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

Sunday 14 August, 2016 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time –
“...I have come not to give peace, but discord...” (Lk 12:49-53)

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

Next Sunday’s gospel Luke reminds us that the message of Christianity is not always a popular one. Sometimes we are called upon to speak a hard message; a challenging message; a confronting message. The message of the gospel not only today but throughout history frequently confronts our popular culture and accepted social practice. Luke's message is not a cozy, complacent peace, but rather a message that confronts and challenges us, even turning loved ones against each other. There is a responsibility on us to speak the hard message of the gospel even at the risk of unpopularity and even in the face of threat.

The Christian heroes of our time are those who call leaders to “measure up to the demands of the gospel.”

One of the “national size” issues that come to mind is that of the plight of refugees. What is our stance on this issue, particularly in the different contexts of our lives; with our friends, our family, or our work colleagues? Is our stance the same or do we bow to popularity? Again we are challenged by our lives as Christians.

In the lives of our students how do we as adults be good role models for our children? Do we discuss these difficult issues; let them know our stance and the thinking behind it? As our children move through their teenage years they are looking for reasons behind our ideas; they are looking at our faith.

As today is the Feast Day of our only Saint in Australia, St Mary MacKillop, let us remember and pray to her for even a little of the courage that she portrayed in her life. From what I have read, there were no times in her life where she bowed down to popularity or even authorities that did not live the gospel as she did.
Like our students who have just returned from World Youth Day 2016 or the Kiribati Islands, maybe they are not the “most popular” places to visit but our students are living the gospel in their interactions with others and putting their faith into action.

2017 Student Leadership
Congratulation to our 2016/7 Student Leaders. They will be formally presented at the Handover Ceremony at the end of this term.

College Captains: Sarah Dever and Rohan Knight

Ministry Prefects
Catholic Life and Mission – Sarah Chahine, Luke Elliott, Anthony Graham and Reon Rebello
Academic – Luke Antoun, Meg Birrell and Jenny Nguyen
Art and Culture – Sophia Groundwater, Benjamin Molloy and Laura Moran
Social and Environmental – Danielle Nicholls, Gaudett Talens and Mark Tobin

House Prefects
Aquinas – Georgia Bowden and Harvey Timms
Chanel – Georgia Muxlow and Thomas Peregrina
Loyola – Gabrielle Chan and Kevin Pham
Xavier – Natalie El-Hage and Raymond Takchi

I would like to thank Mr Mahoney, Mrs Monteiro, Mr Smith and Mrs Prosser for their leadership in this important area of the College in ensuring our students are able to gain a higher level of leadership experience in their new role as “badged Student Leaders”.

2017 School Fees
This week each family will receive a letter (via email) from me further explaining the 2017 school fees and discussing the information you received from the Director of Schools, Mr Peter Hamill. I will also be presenting on this topic on Thursday evening (11 August) at our Term Three Parents in Partnership Evening. (Please see the program below).

My Two “Excursions” Last Week - “Write It Out” and Vinnies Night Patrol
Last week I had the pleasure of joining other members of staff and our students in participating in the Vinnies Night Patrol and the “Write It Out” Award Ceremony at Lakemba.

Vinnies Night Patrol – Last Friday evening, Mr Spurtacz, Mr Petrie and I accompanied six Year 11 students feeding and mingling with people that are less fortunate than us in Surry Hills and Martin Place. The students not only served food they had prepared at Lewisham prior but also, and more importantly, spoke and shared stories with people that have far different life experiences than ours. A great way to put their faith into action!
“Write It Out” – Nine of our Year 9 and 10 students were presented to the NSW Shadow Minister for Education, Mr Jihad Dib, for their work which was published in a Youth Magazine called “Youthink”. These students wrote feature articles about current issues affecting teenagers. Congratulations to our students on being published authors! Some of the works were:

- *No Pictures on TV: My Life Without Television* – Veronica Smith
- *The Power of Influence: Racism and Discrimination* – Marion Bajar
- *The Extensive Reach of Sexism* – Olivia Clay
- *Domestic Violence: A Crisis for Australia* – Sophie Rawsthorne
- *The Horrors of Sexual Assault* – Lucinda Grout
- *Bullying and its Impacts* – Patrick McLachlan
- *Innocent Until Proven Guilty? Their Life Behind Bars* – Charlotte Gamble
- *Making the Case for Marriage Equality* – Annabelle Haig
- *What Makes an Animal Yours: The Animal Cruelty We Don’t See* – Kristian Saldanha
- *The Construction of Gender Roles* – Freja Bennett

Thank you to Mrs McMahon who sponsored and co-mentored our students (along with Lebanese Muslim Association delegates) in this unique experience of intertwining cultures, faith and student literacy! There are copies of this book in College Reception (as well as the State Library) if you would like to read these works.

