Our Theme - “The Joy of the Gospel - Putting our Faith in to action”

Sunday 7 February, 2016 - The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – “...They left everything and followed him...” (Lk 5:1-11)

Dear Parents, Guardians, Care Givers, Grandparents and Students,

Welcome back for the 2016 school year!

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy and the College’s 60th Anniversary of Catholic Education I would like to wish you and your family the blessings of the new year and we all look forward to an exciting and productive year ahead.

Over the course of the year we will be remembering the people and their efforts in not only establishing the corner stone of Catholic Education on this site but also our present dynamic circumstances and recognizing the challenges we will face for the future of Catholic education over the next 60 years.

Invitation – Opening College Mass and Launch of our 60th Anniversary of Catholic Education
All parents, past students and staff, and members of the community are more than welcome to join the College in our 60th Anniversary Opening Mass on Tuesday 23rd February in The Light of Christ Centre commencing at 11.30am. Bishop Peter Comensoli will lead us in the Eucharist. Afterwards there will be a light luncheon for all our guests. If you haven’t already – please reply by emailing karen.bodle@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Academic Awards Ceremony
The College will hold a special awards ceremony on Tuesday 16th February at 10.30am in The Light of Christ Centre to acknowledge and celebrate students’ 2015 academic achievements across all areas of the College. The Academic Awards Ceremony provides us with the opportunity to celebrate students in partnership with the Class of 2015

All parents are invited to attend the awards ceremony. Parents and caregivers of students who will be presented with an award will have already received a personal invitation to the ceremony.
New Staff
We are delighted to welcome the following staff to the St Leo’s team:

**Josephine Cali - Leader of Science**
Josephine has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Sydney, Graduate Diploma in Education from ACU, Graduate Certificate in Physics from ACU and a Master of Educational Leadership from the same University. She has previously worked in the Parramatta Diocese in a number of senior roles.

**Avril Haslam** also joins the Science department as a teacher. She has a Bachelor of Science from University of Wollongong, Graduate Diploma in Education from the same institution, a Graduate Certificate in Learning Tech. from Curtin University and a Master of Science Education from Courtn. She has worked in local independent schools in the past.

**Jenny Vu** has joined us as an HSIE teacher. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Sydney University, followed by a Bachelor of Education from the same University. She has taught in both State and independent high schools previously and brings new experiences from her time teaching in the United Kingdom.

**Hayley Tuffin** has been warmly welcomed into the English Department. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Sydney followed by a Masters of Teaching from the same Institution. Hayley was with us last year in the English Department.

**Sharyn Brown** joins the TAS/Hospitality team. She has a Bachelor of Education from Avondale College, a Diploma of Fashion Design; School of Visual Arts and a Master of Education from the University of Sydney. She has worked at a variety of local independent colleges and held previous positions in the United Kingdom. This is her second experience at St Leo’s.

First Assembly
Last week at our first Assembly I welcomed everyone in 10 languages (well really just the translation of ‘welcome’). In our 60th year I want to emphasize that St Leo’s is part of a global community. With our first immersion to Kiribati last year and continuing each year – part of our mission is to make a positive difference to others’ lives – particularly those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Our responsibilities are not just here in our local community but we must be aware and prepare to act for others in different parts of the globe.

I also challenged our learners (students and staff) with 9 statements. These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>As you begin 2016 at St Leo’s I encourage you to set goals for yourself in relation to your learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2)</td>
<td>There are many opportunities at St Leo’s to succeed, excel and improve either in the classroom, on the field, on stage and in the lab or workshop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3)</td>
<td>Do you believe you have the ability to achieve success in the classroom?</td>
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<td>4)</td>
<td>Are you prepared to contribute new, innovative ideas to your learning?</td>
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<td>5)</td>
<td>Have you organized your resources to assist your learning?</td>
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<td>6)</td>
<td>Are your relationships positive?</td>
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<td>7)</td>
<td>Do you contribute in a productive way to your learning environment?</td>
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<td>8)</td>
<td>Are you a leader?</td>
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<tr>
<td>9)</td>
<td>Do you think you will ever stop learning?</td>
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Every learner at St Leo’s has the potential to succeed and enjoy their time at school. I challenge you to take this opportunity in 2016.
60th Year of Catholic Education at St Leo’s - 2016
From 1959-1964:
When Br. Terrence A. Wigmore assumed the role of headmaster, the property could already be described as picturesque but improvements continued in his time. Bitumen sealed 900 square yards of clay and mud and gave the students a play area with a surer footing and the staff fewer headaches one supposes.

