The St Leo’s newsletter, “The Pride” is now posted as a Website.
http://web.me.com/stleos/The_Pride/Welcome.html

This mail out will contain The Principal’s message and hyperlinks to other content. A print only version will be archived on the College Website and as a hard copy available from the College reception.

Principal’s Message

Pentecost celebrates the awakening and embracing of God’s Spirit in the lives of the Apostles and in the lives of all of us.

Jesus breathed on them and said: “Receive the Holy Spirit.” John 20, 19-23

DEAR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, CARE GIVERS, GRANDPARENTS, STUDENTS AND FRIENDS,

In a reflection written by Br Julian McDonald we are reminded that Pentecost marks the birth of a movement begun in Jesus and picked up by all who have chosen to walk in his footsteps. It is sometimes referred to as the birth of the Church. Not long before Jesus died, Jesus promised to send an Advocate, God’s Spirit who would take up where he had left off and who would, through the Apostles and through those who believed in the Apostles’ message, keep alive what Jesus had begun. From year to year, week to week, day to day, I am amazed to witness how God’s spirit manifests in the multitude of events that occur in our community. This year Pentecost signifies the beginning of the ‘Year of Grace’, a theme St Leo’s has embraced for 2012. We are all potential agents of God’s Spirit at work in the world. Our challenge is to allow the Spirit into our lives through prayer and sacrament, identify the Spirit at work through the good deeds of others and to act on the opportunities we are given to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

These are some of the current examples of how individuals and groups in our community are meeting this challenge.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Year 11 Retreat recently held at Stanwell Tops. I was so impressed with the true sense of reverence our students displayed as they engaged with the presenters and staff through the various activities. By reverence, I refer to the deep level of respect shown by each student towards each other and the thoughtful engagement and responses to the activities that were organised. I would like to thank all the staff for their commitment and dedication to organise and facilitate such a prayerful, spiritual experience for our students.

While Year 11 were at retreat, Year 8 were challenging themselves at camp. From all reports this was a fantastic camp. Year 8 students are to be congratulated on the way they supported each other through a number of challenging experiences. I would also like to thank the Year 8 camp staff for their organisation and care shown to our students and for taking time away from their own families to rough it for 3 nights.
Year 12 experienced the Broken Bay Year Twelve Event (BYTE). This is a gathering of all the Year 12 students of the Diocese to engage in a spirituality day organised by the Catholic Schools Office and celebrated by Bishop David Walker. This was the first time this event has been held at our school. It was very successful day with all students engaging with the theme of ‘Life Giving Love’. Once again our Year 12 students did us proud with the prayerful reverence and engagement they displayed in both the presentations and the liturgy. Well done to Year 12 and Ms Roberts.

While all these events were occurring, Year 7 and 9 were busy completing their NAPLAN tests. I am very pleased with the way the students engaged with these assessments and look forward to receiving the results later in the year.

There have been a number of events where our students have displayed outstanding school spirit and support for each other to produce some outstanding results. On Friday night, I had the pleasure to be around as our debaters gathered for their first home debate this season against Loretto Kirribilli. It was fantastic to see the energy, the excitement and the support students showed each other as they went off to prepare their topics. I am happy to report that all teams represented the College with pride and three teams won their debates on the night. I would also like to thank the parents of our debaters in supporting their children and providing such wonderful hospitality for our guests. On Saturday I witnessed another outstanding effort by our School Aerobics girls at the State qualifying championships. Once again the energy, support and encouragement our students showed to each other was evident. The M.C. of the event highlighted the outstanding school spirit displayed by the girls and one very flexible lion. What made this day special was to see our ‘not so old girl’ coaches, Sarah Baynie, Madeleine Hogarth and Alice Crothers, use the learning and skills they developed here at the College to teach, prepare and support all our teams through to the State Championships. I would like to thank our dedicated coaches for their efforts and expertise. I would also like to thank all the parents for supporting their children and transporting them across Sydney to compete in this event. I would especially like to thank Karen Heugh for giving up her time to support the girls on the day.

Our Subject Coordinators and Year Coordinators attended an inservice called ‘Leading Learning’ last week held by the Catholic Schools Office. This is a continuation of the work we have been focusing on over the past couple of years and once again endorsed that our ‘Know Your Student’ focus is supported by best practice research. It was also a good opportunity to reflect on the current initiatives we are working on and future directions.