Aerobics – The Nationals at the Gold Coast last Weekend
Congratulations to our NSW State Finalists Ladies who participated in the SchoolAerobics on the Gold Coast last weekend.

The results were: 6th Place for Secondary Aerobics (5 Year 12 students in this team) and the other two teams performed brilliantly on the day and we await their results!

Thank you to Ms Stimson, Ms Beattie and our past students for coaching and getting these girls to this National event.

Staff News
Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Privett (Mr Privett – PDHPE Staff) on the birth of their baby daughter, Isabel Grace last week. Mr Privett will now be taking his Paternity Leave

Ryde Eisteddfod
Congratulations to Joel Tjoa (Year 7) who gained 3rd place in the Ryde Eisteddfod yesterday. His category was Pop, Rock and Jazz Solos for Under 12 Year olds. I am sure we will hear from Joel in the near future.
Parents In Partnership Evening – including Principal’s Update
The Term III Parents in Partnership Evening will be this Thursday 11 August at 7pm.
The format of the evening is as follows:

7pm – 7.15pm – Wine and Cheese; Introduce our new Religious Education Coordinator–Mr Daniel Petrie

7.15pm – 7.30pm – Presentation on our Kiribati Immersion Trip 2016 (Students and staff)

7.30pm – 8.15pm – Workshop on Edumate, Edmodo and Skoolbag – What Are They? – presented by our Leader of eLearning, Mrs Kim Prosser.

8.15pm-8.40pm – Principal’s Update –
- Building Update
- School Fees 2017
- Around the College in 2016 including new Report format for 2017

8.40pm – 9.00pm - Questions from floor

I hope to see many of you there - if you wish to attend – please email jayne.persico@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Mr AF Gleeson
Principal

“...Have we not all taken up the cross and shall we shrink from carrying it?...”
St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (11/4/1876)

Mr AF Gleeson
Principal

“...Be eager in your desires but humbly patient in their accomplishment...”
St Mary of the Cross Mackillop (2/6/1867)
From the Assistant Principal

Year 7 – 10 Semester 1 Awards Ceremony
The Year 7 – 10 Semester 1 Awards Ceremony will be held on this Tuesday 9th August from 11am until approximately 12:50pm. The ceremony gives us the opportunity to celebrate the efforts and acknowledge the achievements of students in the areas of Catholic Life and Mission, Academics, Sport, Music and other co-curricular activities. We welcome any member of our parent community who would like to join us for this occasion. Parents and Caregivers of award winners have already received an invitation to the ceremony.

Year 11, 2017 Subject Selection
As outlined in the recent letter to parents, Year 10 students along with their parents/carers have Year 11 - 2017 Parent/Student/Teacher Subject Selection Interviews will be held on the following dates:
- Wednesday 17 August from 8:45am until 4:00pm; and
- Friday 19 August from 8:45am until 5:00pm.

The online booking system opened at 9am this morning. If you have not yet had an opportunity to book an interview you can access the system as follows:
- Go to the school’s home page  www.stleos.nsw.edu.au
- In the Quick Links Section at the bottom of the page click on PTO

Click “Obtain PIN/Password” and enter your email address. Your PIN will be emailed to you. The email you receive will include a link that can be clicked on to log straight into PTO, bypassing the login screen.

A reminder that parents only need to book one interview time on either day.

Each interview will go for approximately 15 minutes. The interviews are designed to assist parents and students in completing the Subject Selection Process. The location of the interviews will be the College Library. Each student needs to bring their Subject Selection Form and Semester 1 Reports to their scheduled interview.