Working bees began work on the number 2 oval, grassing the area and putting turf wickets on it. Mr Leo Shepherd who had an earth moving business did much work at cost although he was not able to finish the project and heavy rains in 1962 hindered work.

The Parents and Friends Association was officially constituted in 1959 with Mr Vin Wallace the first President and Mr W Hill the first Secretary. This association organised the working bees that worked on the number 2 oval and that levelled and graded the driveway to the Unwin Road entrance. The bulldozers and trucks of Mr Tom Powell were much in evidence and some who put in many hours of labour were Messrs. Clocchiatti, Meagher and Laird. In 1964 there were no fewer than five working bees before the end of March and they were involved in making a third smaller oval and putting in practice wickets.

Building Update
We are just a few weeks out from a number of milestones in our building works. Over the coming weeks (before the conclusion of Term One) you will witness:

- The opening of our new College Reception/Admin building (Week 8 Term One)
- The opening of our new Student Services Building at the start of Term Two
- The closure of the ground floor of the current Admin building for refurbishment for the relocation of our Pastoral Care team (Week 3 Term One)
- Refurbishment of our TAS (woodwork) rooms (already started)
- And the knocking down (over the Term One holidays) of the old Brothers’ Residence building for our new “Hub” which will contain commercial kitchen facilities (a definite upgrade for our hospitality classes) and canteen and some outdoor learning spaces
- During the Term One holidays a thoroughfare bridge will be positioned between the top floor Science block and top floor of A Block. This will make it much quicker and easier for our students to move between these two locations.

Mr AF Gleeson
Principal

“...I am full of hope in God who has been so good to us all...”
St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (28/11/1898)
Last Friday, 5th February we welcomed new Year 7 Families to the College with a BBQ at The Light of Christ Centre.

In 2016, the College will be presenting “High School Musical”. Students have already auditioned and are now rehearsing.
From the Assistant Principal

Upcoming Invitations
This year we celebrate 60 years of Catholic education at St Leo’s Catholic College. It is an exciting year ahead as we reflect on the many achievements over the last 60 years and look ahead to a positive future as we launch our new Strategic Improvement Plan. I have been very impressed with the way students have settled into the rhythms and routines of school and are well into work.

Upcoming Parent Information Evenings
There are a number of important Parent Information Evenings this term:

Tuesday 9th February (Week 3) Year 7 Parent Information Evening – 7pm (TLOCC)

Wednesday 17th February (Week 4) Year 8 Parent Information Evening – 6pm (TLOCC)
Year 11 Parent Information Evening – 7:30pm (TLOCC)

Wednesday 24th February (Week 5) Year 9/10 Parent Information Evening including a Cyber safety presentation – 6pm (TLOCC)

Wednesday 2nd March (Week 6) Parent Involvement & Information Evening: Supporting Year 7 Parents with the transition into Secondary School - includes Principal’s update - 6:30pm (Library)

Please mark these events in your diaries, as they are important sessions as we continue to work in partnership.

College Uniform
The College has high expectations in regards to uniform. The College uniform is important as it gives students a sense of belonging to the College. By wearing the uniform with pride students create a positive identity for the school in the community. There is significant research which indicates that a school uniform can improve learning by reducing distraction, sharpening focus on schoolwork and making the classroom a more serious environment, allowing students to perform better academically.