Last week the Vinnies winter appeal clothing donation bags were distributed. I ask if you could please support this very worthy cause for those less fortunate in our community. This year some of the donations will be distributed to the homeless of Hornsby by the parents and students that support ‘The Dish’ social outreach program. I encourage families to donate warm clothing to this appeal. There has also been a call for new thick ‘explorer’ socks for distribution by the ‘The Dish’ volunteers. These donations can be brought in with the winter appeal bags and will be put aside by the SRC Social Justice Ministry. I would like to thank all those who volunteers their time and donates food and clothes to those in need.

As you would be aware, our Principal, Tony Gleeson is currently on long service leave. I am sure that many people have heard the news of Tony’s fall and injury to his legs last weekend. I would like to inform everyone that Tony is doing well, his surgery has been successful and he now needs to rest and recover. I have passed on the community's well wishes to Tony.
Our condolences to the Livermore family after the untimely passing of Mrs Annamieka Livermore in a tragic accident last week. Please keep Sophie (Year 10), Caitlin (Year 12 2011) and the Livermore family in your prayers. Mrs Livermore was a great supporter of our school, especially with debating. As a sign of respect, our debating teams will be wearing ribbons and dedicating their debates to her memory this Friday. The school community is deeply saddened by the loss of a generous and loved member of our community.

MR M REICHER ACTING PRINCIPAL

Message from the Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events
For Week 6
   Debating Friday night
   PAWS Band Camp

For Week 7
   Rehearsals for “Showcase”
   Year 7 2013 Enrolment Interviews
   Year 10 Street Retreat
   Yr 7 Vaccinations
   Yr 9 Brainstorm - Cheap Thrills
   PAWS Ensemble Evening
   Edmund Rice Gala Dinner - Darling Harbour

Our Corporate Responsibility

St Leo’s College is situated in an urban environment, surrounded by streets filled with homes. We need to respect this fact when leaving the school grounds. A number of our local residents have had concerns with parents and students parking their cars and driving in an unlawful and unsafe manner. We ask all people to respect the rules:
   • Park in the correct manner in the streets and not block driveways.
   • Drive within the speed limit. Remember when most of you arrive and leave the College, their neighbouring streets are in “School Zone” areas.

When concerns arise over the breaking of these traffic laws we encourage our neighbours to take details and pass this information onto the police – the proper authority in these cases.
We ask that all the community accept their responsibility for making St Leo’s and its surrounds a safe place for all people.

Athletics Carnival

On Wednesday we came together as a school community for our annual sports carnival. An inviting mix of traditional events and novelty activities allowed all students, if they wished, to be involved on the day winning points for their House. We were blessed with sunshine that enabled the day to be completed in a positive manner.

All parents were made aware that this carnival was a compulsory activity. The College reminds parents that short of illness, all children are required to attend school and all designated activities. This is in line with the Government legislation introduced earlier this year.
There is unfortunately a sharp rise in absenteeism for these days. It is disappointing that some parents support this type of absenteeism as it sends a message that all school experiences are not valued equally. We ask that parents respond appropriately if asked to account for their son/daughter’s absence for the Athletics Carnival on Wednesday.

Mrs Susan White, Acting Deputy Principal

Pastoral News

News from around the College

Year 12 - BYTE
In the days leading up to BYTE we were a bit skeptical about what the day would hold, but as we arrived, we could tell by the vibrant chatter and all the schools interacting with each other that today would be a memorable day. We were seated amongst students from other schools and new friendships were quickly developed. Throughout the day we were addressed by engaging speakers on the topics such as love, relationships and sexuality and our minds were opened to the perspectives of the church.

After lunch and a liturgy, the day ended on a high note with each school departing enlightened and feeling spiritually content.

By Mohan Narula and Anthony Antoun

Year 11 Retreat
On Wednesday 16th May Year 11 students accompanied by 12 staff headed off to Stanwell Tops for their first experience of a Senior Retreat.

We were greeted by Mr Kershler and Mrs Torpy who did a Welcome to Country and a welcome to the students. After a warm up game students were introduced to the idea o the Family Table. Students were asked to discuss and look at various relationships they had with different family members. For many it was a great opportunity to consider who was important to them in their family and what sort of relationship they have with them.

In the afternoon students listened to Matt Raso talk about his experiences as a Youth Minister in New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and De La Salle Bankstown.

Thursday saw an evening of Reconciliation. Students were invited to attend Reconciliation with Father Nathan as well as take part in a variety of activities which allowed them to look at their spiritual growth.

On Friday morning we celebrated Mass outside looking over the ocean.

All students said what a great time they had and as year group, they bonded together.

Kate Todd, Year 11 Coordinator
**Year 10**
The Year 10 Tutor classes have been researching and presenting information on their House Colour patrons, namely St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Peter Chanel, St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Francis Xavier.

