

Week 10 | Term 3 | 2024

Parklife

NEWSLETTER

From the Principals Desk

It gives me immense pleasure to congratulate the Graduation Class of 2024. What an achievement, thirteen years of schooling completed! I want to congratulate each and every student for making it to this moment. It has been a long road, filled with challenges, triumphs, and so much learning. Graduation marks the end of one chapter and the exciting start of another. Year 12 has shown dedication and strength, not just with their studies but in the way they have supported one another, creating a community that embodies care and respect. As they move forward, I hope they remember the lessons they have learned at school - not just from textbooks and lessons, but from one another and the friendships throughout their schooling. I would like to wish them the very best for the future. As students prepare to sit their HSC examinations next term, remember all the hard work that has led to this moment. Good luck, and remember - the exams are only part of your journey, not the destination! 'Dream big, work hard and don't forget to laugh along the way!'

Our robotics team continues to succeed and deliver impressive results. We had 6 incredible teams who competed in the 2024 Universal Robotics Challenge Idea Contest Division. All of our teams achieved a place in the top ten, as follows equal first, equal second, equal second, sixth, seventh and tenth place in Australia. We are also proud to be one of six NSW STEAM Lighthouse Schools of Excellence in Robotics and STEAM Education. Congratulations to all staff and students involved. We look forward to supporting our students at the International Final later this year!

The students and staff have had the opportunity to vote for our new 2025 Leadership Team. Congratulations to our 2025 School Captains, Aijanah Valencia and Max Bowen, our School Vice-Captains Ha Ruby Phan and Kimi Cruz, as well as Angelique Adams, Lana Khorn, Jaimee Ngo, Edison Nguy, Marcus Nguyen and Ngoc Pham as our prefects. Congratulations and I am positive they will be wonderful ambassadors for our school.

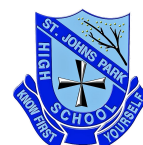


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Important Dates

- Monday 14 October - Students return back to school
- Monday 21 October - Year 7 Gala Day
- Monday 21 October - Leadership by the Cowpasture
- Tuesday 22 October - Year 8 Gala Day
- Friday 25 October - Diverse Learners Gala Day
- Thursday 31 October - Student Leadership Camp
- Friday 8 November - Scholarships 2025 Applications Close



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Message to Year 12

Congratulations on your graduation from St Johns Park High School. We'd like to take this opportunity to applaud the effort and dedication you have put in over the past thirteen years of schooling to come this far! The unity and spirit of the Class of 2024 is to be commended. Whether you plan to go and seek further education at university, TAFE, college or go straight into the workforce, you should feel prepared and confident to face these new challenges in life. As you step into the world beyond school, we want to leave you with this fun and simple reminder: 'Be a fruit loop in a world full of Cheerios.' Don't be afraid to stand out, be bold, and embrace what makes you unique. The world needs more of that! Good luck Year 12 and best wishes for the future!

Subject Selection

Subject Selection for Year 10 has now been finalised. Students who have yet to bring in their signed subject selection form must do so as soon as possible, to Ms Andrew. Students will be notified of successful subjects during Term 4, prior to EX-10-SION. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be provided with the opportunity to select subjects for 2025 early next term. Students need to start thinking about the subjects they are good at and what they enjoy doing. More information on Subject Selection for Years 7-9 will be provided at the beginning of Term 4.

Social Networking Restrictions

The NSW Department of Education is making important changes to help keep our students safe online, reduce the risk of cyber threats and make sure their email accounts are used for intended educational purposes only. Starting Term 4, students will not be able to use their student email address to sign up for, or recover access to any social media, gaming, instant messaging or similar accounts. If you have signed up for a social media, family, instant messaging or similar account using your student email address, please change it to a personal email address on all platforms by Sunday 13 October 2024 to make sure you do not lost access to the account.

Uniform

St Johns Park High School takes pride in our reputation as a school choice for our community. As the weather begins to get warmer, we ask for your support in ensuring the students are in the correct uniform each day, whether it be full school uniform or full sports uniform.

- Beanies and hoodies are not part of the school uniform
- School shirts must be buttoned and undershirts must be plain white in colour
- Make sure to wear black leather shoes when in school uniform and sports shoes for sports uniform

We wish our school community a safe and happy holiday break. See you back next term!