A reminder that all College uniform items can only be purchased from Cowan and Lewis:

Cowan and Lewis
1315 Pacific Highway, Turramurra
Ph 9449 9777 Fax: 9440 8931
www.cowanlewis.com.au

College Diaries
The College Diary is not only an important communication tool between the College and parents – it is also an invaluable resource in terms of our College values, expectations and rules. Diaries will be distributed to all students on their return to school. I would ask you to read over the first section of the diary with your son/daughter and ensure that they understand all of the information provided. Parents are asked to complete and sign page 1, 27 and 28 of the diary.
The day to day entries in the diary are the student’s set homework and on other occasions, staff may indicate satisfaction with, or concerns over student progress or behaviour. Parents are asked to check their son/daughter’s diary at the end of each week and sign in the appropriate section at the bottom of each page. Looking through your son/daughter’s diary each week is a great way to monitor their progress. Please make time to both reinforce the wonderful things they are doing and challenge any behaviour that needs improvement.

**Student attendance and punctuality**
All students are expected to in attendance and punctual each day. If your child cannot attend school, parents are asked to ring the College on (02) 9487 3555 before 9.30am. A note explaining the reason for the absence will be required on the day your son/daughter returns to school. This can either be submitted to your son/daughter’s Tutor teacher or through the College App.

Students who are not in class by the commencement of Period 1, will need to sign in through the front office. A note explaining the reason for the partial absence will be required the following day.

**Cars in and around the College grounds**
The safety of students at the College is our highest priority. In order to ensure a safe environment for all students, staff and visitors to the College I would ask all parents to take careful note of the procedures outlined below.

Since the roadways through the College are thoroughfares for students moving to classes or entering or leaving the College grounds, vehicle access to the College is restricted to essential traffic (deliveries, staff parking, visitors during the day) only. There is no access for parents along driveways to pick up or drop off their children. Students need to disembark from cars near the Unwin Road or Woolcott Avenue gateways. Parents are also asked not to park across gateways while students disembark.

Please note there is no access through the school from Woolcott Avenue to Unwin Road.

Owing to the narrow roadways, cars delivering students to the top (Woolcott Avenue) area of the College should travel in a clockwise direction (40 km per hour maximum) continuing along Windarra Crescent to meet Woolcott Avenue at the gate near the College Library (not turning right into Woolcott Avenue at the first intersection). This is shown in the diagram below.

![Diagram showing traffic flow](Pacific_Highway.png)

Often the College is quite congested at the end of the school day. I would encourage parents who are picking up their child to arrange a pick up point in Woolcott Avenue, Yardley Avenue or Unwin Road. This is a strategy that can save time and reduce congestion.
Parents are requested to drive with great caution around these streets, as there are many excited students around this time – from not just our own school – but also of the schools nearby.

These procedures have been put in place in the interests of your child’s safety, a higher concern than the minor inconveniences of, for example, students having to walk from the gates, and we ask you to respect and support them.

**Catholic Life and Mission**  
**100 Years – A Faith Community**  
On 13 March 2016 it will be 100 years since the former Waitara Parish was founded and we would like to acknowledge that a Faith Community has existed in this area since 1916.

We will be celebrating the occasion on Sunday 13 March during the 9.30am Mass at the Cathedral, followed by morning tea and a photo display ‘Walk down memory lane’ in the Fr Nulty Room.

Please also keep Sunday 28 August 2016 free in your diary as we are planning a multicultural family picnic for more 100 year celebrations in conjunction with Migrant and Refugee Sunday.

We would also like to invite current and former parishioners to submit a short story (especially those families who have been in our parish for a long time or families who have had an interesting journey to our parish) for possible inclusion in a Memento book. (If you have a story to tell and would like someone to write it down for you we can organise someone to interview you. Please contact the parish office.) Please submit stories before 15th April 2016.

We are also looking for volunteers to help out with our photo display in March.