The research and presentation included their early life and work, missionary work and their Legacy.

In addition, the next street retreat group with Mr Kershler is on Tuesday 5th June. The Year 10 Cohort have been donating toiletries, towels and blankets to various charities around Kings Cross for the homeless.

**Angelo Solomonides. Year 10 Coordinator**

**Year 8**
Without a doubt, the Year 8 Camp at Somerset on the Colo River was a great success. The feedback received from the Somerset Staff, the St Leo Staff and the written evaluation from the students this week all indicate that the students had rewarding experience.

Despite the cold weather and the fact that many students had never camped outdoors before, all students felt they were challenged by many of the aspects offered from the program. The behaviour of the students was exemplary and co-operation observed by me in all the groups when I visited them was wonderful to see. Well done to the Year Group and thank you to all the parents for your support in this venture.

For the next few weeks we will be commencing a Study Skills program in the period leading up to End of Semester exams. Students will be given a skills booklet to complete during tutor lessons enabling them to develop specific techniques to aid them in exams and in their study routines.

We will also be continuing with our work from Motivational Media on Risk Taking.

**Andrew Betty, Year 8 Co-ordinator**

**Year 7**
Well done to Year 7 who showed great involvement at the Sports Carnival yesterday! While the most athletic had nominated themselves for the competitive events in running, shot put, discus and long jump, the rest of the group had fun participating in novelty events such as sack races and target frisbee.

Well done also to those who produced such beautiful models for Science. What wonderful hands on learning is happening with your support.

In pastoral news, students will again be working with Year 10 Peer Support students this week. Their tutor teachers have been helping students with their organisation around assessment and homework tasks. Mrs Hasman’s class have been to the chapel for a reflective prayer session led by Mr Kershler. Other classes will have the chance to do this as the year progresses.

**Mrs Megan de Kantzow**
A Showcase of Stars

Come and see St Leo's Students perform songs and scenes from the world's all time favourite musicals!

You Can't Stop The Beat!

It's time to try defying gravity!

The sun'll come out tomorrow...

Venue: Cathedral Hall, St Leo's Catholic College
Dates: Thursday 21st June and Friday 22nd June at 7pm
Tickets: $5 for Child/Student, $10 for Adults. Tickets will be sold in the library from Week 7, and in the Main Yard from Week 8 - or can be purchased at the door.
Visual Arts
On Monday 28th May, Year 10 Visual Arts elective students were lucky to enjoy many and varied Art experiences, and a glorious Autumn day in Sydney.

Mrs Coleman and myself accompanied students to visit the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes at the Art Gallery of NSW. Students were amazed at the variety of painting techniques and different approaches to Portraiture and Landscapes. On our way to Circular Quay we stopped at the Installation “Edge of Trees” on the site of the first Government House, now the Museum of Sydney, commemorating first contact between white Europeans and the Indigenous Eora clan.

After lunch at Circular Quay we ventured into Customs House and were inspired by the amazing photographs of Alexia Sinclair, part of the HEadOn photography Festival taking place in Sydney over the next month.

Last stop was the newly refurbished Museum of Contemporary Art, and in particular the “Marking Time” exhibition. Students engaged in immersive installations, darkened rooms full of time and computer based works.

Students are to be congratulated for the way in which they conducted themselves on the day, they were a credit to themselves and the College.

Juliette Carson, Visual Arts Coordinator

Earn and Learn
St Leo’s is collecting Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers again this year. Homeroom teachers from year 7 - 11 have offered students a sticker card in support of this initiative. There is a box in the student office for completed sticker cards and replacement cards are also available at the student office.

Please support this initiative and gain our College additional resources for free. Last year the PDHPE department redeemed the Woolworths points for five Human Torso’s which have been enjoyed by many PDHPE classes.

Thanks you for your ongoing support.

Ms Jamie Stimson, PDHPE Coordinator

Careers News
UNSW Undergraduate Degree Videos
Arts and Social Sciences has produced a new suite of short videos showcasing a number of Undergraduate degrees. The videos are available on YouTube, UNSWTV and on their website.