R/ Dep. Principal

Ms Donna Draper
(F)



Dep. Principal

Mr Steven Daoud



R/ Dep. Principal

Mr Paul De Carli



Dep. Principal

Ms Maha Adler



Congratulations Year 12



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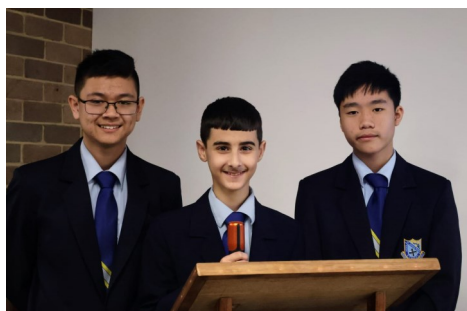
STEAM Robotics Exhibition

STEAM Robotics Exhibition

We are grateful to everyone who attended our Robotics Exhibition. Your support played a crucial role in the event's success. We were impressed by the creativity and innovation showcased by our talented students. Seeing our students' hard work come to life was so inspiring.



Innovative learning drives strong student educational outcomes



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STEAM Robotics Exhibition

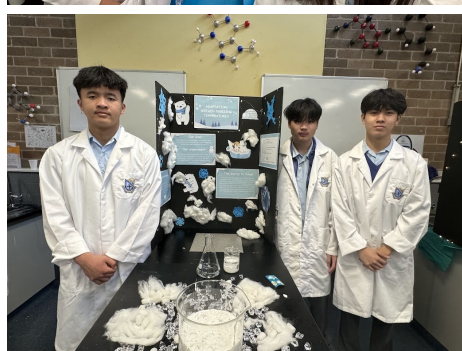
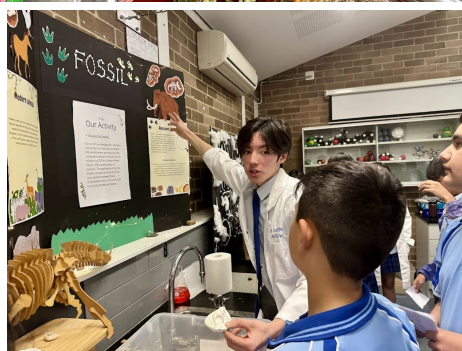
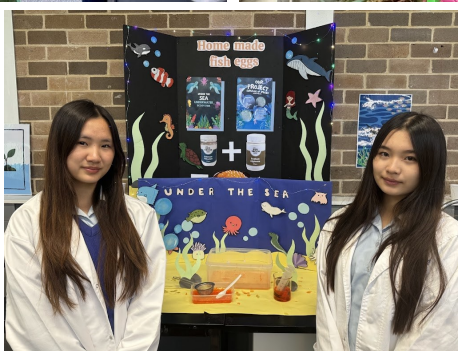




National Science Week Show

Year 10R Science Week Show

Our science students in 10R celebrated National Science Week by hosting a Science Week Show. The theme this year is 'Species Survival - More than just sustainability'. Our Year 7 students were fully engaged with fun and interactive activities. Well done to everyone involved!





Year 12 HSC Music Showcase

Year 12 HSC Music Showcase

It was a celebration of musical excellence featuring students who delivered captivating performances of various musical styles, highlighting their commitment, artistic expression, and passion for music, warranting recognition for their achievements and the guidance of their teachers.



Encouraging students to pursue their interests

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Wear it Purple Day

Wear it Purple Day

Our wonderful SRC celebrated 'Wear it Purple Day', a day that strives to foster a safe and supportive environment for all students to belong. They celebrated with a bake sale, creating a student hand mural and much more!



Promoting an inclusive school community where every student can achieve their best



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Year 7 and 8 Incursion

Backflips Against Bullying

Year 7 and 8 thoroughly enjoyed the Backflips Against Bullying incursion. This interactive performance, with many flips and tricks, explored a variety of bullying issues that affect teenagers in society. We believe the students walked away from the performance realising that any form of bullying is not acceptable and knowing how to deal with it and seek help if it arises.



