasures, the Sistine Chapel Exhibition: Revelations continues to inspire members of the Sydney Catholic Schools community.

Some of our gifted and talented visual arts students recently had the opportunity to engage with the exhibition as part of their learning, gaining new perspectives on creativity, storytelling and the enduring power of sacred art. [Their reflections](#) highlight the impact of seeing these iconic works up close in an immersive and accessible way.

The exhibition has also proven popular with [staff across schools and Central Office teams](#), offering a unique opportunity to connect with art, faith and history in a truly memorable setting.

[Schools and staff can take advantage of discounted tickets](#) with exhibition running until 19 July.



All the way with MBAs for SCS leaders

Sydney Catholic Schools congratulates Julie Straub, Nicole Jones, Kelly Bouris, Antonella Mazzucco, Erin McCluskey, Natali Tomic, Michael Hobson, Mark Abad and David Parawa on their graduation from the Master of Business Administration (Educational Leadership & Management) program through The University of Notre Dame Australia.

Throughout the program, participants collaborated closely, sharing insights and experiences from across Sydney Catholic Schools' diverse communities, demonstrating their ongoing commitment to leadership and educational excellence.

Principal Antonella Mazzucco shared, "Learning alongside colleagues from across Sydney Catholic Schools was one of the most rewarding parts of the MBA. It challenged my thinking, strengthened my leadership and reinforced the power of leading with faith, purpose and a system-wide perspective."



Triathlete teacher goes global

We know that we have some of the country's most dedicated educators in our schools, but we also love hearing about the inspiring feats of our staff outside of the classroom. Year 1 teacher Avril Flood from Galilee Catholic Primary School Bondi will be heading to Nice, France in September to compete in the 2026 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championship! Avril qualified for the event after clocking an impressive time in the IRONMAN 70.3 Western Sydney event in May. Good luck in France, Avril!



Shaping our Philosophy of Education together

Work is continuing on the development of the Sydney Catholic Schools Philosophy of Education, a key initiative of *Magis 2033* that will help articulate our shared vision for Catholic education across the system.

Over recent months, leaders from across Sydney Catholic Schools have come together to contribute their insights and expertise through a series of workshops and consultations. Guided by theological input from Father Greg Morgan, these conversations have explored what it means to educate and form the whole person, helping shape key elements of the framework, including our Image of the Child, Graduate Profile and Integral Formation Framework.

The strong engagement from leaders across our system is helping build a Philosophy of Education that is both deeply grounded in our Catholic tradition and meaningful for schools, strengthening our shared mission and vision.



Embedding of our Mission, Vision and Values

One key project being led by People and Culture is the Embedding of our Mission, Vision and Values, helping to further integrate the new strategy in our day-to-day working lives. The team has been busy leading reference group sessions with Principals, RECs, Clergy, leaders and other stakeholders on practical ways all staff can share in strengthening the meaning and purpose behind this important work.



Excellence in VET recognised across Sydney's south & south-west

Sydney Catholic Schools has once again been recognised for excellence in Vocational Education and Training, with students and staff achieving outstanding results at the South & South Western Sydney Training Awards.

The awards recognise students and educators who are excelling in hands-on learning, workplace training and industry pathways, equipping young people with the skills and confidence to thrive in future careers.

Congratulations to Isaac Nassif from Southern Cross Catholic College Burwood, named VET in Schools Student of the Year; Lara Duffy from St Aloysius College Cronulla, awarded School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year; and James Kotselas from Southern Cross Catholic College, recognised as VET Teacher/Trainer of the Year.

SCS in the news

Here's some recent media coverage highlighting some of the many ways our schools are responding to the needs of students and families in thoughtful and innovative ways.

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic College Burraneer was featured on [Channel 10 News](#) in a story exploring how schools are helping students develop healthy relationships with technology, including balancing screen-based learning with traditional approaches such as handwriting.

[The Sydney Morning Herald](#) also visited St Charles Catholic Primary School Ryde to learn more about the school's approach to homework and how it supports family time, wellbeing and learning beyond the classroom.



Shakespeare gets the SCS treatment

There were tears, laughter and all-round rave reviews for Sydney Catholic Schools' production of *The Shakespeare Project*, an original musical devised by our staff and students in conjunction with the National Institute of Dramatic Art and Bell Shakespeare. The production featured 28 students from the 13 different schools as part of the Artists' Evolution Program, brilliantly bringing the work of The Bard to life in a whole new way. [Read more](#) about the production and check out our [image gallery](#).



All in for Reconciliation Week

From May 27 to 3 June, Sydney Catholic Schools joined the nation in recognising National Reconciliation Week. More than 1,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, teachers and support staff are part of our SCS community. We are privileged to learn from their cultures, stories and experiences as we continue our shared journey of reconciliation. [This video](#) of the inaugural Sydney Catholic Schools U15 Rugby League First Nations clash is a powerful example of how we celebrate culture and connection across our system.

Have something you want to share in the next newsletter? Email your good news to communications@scs.catholic.edu

