Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – “...He saw and he believed...” (John 20:1-9)

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

The term is rapidly coming to an end and this is the last Pride for Term One.

A public holiday on Friday – Good Friday, and another on Easter Monday. For some people, it is just a holiday. I am sure we are able to make the effort to acknowledge the real reason we have these holidays. Good Friday – the day Jesus gave his life for us. More importantly on Easter Sunday the most significant day in the Church’s calendar – the Resurrection completed the mystery of our salvation and redemption.

As I spoke to the students last week about the upcoming Passion week – there aren’t too many people that we know of – who have done this. The Resurrection of Jesus is the basis of our faith. We all gladly take the holidays but do we recognize and properly acknowledge the reason?

I am throwing out a challenge to all visit your local parish over the next few days, attend one of the liturgies and experience the reason why we enjoy these holidays.

I would like to offer you a reflection for Easter Sunday, it again emphasizes our College values in everyday life which we try to strive towards -

Jesus,
You have arisen forever
Remind us to welcome you into our hearts!
May the rising sun each day
Remind us to shine in your presence.
May the gentle winds of Autumn
Remind us of Your compassion.
May the surprises found in nature
Remind us of You as liberator of our hearts and minds.
May the news and stories of family and friends
Remind us of Your love for us.
And in the closing moments of each day
Remind us to sit quietly with You and give thanks.
Live Jesus in Our Hearts – Forever!

I always find that this break provides an important opportunity to stop, spend some time with my family and reflect on these great events which give us our purpose as Catholic Schools. The passion, death and resurrection of Jesus remind us of our ongoing challenges as human beings and call us to be renewed, to be hopeful and to work for a better world.
**Interim Reports**

Over the past week I have had the pleasure of getting to know more of our students through the signing of their Interim Reports. Parents should receive these reports this week via mail. These interim reports comment on the students’ application to their studies rather than their academic achievement. Detailed reports will be distributed at the Parent Teacher Student meetings at the start of Semester Two.

The criteria I used for the awards were as follows:

Gold Award – those students who achieved all consistent grades (100%) across all of their subjects. Those students who received Silver Awards achieved 90% or more in being consistent across all of their subjects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term One</th>
<th>Gold Awards</th>
<th>Silver Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to these students on performing at this high level. Using this criteria all of our students are capable of achieving Gold Awards in their personal profile regardless of your academic ability.

What happens from here? – Each of the Year Coordinators analyse each of their reports and takes appropriate action with the student with the support of the parents. The goal is for every student to improve upon their previous report via their own actions or with support from the College.

**Germany trip – Good luck**

On behalf of the College, I wish our students and staff who are undertaking the trip to Germany these holidays all the very best for a safe and wonderful learning experience. See you back at the start of Week 2. I am looking forward to keeping up to date with the blog and the many experiences you will encounter.

**“After Hours” Events:**

Over these past two weeks there are many events that have occurred. Two which stood out in our community were the Soiree Evening and the Public Speaking Competition.

The Autumn Soiree Evening was very well attended and supported by students and parents. We were charmed with everything from soloists to Year 12 students’ own work for the HSC. The musical/singing talent of our students amazes me and as I do not have this ability. It is great to see this talent not only highlighted but also nurtured in the College particularly by Ms Carolyn McFarlane and Mrs Olivia Gauci.

Five students represented the College in the Public Speaking Competition last month. One of those students (Yahn Monaghan) – made the Sydney Region Final. The best out of 60 schools! All five students spoke with knowledge, confidence and decorum. Again a talent that should be developed in all our young people.

Congratulations to Caitlin Cameron, Benjamin Molloy (Yr 7), Georgia Hopkins, Jasmin Fender (Yr 8) and Yahn Monaghan (Yr 9). Thanks to Mrs Sheldon who coached these students.

Both our music and public speaking talents will be recognized (and demonstrated) at our College Assembly tomorrow.

**The Introduction of the “Edumate” Student Database**

You will have noticed that the Interim Reports are formatted differently to those of previous years. Over the past three months the College has been introducing a new student management database called “Edumate”. The students and staff have experienced new roll taking procedures over this time as well. I realize the appearance of the reports could be better (and they will be) – but as with all new packages there have been a few glitches and these are being addressed. This package is slowly being introduced across all the secondary schools in the Diocese.
Mr Paul Harmon conducted an ICLT (Information, Communication and Learning Technologies) evening two weeks ago (in response to parents’ requests through our first Parent Network meeting this year), demonstrated and outlined to parents the many benefits (particularly the access to many online features through the parents’ portal) of this software package to the College community.

Areas of Responsibility
There are many areas around this College that “happen” and are coordinated by a very eager and thoughtful group of teachers who have taken on these voluntary roles. I would like to share with you these areas as they will involve your child’s broader education.