Year 9 Visual Arts Excursion

Archibald Prize Exhibition

It was a perfect day for Year 9 Visual Arts students to explore The Archibald Prize exhibition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and spend some time drawing in the Botanical Gardens.





Student Leadership Planning

Leadership by the Cowpasture - Student Planning

Students from our student leadership teams participated in a planning day for the Leadership by the Cowpasture event early next term. It was amazing to see all students collaborating and productive!



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House and PR Team Celebration

Celebrating the HOUSE and PR Student Leadership Team

We extend a huge thank you to the extraordinary students of our House, Public Relations and STEAM mentor teams for their remarkable service to our school community this year. Their dedication is the driving force behind our accomplishments.

Thank you to The Doughnut Mum for sponsoring our event!





DOE Educational Pathways Program

DOE Educational Pathways Program - TAFE NSW Start Your Future

The Careers and Transition Team introduced and supported 53 students this term to an innovative program encouraging students to explore possible career pathways in the fields of Hospitality, Real Estate, Plumbing, Floristry, Hair and Beauty, IT Web Design, Nursing, Bricklaying, Barbering and Auto Mechanical.

The students attended the TAFE campus one day a week, experiencing practical demonstrations from highly qualified teaching staff and were given the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities to gain insight and knowledge in various industries.

The outcome of the program enables the students to make informed career choices to access Vocational Education and Training (VET) options. Additionally, students develop individual learning plans identifying courses and study options linked to their preferred careers in an adult learning environment, different from the school context.

Each student graduated, gaining a certificate reflecting their completion of the Start Your Future program. The Careers Advisor, Ms Andrew and Transition Advisor Mrs Welch were also invited to share in the celebrations with the Hospitality class and their families.



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EVET Funded Program Certificate II

Stage 6 Statement of Attainment - Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways

This course was delivered by the RTO JobQuest at school for two terms to a group of Year 11 Special Education students seeking to broaden their career options and enhance their employability and life skills. It was aimed at providing a head start and preparing them for future employment and training pathways.

It was a course that incorporated and focused on the fundamentals of foundation skills through project-based learning. These skills included language, literacy, numeracy, digital, and employability skills. The students had the opportunity to become familiar with a variety of online platforms, connect with each other as learners, and recognise and realise individual strengths and opportunities whilst developing a sense of belonging.

The group project was designed by the students, a morning tea celebrating Year 12 students graduating from school. Students had to design the invitations for students and staff, prepare the food and host the event. It was a huge success and all the students should feel very proud of their continual effort each week resulting in a fun and professional morning tea, enjoyed by both staff and students. A special thank you to the staff from JobQuest, SLSOs Ms Austin and Ms Bablanian, as well as Ms Welch and Ms Shamon for their support with the food preparation.





ACU Uni Step-Up Program

Focus on the ACU Uni Step-Up Program

Uni Step-Up is your chance to experience university life by studying two first-year units while you are still in senior secondary school.

Year 12 Student: Vivien Lam's Perspective

Why did I choose to complete the program?

I joined the Uni Step-Up program, specifically the business course because it was an exciting opportunity to experience the life of a university student, connect with new people and gain a deeper understanding of business studies before completing high school.

What did I learn from the program?

By studying two units of a business undergraduate degree, I have gained a profound understanding of accounting and financial management, specifically corporate social responsibility and sustainability. This knowledge has helped me analyse the impact of economic transactions on a business's financial health and make informed decisions using accounting information. Additionally, I have developed essential financial planning and forecasting skills that are applicable in both personal and professional settings.

I have also studied various applications of emerging technologies and thoroughly explored the ethical implications of information technology. Furthermore, this course has provided me with practical skills in using Microsoft Office applications and digital productivity tools, including a chance to obtain an industry certification by passing the Microsoft Excel Associate exam which is a qualification acknowledged and approved by employers. This has significantly improved my ICT literacy and knowledge of emerging technologies, enabling me to understand their effects on individuals, organisations, society, and the environment.

What are the benefits of the program?

The Uni Step-Up program allowed me to gain early admission to the Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Business Administration after completing two units. Additionally, completing two university units is free of charge and allows for the crediting of related undergraduate courses at ACU. This program offers the opportunity to gain a head start at university, enabling participants to explore a subject area and develop their academic writing skills. Furthermore, the small cohort size ensures regular access to mentoring from current university students and staff, so I highly recommend the Uni Step-Up program to any Year 11 student.





