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

I am sure many of you have a Facebook account. Over the last few weeks I have noticed that the company has been promoting *Your Year In Review*. People can see a personalised video in their News Feed of their meaningful moments from 2016. If you have noticed – this personalised video is a compilation of many highpoints. Society in general tends to define success by how much one completes and accumulates. At times it can feel as if we are caught in a cycle of rushing from one achievement to another. We must value our successes, but at the same time – value and learn from our not so successful times and events.

In our Christian faith – we are called to be a people of Hope. Besides *Hope* being one of our five College or Gospel values, it is a challenge for each one of us to reflect on our results, processes, relationships and learnings. This reflection is necessary for us to improve, in order to not only sustain being people with a positive attitude but also be able to provide opportunities for others so they can also improve upon their current situation.

On Tuesday we held our Year in Review ceremony with a past student and current Leader of the NSW Opposition, Mr Luke Foley, as our guest speaker. The awards, presentations and performances represent much of what makes St Leo’s such a wonderful place. However, I would add that it is this shared sense of excitement and enthusiasm for all that we do, each and every day, that is more important than any one prize, shield or trophy. At St Leo’s we are a strong and inclusive faith filled community – this is our greatest strength and it does not happen by accident. Every individual, regardless of socio economic status, physical appearance, their country of origin or their ability contributes to our success as a collaborative Catholic systemic school in the Edmund Rice tradition. Each student learns to be accepting and tolerant of individual differences in a school community that is reflective of the world in which you will directly move into in the next few years. I thank each and every one of you for that.
The staff share in the work of Jesus to reach out to others and to spread the good news about life and its purpose. We share in the evangelization of our community. What we do at St Leo’s each day has a positive impact on the futures of the young people in our care and, therefore, bodes well for the future of our world particularly for those who are not as fortunate as ourselves. Our students, our learners, are world-changers. This is not a gift – but rather a responsibility now which each of us needs to take seriously and prioritize. As Pope Francis challenges us as parents and teachers – to be concerned with educating the whole person,

“There are three languages: the language of the head, the language of the heart, and the language of the hands; education must go forward by these three ways; instructing in how to think and helping students to feel well.”

The global connectedness of our learners will only increase. And just as well. We need our young people to embrace the multitude of opportunities available to them across the globe, so as to combat any insular, divisive and biased perceptions that can so easily breed due to ignorance.

Global education can be empowering and transformative in terms of the way in which our students view the world. At St Leo’s, we have taken this challenge continue to extend our students’ understanding but also that of tolerance of difference and provide opportunities for them to become active global participants. As a College we have been pioneers in the Outback NSW Pilgrimage held for a number of years now. We have been working to forge links at a global level with a range of friends; we have already formed friendships in Kiribati, our ongoing links with schools in Japan and Germany have been invaluable in developing our students’ language proficiency and cultural understanding. This year we also laid the initial plans for our soccer teams to travel to the UK in the next couple of years. The future opportunities that these relationships bring to our students, staff and community are very exciting and we have a commitment to continuing to investigate ways in which we can expand our students’ horizons.

As the school continues to improve with our Building and Re-Development Project we saw the removal of the Brothers’ Residence for a lovely green area for passive recreation by our students and staff. The knocking down of the old Admin block – so further development of open and more functional and welcoming areas can be developed. The commencement of a new contemporary facility that will provide our students top class facilities in Visual Arts, TAS, Hospitality, Drama and Music.

I take this opportunity to give thanks to all who have contributed to our College community:

I express my deep gratitude to our College Advisory Group. This group of staff, parents and friends of the College is a highly skilled group of individuals who have volunteered their considerable expertise to provide sound advice and facilitating the many ways in which our strong College community comes together.
I thank them for their time, their commitment and their ongoing support and encouragement.