College Ministry Coordinators
Catholic Life and Mission Coordinator - Mrs Sue White
Culture and Sport Coordinator - Mr Luke Trotz and myself
Social Justice Coordinator - Mrs Laraine Boguradzki
Environment Coordinator – Ms Karen Heugh

Student Leadership (SRC) Coordinator – Ms Rose De Pomeroy
Duke of Edinburgh Program Coordinators - Ms Carolyn Scott & Ms Rose De Pomeroy
Debating / Public Speaker Coordinator - Ms Neryle Sheldon
External Academic Competition Coordinator – Ms Ksenia Filatov

College House Coordinators
Aquinas – Ms Portia Beattie
Chanel – Ms Tracie Down
Loyola – Mr Andrew Betty
Xavier - Ms Olivia Gauci & Ms Jessica Watts

Thank you to these staff for taking on these coordinating positions to assist in one of our strategic goals of improving the outcomes for the students.

RSL & Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration Service
Yesterday I was fortunate enough to participate in the above Commemoration Service. Two of our Year 11 students represented the College at Hyde Park - Alexandra Drum and Nathan Elliott. They were part of 2000 students from across NSW who joined the Premier, the Minister for Education and many other dignitaries who participated in this event.

It was great to witness one of our immediate past students read The Ode – Ben Ellis –MacMahon (Year 12 2011) representing the Junior Legatee. Ben is currently at Sydney University doing Civil Engineering.

We will be conducting our own Commemoration in front of our (1 year old) ANZAC Garden on the first day back in Term II – Tuesday 24th April.
Year 9 Spelling Competition
Last week our Science staff conducted a Spelling Bee Competition for Year 9 Students at lunchtime. There were 8 students that nominated. After many difficult words (some of them science based!) there were three winners. They were supported by about 50 students as the audience.

Congratulations to Isaac Rodda, Emma Cryan and Phoebe Cook.

Thank you to the Science staff who saw a need – and conducted the spelling bee!

Emails and Staff Contacts
In response to one of the queries that was raised at our first parent Network meeting this year about contacting teachers by email.

This system has been reviewed in the past two weeks – and the easiest way is to use the College’s main email address – stleos@dbb.catholic.edu.au to contact a member of staff.

This box is cleared every weekday morning (during term) before 8.30am.

If the email involves feedback – the staff member will reply and their direct address will be listed on this email.

As with most workplaces, several points need to be understood to ensure that email is properly used and not abused.

Parents and students are thus asked to note and observe the following:
1. Instant responses must not be expected—as with mail and telephone messages, staff have to work these responses into their daily duties of teaching, preparation and marking.
2. Emails are subject to the same requirements of courtesy and consideration as other forms of communication e.g. harassing, insulting, abusive or other inappropriate forms of contact must be avoided and will be dealt with appropriately.
3. Emails are not “private”—computers can be accessed even after deletion, hence they must be written on the understanding that others may well see them —additionally misdirection of emails is a common occurrence in today’s world.
4. Staff will usually deal with e-mails only during their time at school—it is not reasonable to expect that they would normally do this whilst at home with their families.
5. Students must ensure that their use of email to one another also observes the need for courtesy and consideration. Any use of emails by students, which could be perceived as bullying by another, will be treated seriously and dealt with as such.

The best approach is to imagine we are talking face to face. Emails – like the spoken word- are very difficult to withdraw. Another potential “dark” side of emails is the expectation that we should get a virtually instant response from the person we email to. If we sent them a letter we do not expect that they would write a reply the very moment that they received our letter. In a school situation this can apply to the expectation that students or parents may have that teachers should respond immediately to an email. I have seen such cases and significant impatience displayed by the student or parent when timing of the reply did not fit their expectations. For example, like other places of work, teachers cannot be expected to answer emails outside school hours. They have the right to their family and private time. We need to be realistic and patient when we use this form of communication.

The Leuven Project – Survey for Parents
The Project has been extended – so if you haven’t had a chance to complete the survey – please do so over the holidays!

Consultation in the Naming of the Cathedral Hall – Thank you to those half a dozen parents or so who have suggested names for the Cathedral Hall.

I will submit these to Fr Borg to pass onto Bishop David.
I would like to thank you for your commitment to and support of the College during this term and take this opportunity to wish you and your families a joyful Easter.

“...We must teach more by example than by word...” St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (1866)

AF Gleeson, College Principal

**Message from the Assistant Principal**

**Interim Reports**

All parents in Years 7-11 will soon receive their child’s Interim Reports. The College sees these Interim Reports as very important for the following reasons:

- To check to see if there has been a **settled start** to the Academic Year and students are **“on track”**;
- a check on any **new subjects** that students have undertaken this semester;
- **comparison** with 2010 set of reports; and
- areas to **improve** on for next term.

There are not too many schools around that have four reporting periods throughout the year. Parents and students should use these reports to their maximum advantage.

These reports are designed to give a **“snapshot”** of your child’s current progress in each particular subject. The Interim Report is the same as the Personal Profile of a Half Yearly and Yearly Report. This allows for easy comparison throughout the year. For each subject, the report covers, organisation and attitude towards their work. It is a descriptive report – i.e. no marks are given - the marks will be part of the Half Yearly Reports.

**House Cup**

The expansion of the House Cup to include points for academic achievement, ministry involvement, class diary merits and whole school events is having a positive effect on many students in the College.