Year 12 Classes Resume on Tuesday 16 August
The Trial HSC examinations conclude on Monday 15 August and all classes resume on Tuesday 16 August. Attendance is compulsory for all students until the Year 12 day of graduation. The time following examinations is an important part of students’ program of study. Important feedback will be given to students about their areas of strength and areas for further focus. Some programs of study need to be completed in this time and significant and targeted revision will be taking place. Students have the opportunity to significantly improve their results through a concentrated effort on revision and the further development of skills.
Feast of the Assumption Mass
Monday 15 August is the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady when according to our faith, the Holy Mother, "having completed her course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". The College will be participating with the wider community in this celebration. We invite all of our parent community to join with us in the Eucharistic celebration. Mass will take place at 9:30am in The Light of Christ Centre.

College App
The new College App - Skoolbag is up and running. The App is FREE and in both IOS (Apple) and ANDROID versions. You can download Skoolbag either from the “Google Shop”, “The App Store” or “Windows Mobile” using the links below:
- Or simply type in St Leo’s Skoolbag into Google or App Store.

College Calendar
The College Calendar, listing all upcoming events is now available on the College Website. This provides an up-to-date list of all events and provides details about these events. You can access the calendar by clicking on the following link http://www.stleos.nsw.edu.au/calendar/ or following the link on the front page of the St Leo’s website.

Upcoming Events

Week 4
Tuesday 9 August  GP’s in school’s P1 – Tutor Group  Year 7 –10 Semester 1 Assembly 11am – 12:50pm
Wednesday 10 August  Sports Committee Meeting  Board Meeting
Thursday 11 August  Parent Involvement and Information Evening (Library)

Week 5
Monday 15 August  Year 12 Trial HSC Examinations conclude  Feast of the Assumption – join us for Mass at 9:30am
Mon 15 – Tues 16 August  Year 11 Prefects Leadership Camp
Wednesday 17 August  Year 11 (2017) Subject Selection Interviews  Year 7/8 Study Skills Workshop 7pm – 8:30pm
Thursday 18 August  Year 12 Trial HSC Papers can be returned
Friday 19 August  Year 11 (2017) Subject Selection Interviews

Week 6
Sunday 28 August  100 years of Faith Celebration/ Migrant and Refugee 11am Mass/family picnic/activities (TLOCC)
**Week 7**
- Wednesday 31 August: Ignatius of Loyola Feast Day
- Thursday 1 September: Visual Arts/TAS/Performing Arts Showcase (TLOCC)
- Sunday 4 September: Fathers Day

**Week 8**
- Thursday 8 September: RU OK Day

**Week 9**
- Monday 12 September: Year 11 End of Preliminary Course Examinations Commence

**Week 10**
- Wednesday 21 September: Year 12 Graduation celebrations
- Friday 23 September: Last Day of Classes

**Catholic Life and Mission**
At the concluding Mass of World Youth Day in Poland last week, Pope Francis gave the youth of our Church a challenge: ‘Leave your mark!’ Profound words for the newest generation of disciples.

Nelson Mandela challenged them to be ‘the great generation’. Even Beyoncé offered insight through her performance of ‘I was Here’ at the United Nations with the lyrics ‘The hearts I have touched will be the proof that I leave, that I made a difference and this world will see’. The heart is the ‘answering machine’ for God. It is hear that He continues to call and leaves His plans for us recorded. The challenge is to ‘pick up the phone’ when He rings. Thankfully God is a persistent caller.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop did just this. She felt His call to ‘stand up and leave her mark’ when Catholic children in the bush and on the fringe of cities were amongst the poorest and uneducated academically and spiritually in Australia. She realised that the solution to the issues of her day were already within her. The gifts and talents she had received from God were unstoppable when she uttered the three letter word that is needed for the road to Sainthood – ‘yes’. The same three letters confidently offered by Mary to Archangel Gabriel and the same three letters that Abraham answered God before leaving Ur for the promised land.

St Leo’s continues to ‘roar’ their collective ‘yes’ through its several ministries and in its vibrant faith life and pastoral relationships. The recent street retreat led by Mr Kershler saw students engage Pope Francis’ model of encounter and...
dialogue as they spent time with Sydney’s homeless and shared their stories of brokenness and hope. They visited Hope Street ministries that run a community café, clothing store, weekend church and outreach support for the homeless, witnessed Orange Sky mobile laundry services that offer free cleaning of all clothing items for the homeless while generating a place of community and dialogue along the way. Students saw St Vincent De Paul’s Ozanam Learning Centre at Woolloomooloo that provides educational training to the homeless to generate employment and self-worth opportunities.