I also acknowledge the exceptional leadership provided by our current Student Leadership Team, headed by Rohan Knight and Sarah Dever. Some say “our world is a reflection of ourselves”. In this term whilst they have been given this leadership opportunity, our student leaders have given of themselves throughout Term IV – particularly the many events we have had and, in doing so, they have influenced our school in positive and meaningful ways. I have marvelled at their energy, resilience and compassion and I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside them in the leadership of Leo’s. We look forward to continual leadership for the next three terms.

And now to the staff.

Our staff are deeply invested in finding and nurturing the immense potential inside all students so that they are equipped to explore the boundless possibilities that lie ahead of them.

To do this takes determination, hard work and a commitment to the pursuit of excellence. I thank all of our teaching and support staff across the College who have invested so much of themselves and their tremendous expertise in the pursuit of this vision for the benefit of our students and our College. I count myself extremely privileged to work with such a dedicated team.

To all parents and caregivers, I thank you for your passionate support of all things St Leo’s and for giving us the opportunity to work in partnership with you to give the greatest gift of all, for all of our children – the gift of Catholic education.

Over the coming Christmas period enjoy the celebrations, but take some time to reflect on our own learnings, the things we did well and not so well – you can’t reflect on one without the other. Come back in 2017 with a personal plan of how together as a community we can build upon the magnificent 60 years of Catholic Education on this site and how 2017 will be your peak of education so far!

I extend to all members of our School community my very best wishes for a peaceful, Holy Christmas and a refreshing and safe holiday.

Congratulations to our prize winners at this week’s Year in Review

Excellence in Catholic Life and Mission Awards

Year 7
Emily Barrett, Pilar Fraser, Faith Holmes, Bayden Little, Matteo Persechino, Jacob Yammine

Year 8
John Cosgrove, Eliana Stafford-Gaffney
**Excellence in Music Awards**

**Vocal**

| Year 7 | Abrielle Elysee, Faith Holmes, Jessica Jakubek, Joel Tjoa |
| Year 8 | Harriet Bennett, Emily Mostyn |
| Year 9 | Scott Brooks, Olivia Clay, Ian D'Souza |
| Year 10 | Camille Chin, Jessica Knight, Kate O'Callaghan |
| Year 11 | Sarah Dever, Kate Fransen, Benjamin Molloy |

**Instrumental**

| Year 7 | Francesca Barrington-Molloy, Joel McCabe, Austin Taurins, Will Taurins |
| Year 8 | Cameron Hose, Jamie Park, Andrew Somerville, Luke Van Den Tillaart |
| Year 9 | Justin Chou, Mure Feng, Megan Mawby |
| Year 10 | Nathan Carey, Jacques Godbold, Aiden Hose |
| Year 11 | Benjamin Adam, Joshua Reidy, Ethan Scavia, Harrison White |
Excellence in Sport Awards

Aerobics Juniors
Hayley Manktelow – Best and Fairest
Marina Salvador - Most Improved
Jacob Yammine - Coaches Award

Aerobics Intermediate
Katy O’Leary – Best and Fairest
Camille Chin – Most Improved
Amy Cornale - Coaches Award

Aerobics Senior
Lauren Briscoe – Best and Fairest
Grace Khamis - Most Improved
Bethany Baynie - Coaches Award

Athletics
Gabriella Chan – Best and Fairest
Lachlan Rose – Best and Fairest
Lillian Judge - Most Improved
Nathan Guptill – Coaches Award
Ryan Stack – Coaches Award

Netball – Year 7
Madyson Pitt – Best and Fairest
Julia Rologas – Most Improved
Pilar Fraser – Coaches Award

Netball Year 8
Rebecca Khamis – Best and Fairest
Cassidy Martin – Most Improved
Penelope Chan – Coaches Award

Netball – Inters
Courtney Hickman – Best and Fairest
Chloe Moltzen – Most Improved
Hannah Stibilj – Coaches Award