At the end of each term the Paw Print Certificate points and the diary merit points will be tallied and added to the house points awarded for whole school events. Students this term have had the opportunity to earn points for:

- involvement in Catholic life of the College at optional Masses and bible study,
- academic excellence, academic diligence and outstanding interim reports,
- representing the College in debating, public speaking, sport, and music
- service to the College on Open Day
- service to the community through Vinnies, Nursing home visits, collection initiatives for Project Compassion
- involvement in House sport.

These points will be collated over the holidays and updated tallies will be published early next term.

**Start of Term Two**

The term dates this year do not fall kindly for the beginning Term 2 with the return date for students being **Tuesday 24th April (Day 2)**. All students are expected to be at school on this day even though we then get the Anzac Day public holiday on Wednesday.
All students should be in full winter uniform, this includes blazers. Please search for blazers and have any dry cleaning done over the break.

**Boys** – Blazers are the compulsory outer garment in winter when travelling to and from school. All boys must wear long trousers in winter. The shorts are **not** an option.

**Girls** – Blazers are the compulsory outer garment in winter when travelling to and from school. Years 7-10 girls wear the pinafore.

### Hairstyles and Piercings over the two week break

When students return to school, all aspects of uniform and grooming are expected to be as per the uniform and grooming guidelines in the College Diary. The **College’s Policy on Uniform and Grooming** can be found on Pages 19-21 of the College Diary.

I thank everyone for their support this term with the uniform and grooming expectations. I am sure that with parental support over the holidays, we will be able to avoid situations that we sometimes have upon return from the holidays, where students have defied the College policy on hairstyle and piercings. The Term I holidays are only two weeks in length and it would be obvious that radical/extreme styling/colouring would not be able to be “fixed” before the return to school. Students that return to school with piercings will be asked to remove the piercings for school. A new piercing is not a reasonable excuse for breaking the guidelines. Should students refuse to cooperate they will be sent home and parents will be contacted to discuss the issue. Once again I ask for your support with these matters.

### Shoes and WHS

Once again I would like to remind parents that open ballet-style shoes or soft canvas upper shoes do not meet WHS standards for footwear in many areas throughout the College. Should students come to school with these shoes, they will be sent home to change and return to the College. Parents will be contacted before this occurs and if this option is not available students will be withdrawn from class and the playground for the day. The canvas style ‘raven’ shoe is not suitable for sport or PDHPE and students wearing these shoes will not participate in these activities. The safety of our students is very important and we ask that you support us on this issue.

### Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12) Parent / Teacher / Student Evening

A reminder to parents of Year 11 & 12 students that our Stage 6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will be held from 3.30pm – 8pm on Tuesday 22nd May (Week 5 of Term II).

The normal procedure will apply for booking these interviews – through the online booking system used in past years. Your booking codes and instructions will be distributed at the start of Term II. Year 12 Mid Year Reports will be available for collection on this evening as well.

### National Assessment Program, Literacy And Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing (Years 7 & 9) – Term 2 Week 4

These exams start on Tuesday 15 May and continue until Friday 18 May. The results of these tests are used to evaluate whole school strategies in Literacy and Numeracy and are also used to inform teaching programs. The individual student results in NAPLAN are used to identify the needs of students including placement in classes. Please encourage your children to do their very best in these assessments so the data is as reliable as possible.

### Congratulations to our student leadership teams

The following groups have already started their ministry of student leadership and have been doing a wonderful job. The following groups of student leaders were **badged** at our College Assembly this week.

**Year 11 Prefects:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sophie Carse</th>
<th>Alex Schultz</th>
<th>Nathan Elliot</th>
<th>Alexandra Drum</th>
<th>Lachlan Hinds</th>
<th>Charlotte Ball</th>
<th>Jordan Macri</th>
<th>Anna Kazatchek</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I would like to thank these students for their efforts so far and wish them all the best in their respective roles for the rest of the year.

I would like to thank all the parents that have taken a keen interest in child’s education by discussing the work done here at school, regularly checking diaries and supporting the College. Have a safe and relaxing break and I hope to see you all return reenergized for another busy term. I wish everyone a very holy Easter and encourage parents and students to attend Easter services in their local parishes.

Mr Marc Reicher, Assistant Principal
**News from around the College**

I recently received my First Holy Communion at St Leo’s and I feel really happy to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. It was great to be able to mark this very special and memorable occasion with fellow classmates at St Leo’s. I am now looking forward to celebrating the true meaning of Easter.

Ben Parker

**A message on behalf of our Japanese students**

Dear St Leo’s Catholic College and Host Families

It is a heartfelt pleasure to write to you all and thank you for making the Schooling experiences of our Japanese students from Tomigaoka High School such a success. Reports and responses from the Japanese School and students have testified to the success of the visit and express gratitude to all who have worked and adapted to make the visit happy, secure, memorable as well as educational. You can see the photos of your students from the link below.

http://www.dropbox.com/gallery/62023965/1/Tomigaoka%20HS%20HQ?h=473874

It is a wonderful opportunity for Japanese students to step outside of their indigenous culture and into the friendly embrace of St. Leo’s Catholic College and its families and a privilege for them to make Australian friends and so discover new ways of looking at the thoughts and experiences we all share. For many of the Japanese students this year’s Australian visit will be a landmark in their lives which they will remember and think about for years to come.

