The St Leo’s newsletter, “The Pride” is now posted on the College Website under St Leo’s News. This print only version will be archived on the College Website and as a hard copy available from the College reception.

Principal’s Message

Passion Sunday–
“…All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee and saw all this happen…” (Luke 23:1-49)

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

This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. The fanfare of welcoming Jesus to Jerusalem, the Last Supper with his apostles (Holy Thursday), the trial before Herod and the chief priests, the crucifixion (Good Friday) and Jesus’ body lies in the tomb (Holy Saturday). For some people it is just a holiday, I would hope that all members of our community will spend some of that time joining others in our parishes to reflect upon the most significant event in the Church’s calendar – Easter Sunday. The Resurrection completed the mystery of our salvation and redemption. This Resurrection is the basis of our faith – as Christians. 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 and the fact that we are associated with our members of our local and wider faith community.

I would ask you to remember in your prayers the Merlo family. Mrs Merlo (mother of Nick in Year 8) passed away suddenly last Sunday. The funeral will be held at Hornsby Cathedral parish on Monday at 10.30am.

WELCOME TO POPE FRANCIS I:
Last week the Catholic Church welcomed its new leader, Pope Francis 1. Pope Francis is the first leader of Catholics worldwide to come from outside Europe in one thousand years. He was the Archbishop of Buenos Aires Argentina and a member of the Jesuit order. This election will bring renewed confidence to a Church in which the majority of members are non-European. It will bring a fresh set of eyes and experiences to a role which is becoming more increasingly complex. There will be great interest in the months and years ahead as Pope Francis provides his own style of leadership and demonstrates the courage he has so clearly shown in his past roles. We remember Pope Francis 1 in our prayers as well.

KIERNAN DAMAYO – YR 11 STUDENT:
Last week I had a visit from Kiernan who was beaming with some great news. He is now in remission! He would like to thank all members of our community who have him and his family in their prayers and thoughts. He was able to spend the morning with his friends and staff and is very much looking forward to joining us again later in Term II after he completes his therapy.

POLICE VISIT:
As part of the College Tutor Program - this week each Year group across the College spent a period interacting with our Police Youth Liaison Officer – Snr Constable Murray (Ku-ring-gai Command). The topics were around the appropriate use of technology in today’s society, pitched for the appropriate age group level. The best piece of advice for all members of our community – “online action actions results in offline consequences” Something to remember before you hit that “send” or “save” button!
ESSA RESULTS (PRESENT YEAR 9 STUDENTS):
Congratulations to our present Year 9 students and our Science Staff on the ESSA results from 2012 which have just been released by the NSW Government.
The Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) is an assessment program is for all students in Year 8 across NSW. It was conducted in November last year. St Leo’s students were above (in most cases 5 or 6 points above the average) in each of the 5 areas assessed at both State and Diocesan levels. Again it is another piece of data we use to influence our teaching at the College to cater for this particular cohort of students.

STUDENT SPORTING REPRESENTATIVES:
Congratulations to these students who have been selected to representative level in their particular sport:
Daniel Anderson (Yr 12) – CCC Boys U19 Cricket
Keely Bowen (Yr 8) – NSWCCC AFL
Oliver Hing (Yr 10) – CCC & NSWCCC U19 Cricket
Hunor Kicsi (Yr 11) – CCC Boys Waterpolo
Terri Slater (Yr 11) – CCC & NSWCCC Open Netball
Albert Watts (Yr 11) – CCC Boys U19 Cricket
Sam Watts (Yr 12) – CCC Boys U19 Cricket

Australian Track & Field Junior Championships-
These Championships were held in Perth last week. Congratulations to both Bethany and Jordan on their representation for NSW and their great achievements!
Bethany Halmy (Yr 12):
4x400m Relay = 1st in U20’s
400m = 7th in U20’s (4th in U19’s)
800m = 11th in U20’s (6th in U19’s)

Jordan Barnes (Yr 12- one of our College Captains):
110m Hurdles = 11th in U20’s (5th in U19’s)
200m = 18th in U20’s (8th in U19’s)

TERM ONE BREAK:
A reminder to all our community that the Term One break commences 3.15pm on Friday 12th April. It would be disappointing to hear or see any student at the Royal Easter Show during formal school learning time. Learning at school resumes for Term II on Tuesday 30th April.

GREAT RESPONSE TO OUR PARENT NETWORK MEETING:
Just on 65 parents attended and participated in the Parent Network Meeting last Wednesday evening. It was great to see parents from each of our Year groups – learning never ends!! The ‘Assessment Task’ topic was very well received by all parents. I am sure that these parents now have greater insights in the process of an Assessment Task – which are done many times each year by all students across each Year group.
I thank those parents that attended and their contributions.

BIBLE STUDIES:

Yesterday(Wednesday) I wandered into the Bible Studies group at lunchtime. I have taken a photo of this group – which was being led by one of our Senior Students. I was very impressed with the range of students (Yrs 7-12) as well as the depth and faith filled conversation. All are invited – Wednesday lunchtime!

YEAR 7 CAMP:
Our Year 7 students returned from Camp last week. Due to Evening meetings at the College as CSO I was unable to join them this year. However I did hear (and still do) quite a lot about the adventures, friendships and the snake! That snake is now up to about 6 metres in length!
Our Outdoor Education program very much supports our Mission here at the College. There are many different and challenging experiences, meeting new friends, becoming independent the list is endless…Yes, they’re tired. Yes they’re hungry. Yes, they need a good bath. They’re safe. They’re happy. They survived it,
but it is demanding. They learnt how to get along with other people. The staff witnessed many new friendships.