Soccer (U/13 Boys)
Nicholas Jakovcevic – Best and Fairest
Sayed Fatemi Nayeri – Most Improved
Samuel Molloy – Coaches Award

Soccer (U/13 Girls)
Rachael Guptill – Best and Fairest
Monique Dever – Most Improved
Monique Todarello – Coaches Award

Soccer (U/15 Boys)
Mitchell Haigh – Best and Fairest
Felix Holm – Most Improved
Jacob Stewart – Coaches Award

Soccer (U/15 Girls)
Mia Hing – Best and Fairest
Sienna Odd – Most Improved
Darcy Watt – Coaches Award

Swimming – Age Champions
U/14 Girls - Marina Grout
U/14 Boys - Riley Haydon
U/15 Girls - Penelope Chan
U/15 Boys - Jack Duncum
U/16 Girls - Georgia Peregrina
U/16 Boys - Cameron Fraser
U/17 Girls - Camille Chin
U/17 Boys - Joshua McLeod
U/18 Girls - Sophia Groundwater
U/18 Boys - Thomas Peregrina

Volleyball (Boys)
Raymond Takchi – Best and Fairest
Jake Seiler – Most Improved
Liam Quinlan – Coaches Award

Volleyball (Girls)
Laura Moran – Best and Fairest
Sophia Groundwater – Most Improved
Karla Schwalger – Coaches Award
Elite Athletes Awards
AFL
Oliver Browne

Athletics – NSWCCC Selection
Keeley Bowen
Aiden Brophy
Matthew Cassarchis
Gabriella Chan
James Gladman
Nathan Guptill
Bayden Little
Mitchell MacDonald
Samuel Park
Liam Quinlan
Lachlan Rose
Jake Seiler
Ryan Stack
Jacob Stewart
Harvey Timms

Baseball
Jo Stevens

BJP Physical Culture
Sophie Batchelor

Cricket
Jordan Hayes

Cross Country
Patrick McLoughlin
Lachlan Rose
Harvey Timms

Year 7 Major Awards
Sportsman of the Year
Daniel Hoare

Sportswoman of the Year
Monique Dever

Most Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Life and Mission of the College
Jacob Yammine

Most Outstanding Contribution to Instrumental Program
Bayden Little

Figure Skating
Chiara Donagemma

Golf
Jake Thompson-Doolan
Blake Thompson-Doolan

Gymnastics
Tyla Petrie

Martial Arts
Jeremy Seoung

Rugby League
Aiden Brophy
Nathan Hassan
Mitchell MacDonald
Billy Pollard

Soccer
Tahlia Macri
Lachlan Rose

Swimming
Georgia Peregrina
Thomas Peregrina

Touch Football
Keeley Bowen
Aiden Brophy
Nathan Hassan
Mitchell MacDonald
Most Outstanding Contribution to Vocal Ensembles
Matteo Persechino

Best All Rounder
Francesca Barrington Molloy and Matteo Persechino

Year 8 Major Awards
Sportsman of the Year
Aiden Brophy

Sportswoman of the Year
Penelope Chan

Most Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Life and Mission of the College
John Cosgrove

Most Outstanding Contribution to Instrumental Program
Natalie Wrightson

Most Outstanding Contribution to Vocal Ensembles
Samuel Molloy

Best All Rounder
John Cosgrove

Year 9 Major Awards
Sportsman of the Year
Jacob Stewart

Sportswoman of the Year
Claudia Jenkins

Most Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Life and Mission of the College
Freja Bennett and Veronica Smith

Most Outstanding Contribution to Instrumental Program
Sara Gondo

Most Outstanding Contribution to Vocal Ensembles
Megan Mawby

Best All Rounder
Ian D’Souza

Year 10 Major Awards
Sportsman of the Year
Joshua McLeod

Sportswoman of the Year
Rachel Geha
Most Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Life and Mission of the College
Gabriele Da Silva

