SUPERPOWERS OF A JOHN PAUL COLLEGE STUDENT

CONFIDENT
Believing in self, inspiring others.

CONNECTED
Linking ideas, nurturing relationships.

COLLABORATIVE
Working together, forming partnerships.

RESPECTFUL
Celebrating diversity, serving community.

BALANCED
Achieving outcomes, enjoying pursuits.

CREATIVE
Exploring ideas, discovering possibilities.

INFLUENTIAL
Building the future, making a difference.

ADAPTIVE
Inspiring change, leading the way.

ENGAGED
Embracing learning, taking action.
Sir Ken proposes a highly personalised approach that engages all students to develop their love of learning, enabling them to face the real challenges of the 21st Century.

In his new book, “Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That’s Transforming Education”, he says that if you run an education system based on standardised testing and conformity, that suppresses individuality, imagination and creativity, don’t be surprised if that’s what it does. He acknowledges that standardised testing is not there to identify what individuals can do – it’s there to look at things to which they conform. He argues, instead, that we should be personalising everything in schools. We should be looking at ways of making education relevant to each individual child.

Creativity, entrepreneurship and global competence are the new basic skills which will challenge the traditional education system to produce students who will be the leaders of tomorrow. Such words, and ultimately the reality that John Paul College advocates for our learners, also align and are influenced by the Charter of the International Baccalaureate Organisation.

Our students are encouraged to think independently and drive their own learning, become more culturally aware and be able to engage with people in an increasingly globalised, rapidly changing world.

With strong leadership, great teachers and engaged and confident students, at John Paul College anything is possible.
From the Boardroom to the Classroom

John Paul College Year 11 student and CEO of his own company, Taj Pabari, is a 15 year old inventor, entrepreneur and educational pioneer with a passion for inspiring children in today's emerging 21st Century Digital Economy.

Taj made his entrepreneurial debut in Year 5 when he founded his first (informal) company: Technolog Online. This electronic blogging site raised enough to keep him in tuckshop money and ignited his creative mindset.

"John Paul College has always provided me with access to modern day technology and this has nurtured my creative mindset," Taj said.

"I got into gaming in Year 7 and attended a 'Start Up' weekend on the Gold Coast. The purpose was to provide a place for children with an interest in robotics and programming to gain and share ideas and projects with one another.

"I want to convince a person to create their own invention and not copy something that has already been invented," Bertha said.

"I am learning fencing and my Mum said I should consider trying archery. I love anything medieval." Mr Joel Bonomini, John Paul College's Gifted Education Facilitator, has been working with Bertha and her teachers since Year 1.

"This year, Bertha was accelerated from Year 5 to Year 6 and is now doing Year 7 Maths," Mr Bonomini said.

"Students like Bertha may not yet understand the concept of 'Yes'. They achieve because it all narrows down to us saying 'yes'," said Mr Bonomini.

When a school says 'yes' a student can do whatever they want to do and they drive the outcome.

Bertha has been at John Paul College since Year 1. She wants to be a Mathematician when she finishes school and Maths is her favourite subject.

Her website is www.littlenfcbits.wix.com/bits

Championing Change is for Life

Championing change is a passion for Year 11 student, Mark Van Wijk.

The Red Cross Blood Service and World Vision Youth Ambassador is on a mission to foster the idea that charitable giving (of time and money) should be a lifetime activity.

Mark says his confidence had grown through opportunities to participate in acts of service and attendance at external leadership and training days. In addition to excelling academically, Mark is currently helping to organise a World Vision 40 Hour Famine event where he has already encouraged 150 students to give up food for 40 hours and hopes to raise $6,000 in the process.

He co-ordinates the Red Cross Blood Van visit to campus, volunteers for Rosie’s Street Van and the Salvation Army and participates in other College fundraising events.

Mark spread his charitable wings last year and travelled to Nepal and India to work in orphages selected. My project was a customised tablet and I ran a crowd funded campaign which raised nearly $10,000 to allow me to start up my business."

In late 2014, Taj founded Fiftysix, an exciting and interactive way for children to immerse themselves in innovative technology through continuous creative and entertaining education.

"I wanted to ignite the creative spark in all children by allowing them to build and customise their very own tablet, along the way learning what really makes it go," Taj said.

The kit, aimed at children aged four to 14, is the product of his passions for Lego and information and communication technology.

His big break came when he met an ICT education specialist who liked his idea and offered to become his Angel Investor.

Taj developed the product and, as CEO, he assembled a team of young entrepreneurs to be part of his company.

As winner of The Australian Young Innovator of the Year in 2014, Taj has been on a steep learning curve.

He says pitching to business heavyweights as a young teenager has been "an interesting process, but age hasn’t been a barrier."