Please contact the parish office on 9483 2300 or email: hornsbyparish@dbb.org.au.

**From the Director of Administration**  
**Vaccinations**  
Consent forms for vaccinations have been given to students in Year 7. Vaccinations will be held for students in Year 7 (who have returned the consent cards) on the following dates: 31st March, 16th June and 10th November

No vaccinations can be administered without a consent card. If you do not require vaccinations there is no need to return consent cards.

Vaccinations will also be given to any Year 8 students who may have missed doses last year.

**Lockers**  
Colour house lockers have been issued to all students. This assigned locker will be that student’s responsibility for the rest of the year.

Each student should have organised a lock for their locker.

- Students have been asked to leave their heavy school bags in their lockers for at least period 1-4.
- Lockers can be accessed before and after school, at recess and lunch.
- Students are not to change their locker number unless it has been authorised by Mrs Macri or Mr Mahoney.
Subject Changes
Students in Year 9 and 11 can change their subject choices up until the end of week 6 (Friday 4th March).

This is dependent on subject lines and numbers.

Change of subject forms are available from Mrs Macri.

Students can only move classes once forms have been processed and a new timetable printed.

J Macri
(Director of Administration)
Second Hand Text Books and Uniforms
The students of the College have access to the sustainable school shop, a website dedicated to the sale of second hand textbooks, uniforms and other school equipment. There is a small membership fee which gives you access to the site for 1 year. Great savings can be made by purchasing items secondhand. Items to be sold or purchased are registered on the site and these are matched with a buyer. Priority is given to those that match the St Leo’s community, however items from other schools are also matched. Any queries regarding this can be found at http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/.

Transport
Student Opal cards have now replaced the old student passes, and most have now been sent from the Transport for NSW processing facility to students.

As your local bus operator, we are keen to work together to ensure a smooth transition to the new system for students and their families. For more information on Opal, visit transportnsw.info/school-students or call 131 500.

The latest bus timetables are available via the following link. www.transdevnsw.com.au From the ‘Timetables’ menu, simply select the appropriate school or route to download the latest timetables.

Should you have any questions about our services, please refer to our website, or contact us on 02 8700 0555.

We look forward to working with you for a safe 2016.

The Transdev NSW Bus Team

Curriculum News
It’s Goal Setting Time!
The start of the year is a great time to set yourself some academic goals along with any personal goals you might plan to achieve this year.

There are lots of great reasons to set goals:

- Setting goals gets you to think about possibilities.
- Goals give you a direction to work towards.
- Goals give you a clear picture of where you want to go.
- Goals help you to push yourself just that little bit more.
- Goals help you have a more fun and fulfilled life.
- Goals can give you motivation and focus.
- Setting goals helps you do all the things you want to do in life!
- Goals give us the motivation to do things that are difficult and challenging in order to reach a particular desired state.
- Goals help us achieve our dreams, hopes and desires.
- Goals help us look for an achievable balance between the different areas of our life.
• Goals make us feel good about ourselves and our achievements and help us to increase our self-esteem and sense of self-worth.
• Goals give us a greater feeling of control over our lives and experiences.
• Goals allow us to prioritise and create action plans.

There are different types of goals you can set based on the timeframe in which you want to achieve these goals:

• **Short-term goals**: are things you want to do today, tomorrow or within the next few weeks and sometimes months.
• **Medium-term goals**: are things you want to achieve in the next few months or sometime even within the next year.
• **Long-term goals**: are things you want to do later on in life, whether it is next year, two years’ time, ten years’ time or even longer.