Most Outstanding Contribution to Instrumental Program
Thomas Treloar

Most Outstanding Contribution to Vocal Ensembles
Tamara Manktelow

Vanessa Anderson Award for Excellence in Sport
Joshua McLeod

Michael O’Brien Award for Contribution in the Field of Computing
Nathan Carey

ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award
Joshua McLeod

Best All Rounder
Patrick McLoughlin

Year 11 Major Awards
Sportsman of the Year
Lachlan Rose

Sportswoman of the Year
Gabriella Chan

Fr Patrick McMaugh, Most Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Life and Mission of the College Award
Sarah Chahine and Raymond Takchi

Most Outstanding Contribution to Instrumental Program
Jefferson Ortiz

Most Outstanding Contribution to Vocal Ensembles
Sophia Groundwater and Laura Moran

The Gellert Josef Bakos Memorial Encouragement Award
Jesse Martin

Matt Kean Prize for Citizenship
Sarah Chahine

Best All Rounder
Sophia Groundwater
Assistant Principal
St Leo’s Day and the Year on Review

Last Friday 9th December, the College celebrated the Feast Day of our patron saint, St Leo the Great. The day began with a wonderful St Leo’s Advent Mass. Fr Borg’s homily inspired us all to consider how we will put our faith into action.

This was followed by the St Leo’s Day Fair filled with wonderful food, outstanding music and an array of fun activities. I would like to thank Mrs Monteiro for all her work in organising the Fair. I would also particularly acknowledge our student leaders (badged and not badged) for the tremendous work and leadership in making this such a great day.

The College Year in Review allowed us to look back over the year and celebrate the achievements and efforts of students in a range of areas including Catholic Life and Mission, Music and Cocurricular, Sport as well as a number of major awards in each year group.

In our 60th year we were also able to reflect on the history of the College over the last six decades. It is important to heed the call of Br Myron Byrne, the last Christian Brother Principal of the College. Upon leaving the College he left us with this hope and prayer:

“May St Leo’s rise on wings like eagles to do great things for God, our Church and Country. May the students ever run to do the better things and never weary of doing good.”

2016 Academic Awards Ceremony – to be held in 2017

The College will hold a special awards ceremony on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at 10:30am in The Light of Christ Centre to acknowledge and celebrate students’ 201 academic achievements and efforts.

All parents are invited to attend the awards ceremony. Personal invitations will be sent to parents and caregivers of students who will be presented with an award at the start of next year.

2017

Staff return to the College on Monday 30th January. All new students in 2017 return on Tuesday 31st January. Peer Support Leaders and Senior Student Leaders will also be here on the day to assist students in their transition. All other students return on Wednesday 1st February.

This year we have spent much time talking to students about the importance of wearing their uniform correctly and with great pride. 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 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.
Next year we will continue our focus on uniform. I would ask parents, prior to the start of school, to ensure that students have all items of the College uniform and that these fit appropriately.

**School Zones**
A reminder that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families. School zones operate on all gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

School zones for our school will end on 21 December 2016 and resume on 25 January 2017.

I wish everyone a very safe and joyous holiday.
Arms or Limbs?

In the December edition of Bridges (an interfaith dialogue publication) Rev Dr Patrick McInerney wrote about Pope Francis:

“In his last Saturday Audience for the Jubilee Year of Mercy on the 12th of November 2016, Pope Francis presented an important aspect of mercy: inclusion. He said, “In His plan of love God, in fact, does not want to exclude anyone, but wants to include all.” He added: “And we Christians are invited to use the same criterion: mercy is that way of acting, that style with which we seek to include others in our life, avoiding withdrawing into ourselves and our egoistic securities.” Reaching out to include others becomes a way of life: “This aspect of mercy, inclusion, is manifested in opening one’s arms wide to receive without excluding, without classifying others on the basis of their social condition, language, race, culture or religion: before us there is only a person to be loved as God loves him.”