For us adults who engage in the organisation and planning of the visits and the care of the students it is also an experience which bridges differences in languages and cultures and brings us all closer in appreciation and understanding. Your contributions and adaptability are greatly appreciated.

**Coles and Woolworths Vouchers**

Thank you to all the families and friends who contributed to the Coles and Woolworths vouchers collected in Term 3 and 4 last year. We received our sporting and educational equipment in March and with the voucher money from Coles we ordered 18 dozen tennis balls, 30 skipping ropes, table tennis bats and nets, indoor bats and soft balls for our indoor spaces and squeezy whistles for refereeing.

From Woolworths we ordered 5 mini torso’s of the human body displaying internal organs to scale. The PDHPE Department has already used these with senior PE classes for anatomy elements of the course. The students have enjoyed using them and look forward to more opportunities to engage in these anatomy lessons.

Thank you again for your support.

Ms Jamie Stimson, PDHPE Coordinator

**Year 10 French Students - "GALETTE DES ROIS" cake competition**

"Year 10 French students had fun this month celebrating the French "Galette des Rois" which is the French equivalent of our plum pudding celebrated during Epiphany (yes we're a little late nonetheless).

The students were given a chance to make their own Epiphany cakes and then to place inside the cake, before the cooking the famous "fete" which is a small china ornament or toy.

Mr Reicher was given the opportunity to judge the cakes - all 10 of them were "taste-tested" and congratulations to Lizzie Maher and Vanessa Mawby - 1st prize!

Well done Year 10!

Helen Somerville, French teacher
Be rewarded with Academic Competitions in 2012!

2012 is a big year for student competitions in NSW. There are plenty of opportunities to suit your interests and abilities. The prize pool is fabulous this year too!

ICAS

Every year the University of NSW in Sydney hosts international academic competitions. The competitions are conducted at school throughout the year. Everyone will get a participation certificate and the top performers can get Credit, Distinction and High Distinction. Students with the highest score in each subject in each reporting region are awarded a medal. Attention year 11 and 12 students - Medal winning students in their final two years of schooling also qualify for bonus Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Below is the timetable for the year with the entry fee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Entries closing</th>
<th>Test date</th>
<th>Entry fee per student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>8 May</td>
<td>6 June</td>
<td>$7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>week: 18 to 22 June</td>
<td>$16.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>31 July</td>
<td>$7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>14 August</td>
<td>$7.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information and practice questions visit: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/etc/icas
If you are interested in any of the above competitions please contact Ms. Filatov before the closing date.

Poetry

Science poetry competition
Winning entries published.
closing date: 12 June, 2012

The Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards closing date: 28 June, 2012
Prize pool includes: $500, iPad (yrs 10-12), iPod Touch (yrs 7-9)
For more details visit: www.dorothea.com.au

Creative and persuasive writing
Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer Award (yrs 11-12)
Prize pool includes: a one week work experience placement at The Sydney Morning Herald, 5 hour mentorship and 2 short courses at the NSW Writers Centre, $200 book voucher and books from Dymocks.
Submit your entries online by Monday 18 June 2012
For more details visit: www.youngwriter.smh.com.au

What Matters? is a writing competition that gives year 5 – 12 students in NSW and the ACT a chance to say what matters to them in society today. What actions do you think should be taken to build a better society? What would you change if you could? What do you want other people to care about?
Prize pool includes: $350, Young Writers Forum, laptop, creative writing workshop (y7-10) and multimedia content program (y11-12). For more details visit: Submit your entries to Ms. Filatov by 2 May, 2012

Watch this space as more competitions will be advertised throughout the year. Good luck!
Homework Club
Homework Club is quietly celebrating its fourth Term 1 startup. Homework Club runs every afternoon and all students are welcome to come to the library after school. Food is provided on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. This is a slight change following this year’s new sport arrangements. Homework Club is an opportunity for students to complete homework, undertake research or finish assignments. I am available each session for assistance as are the library resources and the laptops.

Homework Club aims to be a pleasant supported environment which helps students to get organised and to gain that good feeling when homework is completed. To boost available brain power, a simple snack (sandwich/juice) is provided at the start of the Club. Homework Club is free and there is no need to sign up. Students are welcome to attend whenever they like.

Neryle Sheldon, Teacher-Librarian

Public Speaking Congratulations
We congratulate Yahn Monaghan of Year 9 who won through to the Regional Final in the recent Catholic Schools Debating Association (CSDA) Public Speaking Contest. The competition is at a very high standard and the final round consists of 13 of the best speakers in the entire Sydney region.

Yahn delivered his speech on Freedom at the College Assembly on 5 March. His speech was very well constructed, engaging and delivered in a very powerful manner.

Debating
Debating teams are working towards the CSDA Debating Competition which starts on Friday May 4 (Week 2 of Term 2). Our first three debates are away, at Mercy, Santa Sabina and Holy Cross. The final two debates of the first round are here at school, on Friday 25 May and Friday 1 June. We will be looking for students to assist in the vital roles of ushers and debate management. Your encouragement of students in this assistance is appreciated. Students gain much from these roles and in hearing the debates.