Classroom Feature

Classroom Feature - OALS1 & OLS1

Students in OALS1 and OLS1 have been looking at the topic of money, culminating in an end of term budgeting task. Students were given a surprise when their class was turned into a cinema. They were given a specific amount of money to purchase items, ensuring that they did not go over the budget. A big thank you to Mrs Annette Manduci for all her efforts in assisting with our lessons. The students (and staff) involved thoroughly enjoyed the task which supports students in gaining confidence that will support them when undertaking similar tasks in real world situations.



Preparing students for future success beyond the school gates





To the Class of 2024

Extract from the Year Advisors Graduation Speech

Tonight is the night we honour and celebrate the Graduating Class of 2024, as well as the parents, guardians, staff, family, and friends who helped these students along the way. Six long years of many ups and downs have led to this day and I congratulate you all for making it this far!

Firstly, I want you to know how fortunate I am to have been your Year Advisor since the day you started at St Johns Park High School, alongside Mr Ostojic, who has been a fantastic partner and team player. Thank you for all the interactions in the last six years, including the simple daily greetings and the smiles on your faces as our paths crossed. Thank you for all the friendships we created, the laughter we had, the welfare problems we worked through together, the tears we wiped away, and the respect shown. Know that your wellbeing has always been my number one priority, no matter how crazy things got.

Now let's talk about the last six years. Most of them have been memorable fun times, and some of them have been times I would rather forget. Most of you have been a breath of fresh air to deal with and some of you were more challenging. Don't worry, I won't mention any particular names.

From Year 7 we had fun together at camp and enjoyed watching you compete at various gala, swimming and athletics carnivals. Together, we faced the difficult times of COVID-19, where we thankfully had phone calls and ZOOM calls to keep us sane. I loved hanging out with you on Incentive Days, hearing about your roles as casual employees and watching you learn and grow. I enjoyed hearing stories about your life experiences, as well as some of your travels and seeing your photos. More recently we had some memorable times, especially with the Year 12 Formal Committee, designing your Year 12 Jackets (can I add the best jackets ever), and working together to fundraise and organise your Year 12 Formal.

What I have learned is that you have all matured in your own way and I hope that the things your teachers and I have said and done have helped you somehow along the way, whether it was academically, socially or mentally. This has led to the formation of you Year 12, a talented group of young adults who are academics, leaders, performers, and organisers. The awards you have received and the skills that you have learned from school, including the ability to research, work both independently and as part of a team, as well as realising the importance of time management and empathy will certainly help you further succeed in the future.

In saying all of this, please remember all the teachers and staff at St Johns Park High School, including Mr Moisisdis, Mr Daoud, and Ms Draper, who believed in you, guided you, gave you advice and supported you because they cared. They all pushed you to do more and gave you the tough love you needed to help you grow and be here today. Also, remember there is no greater love than the love of your parents, guardians, and grandparents who were there to continue this support and help you when you got home. Together, we have all worked hard to give you strong foundations so you can have a better brighter future.

In the years ahead, you will create many warm memorable moments, but you will also face many of life's challenges. Some will be easier than others. However, you can leave with the confidence that you have been exposed to a broad range of education and social experiences that will equip you to survive these challenging times ahead and achieve your goals, even if it takes a little longer than expected. Remember there is more than one way to achieve your dream. Give it your best shot and



To the Class of 2024

walk away with your head held high, with few regrets.

Once again, I have enjoyed being your Year Advisor during these past six years, being there for the good times but also helping you deal with all of life's challenges. Remember to believe in yourself, allow yourself to continue to learn and grow, keep supporting each other. Remember to listen to the advice from your family and do things you are proud of. Good luck in the future and please make sure you come back and visit us to tell us how you are going.



Ms H Magriopoulos - Year 12 Year Advisor 2024

Dear graduating class of 2024,

Over the past six years, we have worked on a special project. This moment marks both the ending of that project and the beginning of a new one. I would like to reflect on some of the important events from your time at St Johns Park High School and share some positive words about your future.