This opening of one’s arms wide is reflected in the Franciscan charism where the Tau cross of St Francis of Assisi loudly acclaims that the way of Christ is to have arms wide open. Arms wide open to welcome the stranger, to welcome and embrace the poor, the different and the enemy. It also reminds us to have arms wide open to embrace the divine in God moments experienced in Creation and through our daily relationships.

At Bethlehem, we have the richest (the Maggi) to the poorest (the Shepherds) gathered before Jesus in the manger, we have those who believe and those who are yet to pertain to any faith (in the instance of the Maggi). At His birth Jesus has his arms wide open to welcome the breadth of people and animals into His presence – Bethlehem is a scene of inclusion, not a roll call for the perfect or the one mould of the ideal person.

Jesus then dies on the cross with ‘arms wide open’. This reminds us that to live a life of arms wide open makes us vulnerable – we are vulnerable to injury, rejection and judgement by those around us. With arms wide open we are sharing our inner narrative, our story; we are letting ‘people in’. Despite this risk we as Christians are called nevertheless to ‘risk it for the biscuit’. Ironically in 2016 to pursue deep and authentic inclusion is to be countercultural!
On Friday 10th December we celebrated our college Patron Saint Feast Day in honour of Pope St Leo the Great with a beautiful Mass. When faced with the threat of the most violent and frightening opponent in Attila the Hun on the door step of Rome, Pope St Leo instead of folding arms and closing borders laden with Papal armies, went out in vulnerability with ‘arms wide open’ and blessed him in heartfelt prayer. This exchange of humility, inclusion and Christ love changed the course of history from blood soaked battle fields to a deep encounter of mutual exchange. How often do we seek the ‘call to arms’ in our difficult relationships rather than ‘calling our arms to open’?

This exquisite fruit of inclusion that takes the form of deep mutual exchange was experienced by Year 7 who recently partook in the culinary exploration of the Passover feast. The incursion was hosted by the Board of Jewish Education who explained and explored this ancient feast and festival through sight, smell, sound, touch and most importantly taste! It provided an opportunity to explore the Jewish identity and context of Jesus. It enabled them to identify that Christianity and Judaism are ‘cut from the same cloth’.

May this Christmas provide an opportunity for ‘inclusion’. May Advent as a season of preparation provide time to reflect on the moments this year where we have opted for a ‘call to arms’ as we retreat within the egoistic walls of ourselves, rather than risk the ‘call to open our arms’ and include the ‘other’ into the pages of our narrative.

Thankfully, no one page is the sum total of the book. May we walk along the road to Bethlehem with arms wide open.

God Bless
Daniel Petrie, College Director of Evangelisation and Catholic Formation
**Bringing Tidings of Great Joy to McQuoin Park**

During the festivities of St Leo’s Day a small group of Year 9 students accompanied Mr Gomez to McQuoin Park Aged Care Facility in order to spread Christmas cheer to the residents there. They supported a choir comprised of the high care residents (in wheelchairs or beds) who were singing carols during the Christmas lunch for the low care residents (who are still able to walk themselves). It was a lovely community event. Mr Gomez accompanied the choir with his guitar and the students helped holding the song books and the singing. Santa Claus, of course, put in a special appearance too! This year a beautiful relationship has been built between our students and the residents of McQuoin Park, with some of our students going to visit their new friends after school in their own time. Many thanks to Mr Kershler who has developed this wonderful partnership through fortnightly visits by our Year 9 students.

**Sharing Faith in Public Schools**

This term seven Year 11 students took on the challenge of sharing their faith with students in local state primary schools. They became Special Religious Education (SRE) Assistants at Hornsby South Public, Waitara Public and the Bush School, Wahroonga. “I enjoyed being able to teach children about the stories of the Bible and explain it to them in a way they could understand. It was a good experience because it challenged me to think about the stories of the Bible myself,” said Sarah Chahine about this experience. “I felt I was really making an impact as the students were so open-minded in learning about their faith. Our discussions really opened my eyes to the different ways that Bible stories can have a meaning for people’s lives.”