Kings College, London will be in town on Tuesday, 12 June, to talk about undergraduate and postgraduate study at one of the finest universities in the United Kingdom, and the world. The presentation will be held at the Shangri-La Hotel, 176 Cumberland Street, The Rocks, at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Register at this link - http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/international/onlinebookingformaustralia.aspx. There is parking at the Wilson Parking station across the street in Cumberland Street.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING Wednesday 13 June, 6pm - 8pm
An opportunity for parents and students in years 10 - 12 to learn more about degree programs, bonus point schemes, scholarships and the transition from high school to university. Register now
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS INFORMATION EVENING
Wednesday 25 July, 6pm - 8pm
Macquarie University business degrees count for more in the business world, our campus is located in one of the largest business and technology precincts in the southern hemisphere, giving you the industry experience employers look for. Register now for our information evening »

HSC Enrichment 2012
Macquarie University will be holding Higher School Certificate (HSC) Enrichment Programs to assist high school students in preparing for their HSC examinations. The HSC Enrichment Programs will be presented by Macquarie University academics on core and elective subject areas of the HSC Chemistry and Physics syllabus. Students will be provided with a booklet for each session which will be a valuable study resource.

When: Wednesday 11 July and Thursday 12 July, 2012

Where: Building E7B, Mason Theatre, Macquarie University, North Ryde
Cost: $70 per day (includes GST, morning & afternoon tea)
Enquiries: To Matilde Jurado Hernandez, email: matilde.jurado-hernandez@mq.edu.au or T: (02) 9850 7956 or F: (02) 9805 3101.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY The Scholarships Office will be sharing insider hints and tips on completing a University of Sydney scholarship application.
Scholarships Information Evening for year 11 and 12 students.
Date: Tuesday 19 June 2012
Time: 6 – 7.45pm
Venue: Eastern Avenue Foyer, Camperdown campus (K5 on map)
RSVP: Register on the event website

Parents/Carers Information Series 2012: Living with Teenagers
FREE SESSIONS
Transitions, Body Image, Stress, Technology
Parents & Carers are warmly invited to attend the 2012 series of information sessions

HORNSBY Dates and Topics
Wed 6th June : Surviving Stress (study & exams)
Wed 1st Aug: Successful Transitions to High School
Wed 22nd Aug: BodyThink for Parents
Wed 24th Oct: Understanding Social Networking – Cyber Strategies

Where: Mission Australia, 1 Coronation Street, Hornsby
Times : All sessions are 7.00pm to 8.30pm
Enquiries/Bookings Please contact CAFS (Mission Australia) on (02) 9482 1366 during business hours. Bookings are essential.

CULTURAL CARE AU PAIR is holding an information meeting for 17-26 year olds who love kids and want to travel and study in the USA. Saturday 2 June, 10 am. EF Language School 5-7 Young St Circular Quay. Contact: 1800 677 373
Mission News

Come Join Us in Eucharist
Every Tuesday from 8 am
Every Friday from 1.05 pm
Mass in the College Chapel

World Environment Day: June 5th

“The Big R? Relationship”

June 3rd: Trinity Sunday “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations...I am with you always”. Matt 28: 16-20

Reflection: “What’s it all about Alfie?” was the question in the old song. The answer? It’s all about relationship. God is a relational God who wants to share God’s life and love with us and all of creation.

God is the source of life, enfleshed in the world in Jesus, and the Spirit of the world.... the Trinity of completeness. Made in God’s image, we are relational beings. God’s relationship with us is enduringly faithful and is pure gift. No matter what we do, God is always there. What most of us don’t realise is that God’s relationship is with all of creation. “Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation” are the words of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

How do we relate with other species? Do we trample on them for our own benefit? Are we aware that we are contributing to a massive loss of biodiversity through the way we live?

Fact File: The iconic koala is now a threatened species in NSW and Western Queensland. High levels of carbon dioxide reduce the quality of their food by decreasing the protein content and digestibility of plants. They are also affected by heat, drought, bushfires and loss of habitat.

Learn More: www.savethekoala.com

From Growing a Culture of Peace monthly bulletin for parishes and schools!
The Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice!

Anne Lanyon, Co-ordinator, Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace, Ecology and Justice, Locked Bag 2002, Strathfield NSW 2135

Email: pej.cmi@columban.org.au Phone: 02 9352 8021
Parent Network

What’s new?

Yes, it’s official the Parent Network is a success.

Who are we? As parents of St Leos we are all part of the network. We get to catch up on what’s happening here in the Pride. We get invites to events or requests to help as volunteers.

How is it organised? By a group of volunteer parents who want to feel engaged with their children’s school because it betters their outcomes. Any parent or carer can be involved in any of the areas of interest below:

- Principal’s Updates x 3
- Spiritual / Reflection evenings x 3
- The Dish Incl. Yr 11 & 12 x 3+
- Literacy and Numeracy Support x 3+
- College event Co-ordination / Catering x 3+
- Year Group Leaders x 6 Year / Class Reps x 12+
- Other Initiatives e.g. Vinnie’s Van, Dinner Dance, Parent Info, Sports Carnival, Pre-loved uniform/book sale…

Are you keen to feel more connected? You can play a part no matter how occasionally!