The retreat also included the Wayside Chapel and St Canice’s and there ground breaking ministries and support of the homeless. This network of ‘yes’ responses inspired our students to leave their mark through embarking with the Catholic School’s Office Social Justice Project. The 12 month project seeks to link such students with industry professionals through the Sydney Alliance in order to effect large scale and long term change regarding injustice.

From leaving their mark locally to Globally, students who returned from Kiribati explained the profound ‘mark’ that was left on them post their immersion. Mr Smith, Miss Watts and students from St Leo’s provided service and donations to Sacred Heart College in Kiribati. This partnership of solidarity and fraternity is already bearing fruit and we look forward to carrying this venture into 2017.

The Lion Heart Ministry developed by Mr Smith and his commerce class to develop Thermal kits to ease the burden of Sydney’s homeless is another example of ‘leaving their mark’ and embodying Mary MacKillop’s motto of ‘Never seeing a need without doing something about it’.
Finally, students from Year 10 Religious Education classes embarked on an ecumenical journey by visiting St Gerasimo’s Greek Orthodox Church in Leichardt, St John’s Anglican Church Darlinghurst and St Maroun’s Maronite Catholic Church Redfern. Students witnessed the richness in breadth and diversity of Christianity. They saw how many individual threads have been woven together into the spiritual tapestry of Christ’s call to spread the Good News. This was most poignant when students saw the plans for the building of a retirement hospice for the frail and vulnerable homeless next to St John’s that will accommodate up to 46 individual rooms for the last stages of life for those who can’t go home.

The words from the Archbishop Oscar Romero Prayer provide guidance for all of us as we are challenged to leave our mark. We are wise to remember that they are not the final marks to be made. Regarding our work towards the Kingdom of God:

“It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.
We are prophets of a future not our own.”

May God grant us the courage to ‘pick up the phone’ and answer ‘yes’ like St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and make our mark in the world.

Daniel Petrie
Religious Education Coordinator

Please join us to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption in the Light of Christ Centre at 9:15 am on the 15th of August 2016
**Kiribati 2016**

On the 13th of July 10 students and 3 teachers boarded a plane and headed for Tarawa, Kiribati. This is the second year of this fabulous immersion experience and both students and staff were excited and nervous for what was ahead. Our first stop was Fiji for an overnight before heading to Tarawa, Kiribati.

We arrived to hot, humid weather in a small and very busy tin shed; the airport terminal! We were greeted by the friendly faces of Sue Ryan (Principal of Sacred Heart College) and Sr. Maritina (OLSH Sister). During our stay we met amazing people, experienced a wonderful culture, saw much beauty and struggles of everyday life for the people of Kiribati.

Some of the highlights of the trip included having a buddy from the Sacred Heart School, going into classrooms, seeing the different living conditions and experiencing this style of living, attending Mass on Sunday, visiting the villages and seeing the smiling faces everywhere we went. We had the opportunity to visit the local Women’s Crisis Centre where we meet the Sisters doing fabulous work with families in need. We donated money and clothing to the centre and they were sincerely grateful. We visited the Australian High Commission, Parliament House and the local hospital. All experiences helped to expand our knowledge of this country and its people.

We stayed at a centre run by the OLSH Sisters and Good Samaritans. They do work with families affected by alcohol through educational courses. We donated money, mosquito nets, sleeping mats and a guitar to this facility. They were amazing ladies to spend time with and took great care of us during our time in Kiribati.

Overall it was an amazing experience for all involved in this immersion. Our St Leo’s students were challenged on many levels and continued to grow throughout this journey. They reflected deeply and showed great maturity in the face of adversity.

The 2017 Kiribati immersion will be available to Year 9 2016 (Year 10 2017). Information will be given to Year 9 students over the coming weeks with a parent information evening on Monday 12th September in the College Library at 7pm. All interested families are welcome to attend this evening.

Nathan Smith, Jessica Watts and Jamie Stimson (Facilitating teachers 2016)
World Youth Day Krakow 2016

An overwhelming, enthusiastic young crowd over 2.5 million, including four students and two staff members of St Leo’s, gathered with Pope Francis an Sunday 31 June in Krakow, Poland, under the baking glare of the sun for the concluding Mass of World Youth Day 2016.