The St Leo’s students were trained and supervised by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) that works to develop the faith of Catholic students who attend public schools. The adult SRE teachers spoke very highly of our students and what they bring to the classroom. “Luke, Sarah and Janetta were great with the classes at the Bush School,” reported SRE Coordinator, Cecelia Keen. The little ones really enjoy having high school students take an interest in them. St Leo’s students get a lot out of this ministry too as it develops their confidence as well as teaching, presentation and leadership skills.

**End of an Era with Sydney Night Patrol**

St Leo’s has been sending Year 11 students to feed the homeless in Sydney every month for twenty years through the St Vincent de Paul Night Patrol (“Vinnies Van”) program. Sadly the St Vincent de Paul Society has made the decision that due to new laws regarding the protection or children and volunteer safety that under 18s will no longer be able to attend.
St Leo’s is committed to continue to support this important work of reaching out to those in need and we will continue on the roster next year, drawing on ex-students as volunteers. For any ex-students who are interested in volunteering, please contact Mr Gomez (adrian.gomez@dbb.org.au)

Following is a reflection by an English teacher of her first experience of Vinnies Van last month:

On the Streets of Sydney with the Vinnies Van
By Kim Kitson, English Department

“She waved as the van swung up across the kerb, her face wreathed in a sudden smile. Moments before, as we inched towards the park in the Friday night traffic, I had noticed a tiny figure standing still at the edge of the undulating crowd, her coat buttoned up against the wind that was cutting through the square, her shopping trolley a handy resting place.

She stepped back to accommodate the Vinnies Van on the footpath, but she did not break eye contact. As the Year 12 students spilled out of the van, she hailed me and waited expectantly.

“Of course, we have met before,” she said as I reached out to shake her hand. I nodded, despite this being my first experience delivering food to homeless people in Surry Hills and Martin Place. We exchanged names, anyway. Sarah hugged me. I wasn’t sure if I just had one of those faces or whether she genuinely felt the continuity and friendship that the Vinnies Van volunteers provide in her life every week. Of course, it didn’t really matter. The van and its students were bringing food and an expectation of companionship that created sheer and obvious joy.

Sarah and I chatted for a while. She explained she was unexpectedly alone after many years of marriage, and her family all lived in Lebanon. She had joined a group that knitted for refugees, but, mostly, she said, she liked to keep to herself. Her eyes glistened with tears as she spoke.

The students served food then began to chat to their guests about their lives. Some of the talk was confronting for young people whose lives are generally ordered, aspirational and whose needs are met without much question. The interactions were sincere and, as the group reflected as we left, life-changing for them. The privilege of reaching out and being accepted was an epiphany for these compassionate teenagers.

As the students repacked the van for Martin Place, I said goodbye to Sarah. She told me next time she would tell me her life story. She warned me it was full of surprises. I am looking forward to the privilege.”
**Schoolwork in the holidays?**
The holidays are designed to be a period of rest and recuperation for students. This means that students need a chance to unwind and relax and do things they enjoy!

However it doesn’t necessarily mean that no schoolwork is done during this time. Go through this checklist to see if your student needs to do any work in the holiday break:

1. **ASSESSMENTS:** If there are assessments due in the first few weeks of the next term, students will need to work on these assessments, and possibly complete them depending on the due date.

2. **EXAMS:** If exams will be held in the next term then students should use some time in the holidays to get their study notes up to date. If the exams are early in the term, then students will need to also study during the holidays.

3. **SENIOR EXAMS:** For senior students who have major exams after the holidays, the holidays will be a period of intense study and not a time of relaxation.

4. **AREAS OF WEAKNESS:** The holidays can also be a time for pinpointing areas of weakness. For example, students may spend some time reviewing Mathematics topics they found difficult or reviewing the grammar in a language they are learning.