This year we have enough debaters to form two teams in Years 7 to 10. We can only enter one team per year in the CSDA competition. The two teams will have in-school debates at least once per term, maintaining their skills and earning House points.

UN Youth Australia NSW Schools Model United Nations Security Council Competition
Students in Years 9 to 12 are invited to enter this one day event, to be held at a venue in Hornsby on Saturday May 12. The form of debate is of model sessions of the UN Security Council. Teams of two students act as ambassadors to one of the fifteen member nations of the Security Council and debate draft UN resolutions from that nation’s perspective on a host of topics ranging from global warming to terrorism to nation building. The students do not have to be from the same year but must be from the same school. The cost is $30 per student. By participating in this event, students develop public speaking, negotiating, research, problem solving, teamwork and leadership skills.


Neryle Sheldon, Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator
PAWS SOIREE IN AUTUMN
Congratulations to all the students who performed last Wednesday night.

Solo and small group items were performed by Lisa Brown, Timo Godbold, Libby Hughes, Kirsten Sharbine, Bona May Sulits, Tom Creasey, Claire Armstrong, Vanessa Mawby, Sean Longhurst, Sophie Carse, Oscar Xie, Alex Nindra, Casey Allen and Nicole Cesti.

Bel Canto (the school vocal group) and Woodwind Ensemble also performed pieces they have been working on during the term.

The next Soiree is on Wednesday 12th September. If you are interested in performing auditions for solo and small group performers will be held during Term 3.

Thank you to all the parents and students who came to support our performers on the night.

Ms McFarlane & Mrs Gauci

Careers News
Sydney University HSC Preparation Workshops will be taking place in the April and July school holidays for Year 11 and Year 12 students. Classes are available in English (Advanced, Extension 1 & 2), Mathematics (2 unit and Extension 1), Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Economics. In addition essay writing and exam preparation workshops are suitable for both Year 11 and Year 12 students. Details for registration can be found at www.sydney.edu.au/cce/hsc

Certificate I in Information Technology for Girls aged 15 to 17: Meadowbank TAFE is providing the opportunity for girls interested in the IT industry to undertake a Certificate I course in Term II each Friday 9am-3.30pm starting 27 April. This is a fully funded course and aims to build a greater engagement of women in the Information Technology industry. An application form is available from the Careers Office.

Chartered Accountants Cadetship Evening will be held on Wednesday 23 May from 4.30 pm at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. This is an excellent opportunity for Year 12 students to engage with over 30 employers, attend information sessions regarding cadetships and receive tips on the recruitment process. Further details and an updated event calendar can be accessed at www.charteredaccountants.com.au/students

AUG Education Faculty Exhibition takes place on Saturday 26 May 10am-4.30pm at Sydney Lower Town Hall 483 George St Sydney. This is an opportunity for senior students to speak with university representatives and gain a greater depth of understanding of courses offered in the following faculties:

- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Health Science
- Faculty of Medical Science
- Faculty of Architecture
- Faculty of Design

Representatives will be available from many universities including the University of Sydney, the University of NSW, UTS, Macquarie University, UWS, Le Cordon Blue and many more. Students may also access the following services on the day:

- Free UAC, QTAC, VTAC and SATAC Application assistance (NSW, QLD, VIC, SA universities)
- Free Visa consultation and guidance
- Multilingual counselling
- Scholarship application
Responsible Service of Alcohol: This course has been organised to take place at the College on Monday 23 April at a cost of $65. The RSA course is a requirement of any job involving the service, sale or supply of alcohol to the public. It is a valuable certificate to hold for casual work in licensed pubs, restaurants, clubs, and retail liquor outlets. Interested Yr 12 students can collect a permission note from the Careers Office.
On Wednesday 28th March Year 11 Visual Arts students spent the day at the Art Gallery of NSW viewing Artexpress and the general Collection.

Students were able to experience some of the top HSC artworks from 2011, Aboriginal artworks in the Yiribana gallery, Asian art, traditional European and early Australian artworks and some challenging Contemporary works in the new Kaldor wing.

This is an invaluable experience to help students understand various Artist’s Practice and prepare for the HSC course by being able to interpret a wide selection of artworks in a Gallery setting and to question why some works are deemed worthy of exhibition.

Juliette Carson
Visual Arts Coordinator

YEAR 8 PHOTOGRAPHS “EVERYDAY MONOCHROME” STILL LIFE

JESSICA FUNK
KEIRA CHRYSRATL
DANIEL JONES
LUCY MCNAY
KYLIE MAGEROPOLOUS
MICHELLINA MAHFOUD
DANES COLAH
NICK BURGESS
WILSON MURPHY
NICK BURGESS
RUBY FORD

YEAR 11 SOCIAL ISSUES DRAWING UNIT
*Sports Desk*

**Broken Bay**
Wednesday 2nd May, Cross Country
Monday 14th May, U13’s & Open’s Soccer Gala Day

**St Leo’s College**

U13’s & U15’s Rugby League – Training every Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning

U13’s, U15’s, A & B Grade Soccer Teams – Training every Tuesday afternoon

U14’s Soccer Team – Training every Tuesday at 7.15AM

Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 Netball Teams – Training every Tuesday afternoon

Cross Country training every Friday at 7.15AM

Open’s Hockey Team – Training every Monday at 7.15AM

Jnr/Inters Oz Tag – Training every Tuesday at 7.15AM

**Pastoral News**
**Year 12**

Exams are often one of the more daunting aspects of assessment for students, particularly when they are Year 12 Half Yearly Examinations. Year 12 students have been preparing for some time for the exams that commenced Tuesday the 27th of March. In the weeks leading up to Tuesday, I have meet with many students who were seeking advice and strategies in an effort to maximise their results.