You may decide to set a mix of these types of goals. To give yourself the best chance of achieving your goals, it is a good idea to make sure your goals are **SMARTIES** – so keep in mind these guidelines for setting effective goals:

• **Specific**: Make goals very detailed and specific. Exactly what do you want to achieve?
• **Measurable**: You want to be able to know when you have achieved your goal so make sure there is some way to measure your success.
• **Action-Oriented**: Your short-term goals should really be the action steps you need to take to achieve the medium and longer term goals.
• **Relevant & Realistic**: Goals change, so if your goal is no longer relevant, you need to change it.
• **Time-Based**: Your goals need to have a ‘to complete by’ date to give you something to aim for.
• **Interesting**: Make your goals about things that you find interesting and worthwhile.
• **Emotional**: Use powerful language to express the emotion behind the goals.
• **Success oriented**: Express your goals in a positive and success focused way.

And…
- Only use POSITIVE language in goals.
- Use PASSIONATE, enthusiastic and motivating language.
- Write your goal in the PRESENT tense.

**Review your goals** regularly to remind yourself of what you want to achieve and to stimulate your mind to think of other possibilities. Start taking specific actions that will help you achieve your goals, in particular your short-term goals. Putting together an action plan of the steps to achieve the goal and allocating timeframes for each action is a good place to start.

You can learn more about goal setting and many other topics to help you achieve your best at school at [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au), logging in with these details:

Username: leos
Password: community

For further information or queries, please contact Angelo Solomonides, the Leader of Senior Academic Care at angelo.solomonides@dbb.catholic.edu.au
Maths Help
Mondays after school

Maths Help
Where: Library
When: Monday 3.15pm till 4pm

Each Monday in the library there will be a Maths Teacher to assist any learner with issues they may be having. The teacher is there to assist learners not to provide extra teaching or worksheets. Please be prepared with equipment and what you would like help with.

All learners are welcome!
eLearning @ St Leo’s in 2016

At St Leo’s Catholic College students use iPads as their main learning technology. The College views our 1:1 iPad Program as an opportunity to create a learning environment more conducive to effective innovation in pedagogy. Through experience we have found that ICT-enabled teaching and learning activities enhance active engagement and facilitate the development of such skills as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication. We design authentic, real world programs and learning activities that enable students to thrive in an information-rich world and promote global connectedness.

iPad Requirements

Students are expected to bring a fully charged iPad to school every day. Families have the option to purchase any iPad from the range.

For families that are upgrading iPads or purchasing accessories, St Leo’s has just recently secured a school discount at Apple Stores. This special pricing is available for purchases made at Apple Stores or via the Apple contact centre. If you are purchasing in-store or over the phone just let the Specialist know our school’s name.

Other Requirements

Apps

A core collection of apps is required on students’ devices. This allows teachers to prepare learning activities accordingly. The required apps list has been updated this year to take into account changing technology and pedagogy. It is expected that all students will have these apps on their devices for the start of the new school year.

Family sharing

If you are uncomfortable with your child having their own Apple ID or they are under 13, we recommend setting up Family Sharing. This means that your child will still have their own username however there will be parental control of purchasing. You also have the ability to share apps with all member of the family, eliminating the need for multiple purchases.

Extended warranty and robust case

We recommend the purchase of an extended warranty on all new devices. Additionally we strongly recommend a robust case to minimise potential damage.

Back up

It is expected that students are regularly backing up their iPads either on iCloud or to their home computer. This ensures that if something does happen to your child’s device, there is the ability to recover their work. It is also vital that students have iCloud Drive on for Pages, Numbers and Keynote.
Apple power adaptors
As you may have seen published in the press recently Apple has announced a worldwide recall of certain wall socket power adapters that were issued with Apple products. Please refer to the step below to check if any Apple product you may have purchased is affected:

Step 1 - Families should go to https://www.apple.com/au/support/ac-wallplug-adapter/ which will explain the adapters affected and how to identify.

As families are responsible for the purchase of student iPads at the College, any issue with faulty adapters and replacement product will need to be managed personally.

Tips for Home Supervision
The iPad is an important tool for learning; that is its main purpose. We support parent decisions about the setting of boundaries at home as long as school work can be completed. Students do not need games and entertainment apps on their iPads for school. Whether parents allow games and entertainment apps on their child’s iPad is a family decision however the school strongly discourages having games on the device.