"If you have the passion, the vision and the mindset to see your product going global, age really isn’t a limit."

Taj is also one of the Co-founders of The National Entrepreneur, an organisation providing opportunities for a new generation to beat the poverty trap in underprivileged communities around the globe.

Taj will continue running his own business when he finishes school and will study psychology to help him to understand the venture capital mindset. He has been at John Paul College since preschool and divides his remaining time between tennis, martial arts and travelling. His website is www.hellofiftysix.com

The Power of ‘Yes’

Year 6 student, Bertha Park has used her superpowers to design a project for the Young ICT Explorers Competition being held at the University of Queensland.

In this competition, students are challenged to create an IT based project that will either enhance the lives of people in the community or raise awareness of ICT opportunities for young people. She has been selected for the finals and will be presenting a 10 minute speech to the judges.

Her project is a website that she has created to provide a place for children with an interest in robotics and programming to gain and share ideas and projects with one another.

"I want to convince a person to create their own invention and not copy something that has already been invented," Bertha said.

"They can use the information on my website to make their own. It encourages people to add their own ideas."

"My inspiration came from our Robotics Club and the people from Techsphere (John Paul College’s IT Department) and also Year 12 student, Hayden who inspires me and helps me."

"I am learning fencing and my Mum said I should consider trying archery. I love anything medieval."

Mr Joel Bonomini, John Paul College’s Gifted Education Facilitator, has been working with Bertha and her teachers since Year 1.

"This year, Bertha was accelerated from Year 5 to Year 6 and is now doing Year 7 Maths," Mr Bonomini said.

"Students like Bertha may not yet understand their own superpowers but they do understand the power of ‘yes’. They achieve because it all narrows down to us saying ‘yes’," said Mr Bonomini.

When a school says ‘yes’ a student can do whatever they want to do and they drive the outcome.

Bertha has been at John Paul College since Year 1. She wants to be a Mathematician when she finishes school and Maths is her favourite subject.

Her website is www.littlenfcbits.wix.com/bits

“We can always do what we need for our students. We have the systems in place to make things easier for them to be where they want to be and go where they want to go.”

Joel Bonomini, Gifted Education Facilitator
On The Fast-Track to Success

A superhero to many younger students, Year 12 Horizons student, Got Malual holds a multitude of superpowers: Confident, Active, Influential and Engaged.

A natural athlete (who also represents the College in Touch and Netball), Got has the 2016 World Junior Athletics Championships in her sights. She was the silver medallist at the 2014 Australian Junior Championships for the 400m hurdles but now focuses on the 800m.

Active on and off the track, Got is a highly respected Vice Captain with responsibilities to the International College and students of the 57 nations who comprise the JPC family.

Director of John Paul International College, Russell Welch said, “Got arrived at John Paul College as a very shy Year 8 student and her journey over the past four years has been nothing short of amazing and inspirational. She has been a wonderful role model for John Paul College students in sport, school spirit, leadership and her desire to achieve to the highest level academically.”

“I’m grateful that my school has given me every support to participate and excel. John Paul College has opened doors to opportunities and key people that have and will continue to influence my career,” Got said.

Got is working hard to achieve great academic results to secure a position in a marketing or social sciences degree. Her superhero is Usain Bolt.

Remember the name Sophie Moman – for there’s every chance you’ll be hearing it again in the future.

The Year 6 John Paul College student and Performing Arts devotee has Broadway in her sights and she’s working hard to realise her dream.

With 10 short films, one feature film and roles with professional touring productions to her name, Sophie’s portfolio is filling fast. Her major musical theatre credits include Annie (QPAC) in 2012 and the lead role of Jemima in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at QPAC in 2013. Sophie has also appeared on The Voice Kids in 2014, on television commercials and recently performed at the Queensland Music Festival to an audience of 6,000. She is a regular on the winner’s podium at eisteddfods throughout South-East Queensland.

“I’ve developed confidence from all the experiences. Now I’m not scared to try new things. I only get nervous for auditions or before huge performances. Usually breathing and concentration helps my nerves,” she said.

Sophie has been dancing since she was three and singing from the age of seven. Vocal, piano and guitar lessons, combined with participation in the College’s Dance Force team and Viva Choir (where she is Captain) means Sophie regularly invests 15 – 15 hours per week in pursuing her dream.

“If you have a talent, you can’t waste it. It’s just something I love to do. Most likely, it’s what I’ll do in the future and I have to work as hard as I can to get there.”

“School has been amazing because when I have performance commitments they support me and let me do what I need to. They have all the lessons and co-curricular activities I need also,” she explained.

Sophie cites her superpowers as Confidence and Passion. Sophie has been a John Paul College student since Kindergarten. Her parents are her superheroes.