Louise Weihen, our academic adviser has reported on the diligence shown by the students in her study groups and teachers are speaking of students who are continually submitting practice essays for marking. I was impressed on Wednesday when a group of young men came to my office seeking a quiet space to participate in a group study session prior to their Business Studies Exam.

At the commencement of each exam, students meet outside the Chapel where we settle in silence to reflect and listen to a prayer read by a fellow student. I have observed the reverence maintained during this time and believe this short moment makes a big difference. Exams can be stressful, who better to ask for guidance but Our Lord.

**Ms Roberts, Year Coordinator**
**Year 11**
The last 2 weeks have been a very busy time for students in Year 11. Subject choices have been finalized, assessments are being handed in and returned. The Interim reports are looking very pleasing and most students have stepped up to the challenges of Year 11 and the work load that is required of a Senior Student.

During Tutor Time students have been involved in a presentation by Gp’s and Registrars. Student were divided into friendship, single sex groups and allowed to ask questions regarding sexual health and other issues that face teenagers today. All students reported that they felt more informed about their concerns regarding important issues.

One student wrote the following:

“today we had a program for all the year 11 student called GP’s in schools. We spoke about all different topics that relate to kids our age. We first spoke about drugs and alcohol and it was a good chance to find out the facts and side effects of these things. We also covered stress, so we all had a chance to talk about the different stresses in our lives and we were given some new strategies to help deal with these stresses. We spoke about sexual health as well and we had the chance to ask questions about anything we needed to know and we discussed it all as a group which was good as it got everybody involved and it was really good to discuss these sorts of thing with our peers”

Students have also been involved in a presentation by Mr Paul Harmon regarding the use/ misuse of the Internet and how cyber bullying can be resolved.

Have a safe and Happy Easter

Kate Todd
Year 11 Coordinator

**Year 10**
All students in Year 10 completed a “peer relationship” survey. The purpose of the survey is to gather information about student behaviour that may affect learning at school.

In addition, Xavier House had the opportunity to engage in a reflection during Lent, held in the College Chapel and through the guidance of Mr Ralph Kershler, the College Youth Minister.

After self-nominating, a peer ballot, a staff ballot and some interviews, the following Year 10 students are members of the Student Representative Council. Congratulations to the following students – I’m sure their contributions will make a positive difference.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Corinne Mack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Connor Quinlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Rosalie Hopkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Courtney Scarth</td>
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<tr>
<td>L1</td>
<td>Hunor Kicsi</td>
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<tr>
<td>L2</td>
<td>Shannon O’Keeffe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X1</td>
<td>Dominic Cantrall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X2</td>
<td>Harry Pryor</td>
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During the term, two groups of students went on a “street retreat” program run by the Youth Ministry Coordinator, Mr Ralph Kershler. The program includes visiting the many church agencies that are involved with and provide essential services for the homeless in Sydney. Students in year 10 have responded in a positive way to this program and have even donated some toiletries. These will be delivered with the next group to participate in the program.

To conclude, I like to wish everybody a safe and enjoyable Easter break.

Angelo Solomonides, Year 10 Coordinator

**Year 9**
Students will be doing some activities in tutor time linked with Easter.
Year 7
Well done to Year 7 students (and their parents) – you’ve made it to the end of the first term of High School.

In tutor time, students have been focusing on peer relationships, culminating in a performance today by Brainstorm Productions of The Hurting Game, about the ways in which people play ‘games’ to give themselves a false sense of power and belonging. In conjunction with this tutor teachers have led students through discussion of issues such as friendships and interactions at school and on the internet.

Wishing you all a good rest over the holiday, and a happy and peaceful Easter.

Megan de Kantzow

Peer Support Year 7 – Friday 23rd March 2012
Year 10 Peer Support Leaders discussed with their Year 7 Peer Support Groups the importance of team work and listening and supporting each other. They explored how important it is to get along with people – communicate effectively, be honest, treat everyone with dignity and respect, take responsibility and work co-operatively.

Each group created a poster on POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS.

The Positive Relationships Posters displayed: Supporting, communicating, hope, family, honesty, friendship, encouraging, listening, talking, honest, trusting, teamwork, peace, happiness, including one another, loyalty.
Dear Students, Parents, Friends & Caregivers of St Leo’s Catholic College

You are invited to our

MOTHERS’ DAY MASS
On Friday 11th May 2012
At 7:30am
In the COLLEGE CHAPEL

A light breakfast will be served at the conclusion of the Mass

Please return the slip below to the College Office/Homeroom Teacher or call Reception on 9487-3555

RSVP by Wednesday 9th May 2012

STUDENT NAME:.............................  Homeroom:............................
Number of Parents & Children Attending:..........................