From the very first day of high school, I knew that this group was special. Upon meeting you for the first time as your Year Advisor, I experienced warmth, curiosity, humour, openness, and excitement. I remember our first time together as a group in the MPC of St Johns Park High School. I remember meeting you and reading your names for the first time. I remember being there from the very start.

Over these six years, we have attempted to provide you with advice and guidance. We have organised various opportunities such as Year 7 Camp, Year 7 Meet and Greet, the Year 9 parkour and acrobatics performance where we learned about resilience and strategies to deal with the challenges of high school, Incentive Days, Year 10 Picnic Day, Year 11 Crossroads Camp, and of course the Year 12 Formal. While I am proud of the hard work that we have put into this role, it has not gone unrewarded. In return, we received warm greetings on cold mornings, messages of appreciation delivered to our pigeonholes, words of encouragement, and a great deal of respect.

As a group of young adults, you have formed bonds that may be stronger than you know. As friends, you now have people who you can trust, people who you can learn from, and people who can help you during hard times. Over the coming months and years, you will see your friends be given new opportunities that will, at times, take them away from you. They find new friends, or partners, or be offered a job, perhaps far away, or demanding much of their time. This period of rapid growth may seem unusual, but it is a vital and necessary step to adapting to adulthood. While I encourage you to maintain the strong bonds that you have with each other, I also ask that you give your friends space and encouragement to grow as individuals.

Finally, I would like to ask you to do the following: speak positively, work hard, and do this every day. Whatever life you desire for yourself, affirm it with others, and it will help you both. Constantly think about and visualise your desired future. If you focus on something for long enough, then thought will lead to action, and one thing will lead to another. By doing these things, you are sure to turn your dreams into reality.

With those words, I bid you farewell and wish you a bright future. Celebrate proudly with friends and family, and good luck in your HSC examinations.



Mr K Ostojic - Year 12 Year Advisor 2024



School Captain Messages

School Captains' Address

I always used to believe leaders were born, but after my six years of education at St Johns Park High School, I now know leaders are not born but created from the experiences they endure.

Education has guided me to become a motivated and hard-working student. I have learned to take every opportunity as a blessing and how to turn my biggest failures into my greatest successes. Most importantly, I have mastered the art of directing my mind to a goal and never taking no for an answer. Hence, my dream in the future is to bring equality to all because nobody should have to travel countries for the chance to have an acceptable future.

I would like to thank my parents for providing me with the opportunity to explore my curiosity, motivating me to work my hardest but also for giving up their life of comfort so I could have the chance to become someone great. Thank you to my teachers who never gave up on me when times were rough but instead assisted me in ensuring I maximise my grades. Finally, thank you to my best friend Erina and every friend I made along the way, they all taught me that being a Captain is not a title, but a chance to advocate and change a community.

I have complete trust that the 2025 leadership team will change our community for the better as they are some of the most dedicated people I have ever met.

I am forever grateful for the trust all of you instilled in me to be your voice and School Captain. If I was given the chance, I would not trade this role for the world. Thank you St Johns Park High School for shaping me to be the person I am today, as this school does not only teach students but creates people who have the power to change the world.

Wherever I am in the future, I know that I will always remember the positive impact you all have had on my life. Thank you.

Nidhi Sharma **School Captain 2024**



As my time at St Johns Park High School comes to an end, I can't help but reflect on the incredible journey we've all shared. From the nervous excitement of Year 7, to the milestones of Year 12, high school has been full of lessons, challenges, and unforgettable moments.

To my teachers, friends, and family - thank you. Your support, patience, and belief in me have made all the difference. I've learned the importance of resilience, kindness, and the power of community. These lessons will stay with me as I step into the next chapter.

To the new School Captains, embrace the journey. Lead with passion and purpose, and remember to make the most of every moment.

To everyone, thank you for the memories and the growth. The future is bright and I am excited to see where we all go from here.

As we say goodbye, remember that this is just the beginning. The friendships, memories, and lessons we've gained here will continue to shape us in ways we can't even imagine. Thank you for entrusting me to be your proud 2024 School Captain. Farewell.