Set Boundaries
- Students must be able to complete homework and assessments, however, students do not need to use the iPad all the time at home.
- Teenage children need their sleep, so we strongly suggest that the iPad is not taken to bed. We recommend setting a consistent time each evening that the iPad (and mobile phones) are left turned off to charge in a common area of the house.
- If you are experiencing problems, we recommend that you specify:
  - where in the house the iPad can be used.
  - where it is to be stored when not in use (this can be the charging location).
- Whether children are allowed to install games and entertainment apps on their iPad is a family decision.
- Apps such as iMessage and FaceTime can be deactivated if they are proving to be a distraction.

Share the Experience
- Ask your children to teach you how to use the iPad.
- Have a play with the iPad and apps your child uses.
- Have a discussion with your children on safe practices such as not broadcasting personal details, locations or images.
- Have a look at what your child is viewing, listening to and playing.

Removing Distractions
- Before starting school work at home, ask your child to:
  - close all irrelevant apps;
  - close all irrelevant webpages.
- if you are experiencing problems with off task behaviour there is the option to set up Guided Access in the accessibility settings. Guided Access limits the iPad to a single app and lets you control which app features are available.
NO INTEREST LOANS SCHEME (NILS) HORNSBY

29th January 2016

St Leos Catholic College,
18 Woolcott Ave
Wahroonga NSW 2076

Dear Mr Gleeson,

No Interest Loan Scheme enables families to meet back to school costs

Rising education costs are leaving many parents struggling to afford back to school expenses - particularly as the need to provide children with laptops and tablets becomes more widespread.

While the Schoolkids Bonus remains for 2016, many families living pay cheque to pay cheque, will need to direct this payment toward their most urgent or immediate need, like rent, bills or car registration. This makes 'back to school' and annual struggle.

I'm writing to seek your help in promoting the not-for-profit No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS), which can be used for school expenses including books, uniforms, camps, laptops and tablets.

NILS provides individuals and families on low incomes with access to safe, fair and affordable loans of between $300 and $1,200. There are no fees, no interest and no charges. Importantly, each client has an affordable repayment plan designed around them, so repayments don't put further pressure on the borrower's finances.

Without NILS, many families will turn to high cost alternatives such as payday loans and 'rent to buy'. These fringe credit products often cause significant financial hardship and can entrench financial hardship.

Over the coming weeks I encourage you to recommend NILS to those parents struggling to meet back to school expenses, and to consider promoting the program in the school's newsletter and on its website.

Families can learn more about NILS by visiting wwwNILS.com.au, or by calling St Vincent de Paul Society on 9477 5010 ext 17.

St Vincent de Paul Society and more than 630 other NILS providers across Australia want to ensure that affordability is not a deciding factor in a child's education - Please feel free to call me on 9477 5010 should you have any questions or wish to discuss NILS further.

Yours sincerely

Sandie
NILS Administrator, Hornsby
Parenting Education for Mums, Dads and Carers
Term 1 and 2 Courses

Tuning in to Teens (5 weeks – 2.5hours) $175pp
Help your teenager develop emotional intelligence, learn skills to talk and understand your teenager, help them to manage their emotions, prevent behaviour problems and teach them to deal with conflict.

Term 1  
Tuesday  7pm – 9.30pm  1st to 29th March  Chatswood

Term 2  
Wednesday  7pm – 9.30pm  18th May to 15th June  Chatswood

Dealing with Teen’s Backchat Workshop
2.5hours $50pp
Are you struggling with a teenager who answers back all the time? Learn how to restore a respectful and positive relationship between you and your teenager, understand what it is like being a teenager today, learn how to talk so that they will listen and how to listen so that they will talk to you.

Term 1  
Tuesday  7pm- 9.30pm  23rd February  Chatswood

Term 2  
Wednesday  7pm – 9.30pm  11th May  Chatswood

For more information visit www.nslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/CAP