Pope Francis told us that we should be “dreamers who believe in a new humanity” that “rejects hatred between peoples” and “refuses to see borders and barriers.” He used tech metaphors, telling us to us the Gospel as our GPS and to “download the best link of all, that of a heart which sees and transmits goodness without growing weary.” It was at once both a very personal and very distant encounter – we watched him speak to us from a massive screen while he was too far away to be actually seen with the naked eye.

We had done the pilgrimage walk of 17km the day before and slept under the stars with over 1.5 million people for the overnight Vigil. As the sun set we had listened to the testimonies of three young people – a Syrian student, a recovering drug-addict and an ex-convict, whose life experiences were used as the foundation of Pope Francis’ reflections on the challenge to be compassionate and to return to our homes as sowers of hope. Following the sweltering heat of the Mass came the wind and storm, drenching us for the 17km walk back to the university residence where we were staying.

Another significant moment that can’t be captured in words was our visit to the concentration camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau. As we walked along the road leading to the gas chambers, a group of about 30 Jewish men were walking ahead of us, singing songs of lament for the dead, bringing home in a powerful way both the horror and the tragedy of the place as well as a sense of hope for those who had survived. For me, visiting the cell of St Maximillian Kolbe, a Polish priest who gave his life in exchange for another, was a moment I will never forget.

An important part of any pilgrimage is the journey, not just the destination. Broken Bay ran several pre-WYD pilgrimages. Lyndon and Gabriel (Year 10), Tom (Year 11) and myself followed in the “Footsteps of St Paul” through Greece, visiting historical sites such as the Acropolis in Athens, Thessalonki, Phillipi and Corinth. We stood where St Paul spoke to the Athenians on the Areopagus hill, visited Paul’s jail cell in Phillipi, saw where he was put on trial in Corinth, and entered the river where he baptised the first European convert, Lydia. Pat accompanied a group visiting the “Saints in Italy”, encountering Sts Peter and Paul in Rome, Francis and Clare at Assisi and Catherine of Siena, and St Mark at Venice. Ms Vu went with a group of young teachers to visit “Saint John Paul II in Poland”, visiting JPII’s hometown of Wadowice, seeing the house he grew up in and the Church where he was baptised, as well as the famous icon of the “Black Madonna” at Jasna Gora. We gathered together as a diocesan group in Krakow and finished together with a retreat with Bishop Peter in Warsaw.

As Bishop Peter promised at the outset, it was a life-shaping journey. It’s hard to believe how much living we packed into so short a time as we explored the outer, inner and spiritual worlds and grew in relationship with God, creation and others.
Curriculum News
A Celebration of Youth Expression

The Youthink Magazine Launch
26th July, 2016

Congratulations to our 10 talented Year 9 and 10 writers who were recently published in a special edition of Youthink magazine, a publication that celebrates youth voices. 6 schools state-wide were invited to participate in a program earlier in the year entitled, “Write it Out”, during which students were mentored in the craft of magazine writing. The program ran for 5 weeks and culminated in 30 students from schools in the North, South West and West of Sydney being published on topics ranging from animal cruelty, life without television, social media, gender representation to the plight of Palestinians. This initiative, organised by the Lebanese Muslim Association and featuring Catholic, Jewish, Islamic and secular schools, aims to reflect the diverse, multicultural fabric of Australian society.

Mr Gleeson and I were privileged to accompany the students to the launch of the Youthink magazine where students were recognised for their contribution to the magazine. As the magazine is going to be catalogued in the State Library of NSW, our 9 students are classified as published authors. We were fortunate enough to meet Shadow Minister for Education, Mr Jihad Dib MP, who gave an excellent speech about celebrating Australian diversity and one’s unique identity. Copies of the magazine are available to read in Reception and in the Library.