MOTHERS’ DAY MASS 2012
GP’s in Schools Program – Year 11 Monday 2nd April 2012

Under the leadership of Dr Carol Kefford from the University of Sydney, 20 GP’s, Registrars and Senior Medical Students visited St Leo’s and led small group discussions on health and well being.

The doctors commented on the student’s willingness to engage in discussions and their respect and maturity.

Attached to the back of the newsletter is a copy of the contact list provided to students – it has lots of helpful contact numbers and websites.

Mission News

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

Parent Network

Save the date …

Mother’s Day Mass … Friday 11th May 2012
College Chapel at 7.30 am. Followed by morning tea

Principal’s Update … Wednesday 13th June 2012
College Library from 7 pm. Cheese and wine followed by presentations and discussion.

College Dinner and Dance - Saturday 4th August 2012
Hornsby RSL. Live Band. Invite adult friends and families.

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

College Dinner and Dance - Saturday 4th August 2012
For more information or if you have any queries please contact Kathryn Carmody, Team leader via email kathryn_carmody@yahoo.com.au or telephone Virginia Gahan, Committee member 9476 8724.

Want to know more about the Parent Network or parent involvement at St Leo’s?
For more information regarding the College Parent Network: www.dbb.org.au/schools/stleoscollege/Pages/CollegeParentNetwork
Or contact or email Marinela Mendes via email: <mendes@bigpond.net.au> or call 9487 5757 or 0418 22 40 31.
Community News

Teen Triple P Group for parents of teenagers
7 week group work program
The Teen Triple P Group is a 7 week parenting program aimed at parents or carers of teenagers aged 12-16 years who have or are at risk of developing behaviour problems. Teen Triple P teaches parents how to encourage emotional self-regulation and to help their teenager develop the social skills they need to get along with others and be successful at school and in the wider community. Teenagers who grow up with positive parenting are more likely to develop appropriate life skills, feel good about themselves, and are less likely to develop serious problem behaviours.

The group work program involves the first 4 weeks at Naremburn Family Centre, 2 weeks of phone calls and one final week at Naremburn Family Centre
DATE: 14th May – 25th June
TIME: Monday Evenings 6pm-8:15pm
VENUE: Naremburn Family Centre
40 Merrenburn Avenue, Naremburn NSW 2065
PRESENTERS: Laura Hurstfield & Melinda Lowe
TOTAL COST: $50
BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AND PRE-SCREENING REQUIRED

Please contact Melinda or Laura on 8425 8700 or email naremburnfamilyservice@dbb.org.au
Communicating with Teens
Child & Adolescent Parenting
Northern Sydney Local Health District
Enquiries: Phone 9887 5830

Communicating with Teens Course
- influence your teenager's behavior
- understand the stages of development of teenagers
- feel more comfortable with your teenager's style and likes
- keep lines of communication open between you and your teenager
- cope with your own and your teenager's anger in a constructive way
- learn how to get your point across and also listen to your teenager's point of view
- learn how to resolve 'issues' between your teenager and yourself and still keep the relationship intact
- plus more ideas on how to build relationships - what works and what doesn't work!

COURSE VENUE: CHATSWOOD 5wks/2.5hrs
When: Tuesday, 29th May, 2012 (7.00pm - 9.30pm)
COST: $165 per person  Concession: $125 per person

Dealing With Teen's Back Chat Workshop
VENUE: CHATSWOOD
When: Tuesday, 22nd May, 2012 - 7.00pm - 9.30pm - $40 per person

Triple P (PPP) Teens Seminar Series
available on request - to organise these or for details of Workshops/Seminars scheduled for this term, phone 9887-5830

TO ENROL, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM

Family Name: ______________________________ First Name(s): ______________________________
Address: __________________________________ Suburb: ____________________________ Postcode: _______
Phone: ( )________________________(mobile)________________________ F: ______ M: ______
Ages of children: __________________________
Email address: ____________________________

COURSE  WORKSHOP □

Enquiries: Child & Adolescent Parenting - 9887 5830
Parent Forums
Understanding your teenager


NEXT FORUM: Monday March 26
Making the Grade - Is there Life During Study

SPEAKER: Judith Wheeldon
Former Principal of Abbotsleigh and Queenwood school for Girls, Trustee of the Powerhouse Museum, Director of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, Member of the Ministerial Advisory Council on HIV Aids, Aboriginal Sexual Health and Hepatitis C and Director of the Montessori Children’s Foundation.

Each forum is held on a Monday from 6.30pm - 8.30pm (registration from 6:15pm) at Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

Parent forums

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>Body Image</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>Internet - Tool and Weapon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Sexualisation of Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 17</td>
<td>Safe Partying</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Building Positive Mental Health</td>
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</tbody>
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$5 ENTRY

BOOKINGS REQUIRED
Ku-ring-gai Council Youth Services on 9424 0837 or youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au

For more information on the forums contact KYDS on 9416 9824 or visit www.kyds.org.au
Invitation

Mothers’ Spirituality Morning

Living graciously: experiencing everyday miracles

Please join us for our Mothers’ Spirituality Morning. This is an opportunity to nurture your spirit, reflect gently on your life and connect with other mothers and grandmothers. There is no cost to participants and child minding will be provided.