Savvas Touma **School Captain 2024**





School Captain Messages

School Vice-Captains' Address

The past six years have been the most insanely emotional and spontaneously exciting rollercoaster ride, consisting of academic challenges and friendships. I have mastered the art of resilience and have never been more content with myself. My studies have brought many emotions, some sorrowful but most extremely joyous. I hope to use all the scientific knowledge that I have accumulated to return the favour and help the research in the academic field of neurobiology.

I am thankful and grateful for the opportunity to serve St Johns Park High School as your 2024 School Vice-Captain. It has taught me the significance of working together, listening to every voice, and most importantly, understanding the importance of showing up. It has allowed me to understand how important it is for me to always attend meetings and to complete things on time. It is a skill that I am fortunate to learn and will bring with me to the future.

I am confident that the 2025 leadership team will thrive. I entrust that they will fulfil their roles and one day write this message, speaking about their own great experiences.

There is so much to say and too few words to describe it. This episode of my life will always be the most impactful and thus, engraved in my memories. St Johns Park High School, thank you for such a grand experience.

Rachana Oeng **School Vice-Captain 2024**



I can't help but reflect on my time here at St Johns Park High School, a chapter filled with challenges, growth, and unforgettable experiences. Each year brought new lessons, not just in the classroom but also in life. From late-night study sessions (more like stressing sessions), group projects, sports competitions, and school events which were always chaotic but I wouldn't have it any other way, to the friendships forged and the laughter shared - high school has been a whirlwind of emotions and memories I will treasure forever.

None of this would have been possible without the support of so many incredible people. To my teachers, thank you for your dedication, patience, and for believing in us even when we doubted ourselves. To my friends, each bond is special in its own way and I'll never forget you. And to my family, thank you for the random check-ups, the fruit you would cut for me while I was working, and the surprise fruit drinks while I was stressed. I appreciate you the most.

Throughout this journey, I've learned many valuable lessons that I will carry with me. I've learned the importance of being out of your comfort zone; It has allowed me to consistently improve each day. I've learned the power of teamwork and how collaboration can turn challenges into opportunities. Looking to the future, I know that the foundations that I have built here will guide me forward. To the new School Captains, this is your time. I have full belief in your abilities.

Finally, as we prepare to close this chapter and step into the next, let's remember that high school is one part of our story. The friendships, lessons, and experiences we've shared are things we will carry with us. No matter where life takes us, we will always be connected by these years and by the memories we share.

Pete Vongsikeo **School Vice-Captain 2024**





Year 12 Graduation



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Year 12 Graduation



Congratulations Class of 2024!





SJPHS Scholarship Program



ST JOHNS PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Integrity • Respect • Honesty • Responsibility

Scholarship Program 2025

Our scholarships program encourages and enables all of our students to explore, enjoy and fulfil their potential.

Academic Scholarships

Awarded based on academic excellence and school reports.

Strive for Excellence Scholarships

Awarded based on attendance and commitment to school life and the wider community.

Who can apply?

- Year 7, 9, and 11 students in 2025

Visit our school website for more information and to apply.

Applications close **Friday 8 November 2024, 5:00 pm.**



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Student Achievements

Scrabble Champion

Congratulations to Nathan Tang for becoming the under 18 champion at the 2024 National Scrabble Championship.

For more information, click [here](#).



HSC Major Work - SHAPE Showcase

SHAPE is a selection of outstanding works from HSC Design and Technology, Industrial Technology and Textiles and Design students and will be held at the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct from March 2025.

Congratulations to Sara Charani on her HSC major work being nominated for inclusion in the SHAPE Showcase. This is an incredible achievement, especially considering that Sara had minimal experience working with timber prior to Stage 6. Her determination, patience and natural talent have clearly contributed to creating such a beautiful piece of work. Well done Sara!



ST JOHNS PARK HIGH SCHOOL

2025 School Captains & Prefects

School Captains



Aijanah Valencia



Max Bowen



School Vice-Captains



Ha Ruby Phan



Kimi Cruz

Prefects



Angelique Adams



Lana Khorn



Jaimee Ngo



Edison Nguy



Marcus Nguyen



Ngoc Pham

St Johns Park High School ensures the privacy of students, parents, and staff in our publications, including social media, our website, and e-newsletters. If permission was not given, or you wish for your child's information not to be included, contact the school via email.

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