Well done to the following students:

Sophie Rawsthorne
Charlotte Gamble
Kristian Saldanha
Patrick McLoughlin
Lucinda Grout
Marion Bajar
Olivia Clay
Annabelle Haig
Veronica Smith
Freja Bennett

Mrs Melissa McMahon
Art News

Drama and Music
HSC performances
Wednesday 31st August 6pm

Design & Technology, English, ITT Society & Culture and Visual Arts
HSC Major Projects and Bodies of Work
Outstanding work from Years 7-11
Wednesday 31st August 7.00pm-9.00pm
Exhibition continues Thursday 1st September 9.00am - 3pm

The Light of Christ Centre Entry via Unwin Rd, Wahroonga
Light refreshments served on Opening Night. Tickets at door $5 Adults, $3 Concession, $10 Family
From the Mathematics Department
A reminder that Maths Help is on every Monday during Term 3 in the library till 4pm. Success in Mathematics requires consistent effort and revision. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Year 7 are currently learning about fractions and their importance in everyday life. Several students have particularly enjoyed breaking blocks of chocolate and cutting cakes into certain fractions. Of course the best part about this was eating the parts of the whole. To reinforce what Year 7 are learning at school we encourage parents and carers to discuss this topic with them at home. Discussing how fractions are used in everyday life around the dinner table would be a great way for the students to develop their understanding.

The Pride Extras
Around the Grounds – Sports Report
Representative Sports
Upcoming Events and Next Pride
Premier’s Reading Challenge
Library displays
Message from the Acting Director of the Catholic Schools Office – Broken Bay Diocese
EQUIP Debating Course
Community News

Around the Grounds – Sports Report

Representative Sports
The next two weeks are full of sporting events for the students at St Leo’s. This Wednesday sees the opening games for the U/14 and U/18 Girls Peninsula Cup Soccer teams. It begins with a double header at Northern Beaches Christian School with the Juniors playing at 3:00pm (Wednesday) and the Seniors at 4:00pm. This is followed up with two gala days on Thursday and Friday at Cromer Park for the U/13 and U/15 Girls and Boys Soccer teams.

Next week sees three netball teams from St Leo’s travel to Penrith to represent the College at the NSWCCC Championships, and then the St Leo’s Athletics Team travel to Sydney Olympic Park on Wednesday.

Good luck to all students representing the College over the next two weeks.
Upcoming Events and Next Pride
- Peninsula Cup
- U/13 & U/15 Girls BBSSSA Soccer Gala Day (11th August)
- U/13 & U/15 Boys BBSSSA Soccer Gala Day (12th August)
- BBSSSA Athletics (17th August)
- BBSSA Golf (2nd September)

For more information on any of the upcoming competitions, or to find out more information about a particular sport, or to inform the College about recent sporting performances outside the College please don't hesitate to contact me on michael.kember@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Michael Kember

Premier's Reading Challenge
This challenge is nearing completion and once again we have a strong cohort of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who will gain their PRC certificate. We look to have at least two gold medals for a student who has completed the challenge every year since Year 1. The St Leo’s Reading Challenge, which has no rules, continues.

Library displays
Thank you to the English staff who have been very creative in making displays to brighten the library. The displays so far this year have commemorated ANZAC day and celebrated Science Fiction and Fantasy (Mad Hatter's Tea Party).
Message from the Acting Director of the Catholic Schools Office – Broken Bay Diocese

In anticipation of the National Census to be held tomorrow night Tuesday, 9 August 2016, the CSO is encouraging individuals to identify their religious belief on the question on religion.

This year’s census will have ‘no religion’ as the first option for the question related to religious affiliation. The flyer attached provides reasons for those who regularly attend organised worship, or who simply believe but attend irregularly, to think carefully about how they respond to this question, as non-engagement with this question can have potential impacts broader than might be first considered.

In our multi-faith and multicultural country, religious freedom is an essential basic human right. People of faith and the communities and organisations that have grown from these faith traditions make a significant contribution to Australian society, including in the areas of education, healthcare, aged care and an array of social services across the country.

The Catholic Church is a leading contributor to this spiritual and social capital and it is important that those who are regularly connected to organised religion, and those who simply regard themselves as believers, mark the faith they identify with when participating in the National Census.

A flyer from the Diocese in Wollongong gives greater detail on this issue and is available here: http://dow.sh/CensusReligionYes

**EQUIP Debating Course**

Year 9 and 10 students at St Leos have been invited by EQUIP to participate with a small number of schools from varying backgrounds to participate in a debating course centred on multiculturalism and social justice. EQUIP is a new branch of Aspire Role Models is an organisation that aims to foster a greater understanding of identity and citizenship among students. The program will serve as a toolkit for students, to help them navigate the difficult challenges they face, as well as to provide a safe space for students to share their opinions and engage in discussions on politics and culture. The goal is to create an enfranchised and engaged body of students with an understanding of what it means to live in a modern, multicultural society.