Date, Location & Time

Wednesday 2nd May 9.15-12.30
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School 2 Richard Porter Way, Pymble
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of Sacred Heart, Pymble Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, West Pymble and Loreto Normanhurst.

Thursday 3rd May 9.15-12.30
Prowire Catholic School Wahroonga 5 Water Street, Wahroonga
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of Holy Name, Prowire Catholic School, St Lucy’s School and St Edmund’s School, Wahroonga.

Friday 4th May 9.15-12.30
Wailara Parish Hall enter from Yardley Avenue, Wailara
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of St Patrick’s, Astbury, St Bernard’s, Berowra, Our Lady of the Rosary, Wailara and St Leo’s, Wahroonga.

Monday 7th May 9.15-12.30
St Agatha’s Parish Centre 26 Boundary Road, Pennant Hills
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of St Gerard’s Carlingford, Our Lady Help of Christians, Epping, St Agatha’s and Mt St Benedict’s, Pennant Hills

Tuesday 8th May 9.15-12.30
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School 243 Mona Vale Road, St Ives
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of Holy Family, Linfield, Corpus Christi and Brigantine College, St Ives

Monday 21st May 9.15-12.30
Narraburn Parish Centre Donnelly Rd, St Leonards
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of St Thomas, Willoughby and St Philip The Apostle, Northbridge

TBA
Ideal for mothers, grandmothers, and significant females of those students and parishioners of Our Lady of Dolours, Mercy College and St Pius Schools Chatswood

If you are unable to attend the Mothers’ Spirituality Morning at your school or parish you are very welcome to attend at another location of your choice.

RSVP

To register your attendance and your child minding requirements, please contact Mrs Sue Labullis sue.labullis@dbb.catholic.edu.au or 98470304 (T/W/Th)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local Contact List</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifeline</td>
<td>131114</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifeline- Harbour to Hawkesbury</td>
<td>9498 8805</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kids Helpline</td>
<td>1800 55 1800</td>
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<td>A national telephone counselling service for young people aged 5-18 years. This is free, anonymous and confidential.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youthline</td>
<td>9360 3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Sydney Health Mental Health Helpline</td>
<td>1300 302 900</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 hours a day – seven days a week. Your call will be automatically directed to the Mental Health Service closest to where you are ringing from in the Northern Sydney Health area – from the Harbour to the Hawkesbury.</td>
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<td><strong>Centrelink</strong></td>
<td>132 490</td>
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<td>Health Care Cards, Youth Allowance, Austudy, Abstudy</td>
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<td><strong>Hospital Emergency Departments</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hornsby</td>
<td>9477 9530</td>
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<td>Ryde</td>
<td>9858 7852</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal North Shore</td>
<td>9926 7111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney Adventist</td>
<td>9487 9169</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Police Assistance Line</strong></td>
<td>131 444</td>
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<td>For the reporting of non urgent crimes</td>
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<td><strong>Emergency Services: Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance</strong></td>
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Some Helpful Websites

Medicare Australia
Provides downloadable Medicare Forms including Medicare Enrolment Form, Copy/Transfer Application Form and other Medicare forms

FPA Health
Helps you with all your sexual and reproductive health needs

Kids Helpline
A national telephone counselling service for young people aged 5-18 years. It is free, anonymous and confidential. The website contains links to email counselling opportunities also.

Reachout
Information and referral service for young people

Youth NSW
Info on topics such as health, money, housing, legal issues and more

Headspace
Useful information about youth mental health and where to find help

The Source
Info for young people on things such as drugs and alcohol, mental health, sport and much more

Australian Alcohol Guidelines
Information about standard drinks and alcohol related problems

Australian Drug Foundation
A great site that provides information on specific drugs and organizing parties. Lots of useful downloadable fact sheets

Australian Drug Information Network
Provides further information about drug and alcohol, as well as other drug and alcohol services.

DARTA
Drug and Alcohol Research and Training

NCPIC
National cannabis prevention and information centre

Yes to Life
"Yes to Life" provides information for people living with Depression and Anxiety, and for their families. There is a section for young people - this includes information about understanding depression and getting help.

NSW Health - Fact Sheets
Fact sheets on Drugs and alcohol

Black Dog Institute
A clinical research and educational body dedicated to improving understanding, diagnosis and treatment of depression and Bipolar Disorder - particularly the psychological tool kit

Beyond Blue
Information about Depression

MoodGym
Online interactive web based program

The National Children's and Youth Law Centre

The Hormone Factory

Somazone
Somazone is a program of the Australian Drug Foundation

Bullying in schools

Health Insight

Kidz Vision
For children with disabilities, their siblings and their families

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg
Michael is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists. He has written very useful books for young people and their parents Such as "Surviving Year 12: A sanity kit for students and their parents" How to work smarter, de-stress, get enough sleep and enjoy the final year.

Youthsafe
Works to help prevent serious injury in young people

CAAH
NSW Centre for Advancement of Adolescent Health

Mental Health First Aid
Simple advice for supporting people with mental health issues