Over the next few weeks we will profile each interest area and who to contact to be on the volunteer list.

To help you we have at least 3 leaders in each interest area and 3 parents who coordinate the overall group. Would really like more male involvement too!!
Don't want to wait to next week? Then here are two opportunities:

**Reading Support – volunteers, please**
If you can spare approximately an hour to assist with reading and spelling, then please contact Sarah Szacsvay, Literacy Program Parent Co-ordinator
Phone: 9875 2843, Mobile: 0413 601 496, Email: sbuttfield@hotmail.com

**St John's Wahroonga - Soup Van**
Join other volunteer families to prepare and serve hot meals to those without a home in the Hornsby area. For more information please contact Connie Klimko, St John’s Soup Van Co-ordinator on Mobile: 0407 603 877 or Email: leosparentnet@y7mail.com

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**Upcoming events**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Get involved</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Principal's Update -</strong></td>
<td>College Library from 7 pm. Cheese and wine followed by presentations and discussion.</td>
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<td><strong>13th June 2012</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td><strong>College Dinner and Dance</strong></td>
<td>Hornsby RSL. Live Band. Invite adult friends and families. For more information or if you have any queries please contact Kathryn Carmody, Team leader via email <a href="mailto:kathryn_carmody@yahoo.com.au">kathryn_carmody@yahoo.com.au</a> or telephone Virginia Gahan, Committee member 9476 8724.</td>
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<td><strong>4th August 2012</strong></td>
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**Community News**

“The Gift of Grace” Retreat Information 2012

The “Gift of Grace” retreat idea is an initiative of female students from the Diocese of Broken Bay discussed during the Post WYD Retreat in August 2011.

The organisation and planning of the retreat has been completed by a small group of women who also attended WYD with the Diocesan group and has the full support of the Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Broken Bay. It is a female only retreat targeted at Yr 11 and 12 students and will have female leaders throughout the retreat period.

We hope to provide each student with an opportunity to look at the beauty and gift of Grace in their lives and to look critically at the messages the world provides relating to young women. We want the young women who attend the look at their lives as a fulfilling and enjoyable experience which will contribute significantly to their personal and spiritual growth. We understand this is a busy period in these young women’s lives and hope to provide a refreshing break right before the Yr 12 Trial exams.

If you have any concerns or queries about the retreat, please do not hesitate to contact any of the organisers:

Miss Fiona Brown, Religious Education Coordinator,  
St. Peters Catholic College Tuggerah  
Work: 43512344

Mrs. Philipa Caulfield, Special Projects Officer – Youth,  
Diocese of Broken Bay  
Mobile: 0409 865 995

Miss. Carole Cogdon, Member of Diocesan Pastoral Council, Diocese of Broken Bay  
Mobile: 0414 901 744

We have included below all the information you will need for the Retreat. We ask that you read this letter, complete the medical consent permission form below and return with payment in any of the following ways:

Cash directly to St. Peters Catholic College Administration Office  
MasterCard/Visa over the phone, please call Rita Buchanan at St. Peters Catholic College directly on 43 529801  
Cheque please make payable to St Peter’s Catholic College:  
ATTN: Miss Fiona Brown, C/O St. Peters Catholic College, 84 Gavenlock Rd, Tuggerah 2259 OR  
Postal Address: PO Box 450, Wyong, 2259

at the latest by Friday 15th June
Venue: Araluen House  
329 Wattle Tree Rd, Matcham

Arrival: 5pm on Monday 2nd July 2012 at Araluen House  
Pick Up: 4pm on Wednesday 4th July 2012 from Araluen House

Students will need to bring:

- Clothing for 2 days
- Swimmers (if you want to brave the cold water in the pool!)
- Sleeping bag
- Toiletries (including toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and any other requirements)
- Bible, Journal and pen
- Any necessary medication

The following items are NOT to be brought on the retreat:

- Alcohol, drugs and cigarettes are not permitted

- Mobile phones, Ipods, and any other technological devices are discouraged and not in keeping with the reflective tone of the retreat.

- Any valuables you cannot afford to lose, especially jewellery, expensive cameras and large amounts of money

Please note: Once booking and payment has been made there will not be any refund for inability to attend as we need to ensure costs are covered. Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to seeing your daughter at the Retreat.

Sincerely,

Fiona, Carole and Philipa