The course will involve 1 workshop a week during school hours for 5 weeks followed by an Inter School Debate. The program runs from Week 6 to Week 10 of Term 3. Topics covered include; racism, stereotypes, social justice, culture, and identity.

If you are interested in participating please collect a permission form from Mr Introna or Mrs McMahon
MIXED MEDIA ART CLASS

THURSDAYS 1 SEPTEMBER TO 22 SEPTEMBER
(4 SESSIONS)
4pm – 6pm
Turramurra Youth Centre
Turramurra Library, 5 Ray Street
(enter via rear of building)
$60 including materials

12-24 yrs

Explore and express your imagination using a variety of media. From acrylic paints, ink markers, pencils and posca pens, you will understand the magic behind these materials that can be used to empower your creative ideas.

Meg Minkley from A Drawing A Day Productions will teach you how to illustrate without boundaries or inhibitions and introduce you to the birth of mark making and the concept of ‘taking a line for a walk’.

By the end of the semester you will have a collection of works that are illustrative of your own colourful journey into becoming a confident artist. 12 spaces available.

Bookings close 25 August

9424 0994 youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au • For more info check out ku.youthservices

Ku-ring-gai Youth Services
kmc.nsw.gov.au/youth
Australian Catholic University’s Pixel Prize Photography Competition aims to engage young people in visual arts, encouraging the use of photography as a powerful tool to communicate valuable messages to society. The 2016 theme is ‘My Generation’.

VISIT THE WEBSITE BELOW FOR DETAILS on theme, prizes, entry requirements, judges, exhibition openings, prize-giving dates and how to enter the competition.

WWW.THEPIXELPRIZE.COM.AU
An interactive evening for parents and students outlining tools and techniques for students to achieve their personal academic best.

Prue Salter is the founder of ELES (www.enhanced-learning.net) and an expert in the area of study skills. She has conducted over 4000 study skills seminars across Australia and Asia, has written 20 study skills resource kits for schools and is the creator of the online and interactive study skills website used by more than 120000 students (www.studyskillsmanual.com.au).

Prue has recently completed her PhD exploring whole-school integrated approaches to developing students’ self-regulated learning skills.

TO: PARENTS & STUDENTS OF YEAR 7 and 8

Would you like to know the secrets to success in high school?

Years 7/8 Parent & Student ‘Study Skills’ Evening

Wednesday 17th August 2016, 7 - 8.30pm

The Light Of Christ Centre

St Leo’s Catholic College

Parent/Guardian(s) and students should attend together. As the session is very interactive, the session will not be of full value unless both the student and a parent attend.

Both students and parents also need to bring along a pen each (and one highlighter for the family) and the school diary.

The main areas that will be covered are:
- Managing homework and assignments effectively by efficient time management.
- Learning to be more organised for school and at home.
- Working and studying effectively in high school.

Please RSVP via
http://goo.gl/forms/Yporz43Lp70S71m1
Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

Come to a FREE two hour workshop full of practical advice and information for parents, carers and supervisors of learner drivers completing the Graduated Licensing Scheme.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

**TIME & DATE:**
6:30pm to 8:30pm
Thursday
22nd September, 2016

**VENUE:**
Hornsby Shire Council
Chambers Building
296 Peats Ferry Rd
Hornsby

**BOOK NOW ON:**
Online via:
https://trybooking.com/ULUL
(02) 9847 6856
Bookings Essential

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers
Krav Maga is a self-defence method developed and used by defence forces all over the world. It's a fast and effective way to gain self-confidence while learning valuable lessons in self-defence.

Friday 26 August to Friday 16 September
6pm to 7pm
$70 for 4 weeks
St Ives Community Hall
Off Memorial Ave
Age: 12-24 yrs
Bookings close Friday 19 August

Bookings essential:
9424 0981
youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au
\facebook{kcyouthservices}
For more info check out our Facebook page /kcyouthservices

Ku-ring-gai Youth Services
kmc.nsw.gov.au/youth