Apart from these, we do want students to have a chance to refresh their mind and body, catch up on their sleep and take the time to focus on healthy lifestyle and quality time with family and friends.

You can learn more about how to be a more effective student at [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) by logging in with these details:

Username: leos
Password: community

For further information or queries, please refer them to Angelo Solomonides, the Leader of Senior Academic Care at angelo.solomonides@dbb.catholic.edu.au
St Leo’s Day
St Leo’s Day was a wonderful success, raising much needed funds for our charities. This day would not be possible without the hard work and organization from the Year 12 student leadership team and the support of the entire Year 12 cohort.

The St Leo’s community would like to acknowledge the following sponsors who have supported the College in our fundraising efforts for St Leo’s Day:

Event Cinemas, Hornsby
Anytime Fitness, Hornsby
F45 Fitness, Hornsby
Berkelouw Books
Cherish Hair, Pymble
5 Star Real Estate
Sydney Luna Park
Woolworths
The Book Plate
The College aims to provide broad educational experiences that promote the spiritual, academic, social, cultural and physical growth of students in a Catholic environment. It is a priority for St Leo’s to provide diverse, deeply engaging learning opportunities. ICT-enabled teaching and learning activities enhance active engagement that allows for a focus on developing such skills as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication. Activities and styles of engagement previously impossible or difficult to achieve are now readily attainable. The College views our BYOD iPad Program as an opportunity to create an environment more conducive to effective innovation in teaching and learning.

The iPad is an integral part of the Leo’s eLearning culture. We value flexible and active learning, where students are not tied to one desk but can actively explore and connect with the world around them; in and outside the classroom. Additionally, the iPad allows for further equity to be achieved; not only in the price point but in the accessibility features built into the device as well. Using technology in the learning process should be ongoing, accessible, effective and ‘just work’. The iPad not only allows for a shift from teacher-centred to student-centred learning but also saves students time in the creation of learning product with its effective use.

**St Leo’s will continue to support an iPad only learning environment in Years 7 - 10.** In addition to what has been mentioned previously, this structure allows for further teacher support in how they use technology in the classroom as students all have access to the same technology and software. However, the College understands that students moving into their senior years may have different needs depending on their subject selection. It is on this basis, that the College will support both iPads and Mac Laptops in Year 11 and Year 12. **This means that students in Year 11 and 12 have the option of either an iPad or a Mac Laptop.** There is by no means an obligation on parents to upgrade to a laptop, the iPad is perfectly adequate to meet the needs of the majority of subjects in senior years.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Kim Prosser
kimberly.jones@cbb.catholic.edu.au
**Sport Report**  
**Swimming Carnival**

At the recent Year in Review awards ceremony the swimming carnival Age Champions were announced along with the winners of the Swimming House Cup. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the following students were awarded Age Champions at this years swimming carnival.

U/12 Girls – Hannah Chalker (Yr 6)  
U/13 Girls – Matilda Waite (Yr 6)  
U/13 Boys – William Belcastro (Yr 6)  
U/14 Girls – Marina Grout  
U/14 Boys – Riley Haydon  
U/15 Girls – Penelope Chan  
U/15 Boys – Jack Duncum  
U/16 Girls – Georgia Peregrina  
U/16 Boys – Cameron Fraser  
U/17 Girls – Camille Chin  
U/17 Boys – Joshua McLeod  
U/18 Girls – Sophia Groundwater  
U/18 Boys – Thomas Peregrina

Congratulations to those students who were awarded Age Champions at the carnival, as well as all students who got involved in the events on the day. The annual House Swimming Cup was also presented at the recent assembly with Chanel being crowned championships.

1<sup>st</sup> Chanel 965  
2<sup>nd</sup> Aquinas 854  
2<sup>nd</sup> Loyola 854  
4<sup>th</sup> Xavier 495

Well done to Chanel House.

**Northern Districts 20/20 Quarterfinal**

The First XI cricket team played on Monday in the Northern Districts Quarterfinal against Epping Boys High Schools at Normanhurst Oval. After winning the toss Captains Mark Tobin and Joshua Hayes sent Epping into bat. The captains used the regular opening bowlers of Michael Phoebs and Nathan Sequira, and Michael found the opening wicket just 4 balls into the game. Once the openers had softened up the opposition batters first change Tyger Fitzpatrick picked up 3 wickets and was the pick of the bowlers. Epping Boys were all out for 112.

This was not a massive total to chase down but as we have seen in recent international matches the smaller chases are often the harder and trickier ones to get. The chase started slowly after we lost one of the openers in the first over however Mason Francis and Jordan Hayes steadied the ship, and we looked to be back on track. However after a few quick wickets we were unable to obtain significant partnerships and were bowled out for a total of 88 runs. Well done boys on your efforts this year.
Year in Review

As the year comes to an end it has been a very busy one for St Leo’s in sport. I would like to congratulate all students who have represented the College this year, as well as thank all staff who have coached one of the many teams at the College. Some of the highlights in sport this year include:

- The Open and Inters Boys Basketball teams winning the Broken Bay Gala days, and competing at the NSWCCC event.
- The Open Girls Soccer team winning the Peninsula Cup competition in the first year they have competed in the competition.
- The Year 11/12 Mixed Touch Football team winning the NSW All Schools Plate.
- Three of our 6 Aerobics teams qualifying for the National Championships.
- The Year 7/8 Boys Touch Football Team qualifying for the NSW All Schools State Finals.
- Georgia Peregrina (Year 9) & Rohan Bright (Year 12) being selected for the NSW All Schools Swimming Teams.
- Chiara Donnagemma (Year 9) winning Gold at the Australian Figure Skating Championships.
- Sophie Batchelor (Year 8) placing in the Top 15 in Australian Physical Culture Championships.
- Jeremy Seuong (Year 7) competed at the National All Styles Martial Arts Championships.
- Tyla Petrie (Year 8) finishing in the Top 5 of Australian Rhythmic gymnastics Level 9 Championships, after winning the state championship.
- James Gladman (Year 7) winning medals at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships.
- Lachlan Rose (Athletics), Thomas Peregrina (Swimming), and Georgia Peregrina (Swimming) crowned Broken Bay Age Champions.
- 30 students representing BBSSSA.
- 6 Students represented NSWCCC

I hope all students and families have a Merry Christmas, and we will see you back for a big 2017.

Community News

Sustainable School Shop

Year end is in sight and now is the time to consider buying and selling second-hand textbooks and uniforms.

Sustainable School Shop provides the second-hand textbook and uniform trading system for the school. Our school’s 2016 booklist/textbook information for years 11 and 12 has been uploaded and is ready to use on the Sustainable School Shop website.

To get started, go to www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au and either register as a parent or log-in if you’re already registered.
Free Payment Plans@Hornsby

Everyone is busy getting ready for the festive season and preparing for a new year. The No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) is here to help families budget for large cost items such as laptops and iPads. Particularly as we get ready for a new school year. For example an iPad costing $600, repayments would be $15 per fortnight over 18 months. No application fees or interest is paid. Repayments can be made by Centrepay.

The scheme is available for a range of items such as: car registrations, car repairs, house repairs, health items, fridges, washing machines, televisions and furniture.

The criteria to apply is simple,
- you earn less than $45000 or receive a Centrelink payment
- you have stable accommodation
- you can afford the repayments.

If you meet the above criteria contact Sandie to find out how to apply.

**NILS Hornsby**
9477 5010 option 7 Tuesday and Friday
41 Jersey Street, Hornsby (above Vinnies shop).
Fax 9482 2048
Email NILShornsby@vinnies.org.au

Sandie, your friendly NILS administrator at Hornsby