I would like to thank the staff who gave of their time not only from school but also their families to supervise the students.

Ms Roberts (Yr 7 Coordinator), Ms Blanchard, Mr Byatt, Ms Carson, Ms Down, Mrs Fentoullis (Director of Student Well Being), Ms James, Mr Kember, Ms Kitic, Ms Ryan, Ms Smallwood, Ms Viski and Mr Wilson.

As part of our Outdoor Education Program – each Year group is involved in the Mass or Liturgy. This year we were lucky to have Fr Tadeus celebrate Mass with us on Tuesday evening. He also explained the parts of the liturgy as they participated in the Mass. Mr Kershler also assisted in a presentation of the history of the Mass.

EXCELLENT WORK:

Earlier this week I was able to recognise and congratulate Nicholas Wood of Year 10 on his excellent work in the geography fieldwork - Extended Response Task One. The observations, written responses and diagrams were written meeting each of the top marking criteria as stated in the task. Nicholas was able to explain and evaluate the physical processes occurring in Dee Why and Collaroy. It was also very insightful in terms of the positive and negative human interactions impacting on this coastal zone.

Well done Nick!

“…Let us keep a place for Christ in our lives, let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation…” (Pope Francis 1 2013)

Mr A F Gleeson

Principal

AF Gleeson, College Principal
Message from the Assistant Principal

THE PLACE OF PART TIME WORK.
In recent times it has become the norm for students from Years 9 onwards to seek part time work. Part time work can prove to be beneficial for some students. In studies it has been found that students liked the independence their job gave them, they generally enjoyed the work, and believed that the experience of part-time work would help them obtain employment in later life. The problem isn’t in doing part time work the problem arises in the amount of part time work attempted.

The more hours a student works the greater the negative impact upon their results. The impact is mainly felt in their capacity to complete homework and assessment tasks. When a student works more then 10 hours a week difficulties arise with the completion of school work. 32% of students said they were falling behind in their work. (Data from ACEReSearch)

It is important that part time work not dominate a student’s life. With all the competing needs of a young person’s time the importance of school and study to support future life goals be given the pride of place it deserves.

YEAR 12 EXAMINATIONS
Our Year 12 students will be attempting their half yearly exams after the Easter break. All students have received a timetable of these exams. It is important that students carefully read this document. They need to be on time for their exams.

Students often park in the local streets when attending these exams. We would ask that students make sure that they obey the parking laws. Council rangers are often more vigilant during these times so please take care to give yourself time to park safely and legally.

LOCKDOWN DRILL
Last week the College conducted a lockdown drill. This is a safety requirement as are fire drills. It is important that students obey teachers during these times. These drills will be held on a regular basis through the school year.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Thursday 28</td>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Sunday 31 March</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<td>Tuesday 2 April</td>
<td>Students return to College after Easter break</td>
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<td>Half yearly exams for Year 12 students</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3 April</td>
<td>PAWS evening from 6 to 7 pm</td>
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<td>St Leo’s Board meeting</td>
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<td>Friday 5 April</td>
<td>Whole College Assembly</td>
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<td>Friday 12 April</td>
<td>Last day of term 1</td>
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Mrs Susan White, Acting Assistant Principal
Pastoral News

Year 7 Camp

11-13th March

Congratulations to Year 7 for their participation and enjoyment of the Year 7 “Getting to Know You” Camp held at the Southern Cross Outdoor Education Centre at Somersby.
A big thank you to all the staff who attended and gave generously of their time under the leadership of Ms Jane Roberts, the Year 7 Co ordinator.

Year 8 Camp is at Somerset Outdoor Learning Centre, Colo River, Week 3, Term 2, Tuesday 14th May to Friday 17th May, 2013
this is an outdoor adventure camps where the students and staff ‘sleep under the stars’.

My Camp Experience

TALES FROM YEAR 7
On Monday morning, we were all excited as we forwarded onto our coaches for the journey to Southern Cross OEC. I felt nervous to be away from home with people I didn’t know very well. I really enjoyed all the activities such as abseiling, flying fox, high ropes and much more. The staff were really great and helped me with the activities. This camp helped me overcome some of my fears, and presented many challenges. I think that the camp ran very well, and changed my opinions about school camps. We all had a great time and were excited to tell our families about the wonderful time we had.
Luke Wanden

We got to school, dropped our luggage and went to find our friends. It was a sunny morning and we were all very excited. We were talking and socialising when we were told to line up because it was time to leave. When we got to camp we went into the multi propose hall to learn more about our stay. Then we would have our first activity. I have a huge fear of heights and I was scared that I had to do something involving climbing to a height. However, we were not pushed into doing anything we felt uncomfortable with. Camp was sooooo much fun and we all had a great time. We were very tired and were equally excited to come home.
Stephanie Bannon

Camp this year was great! We did lots of fun activities to give us a chance to get to know each other. The food was ok. On the way down to the high ropes my group and I were just walking along and because the grass was really long it hard to see what was in front of us. Suddenly a red belly black snake was slithering through the grass. I was at the front of the group and I didn't see it at first. Then I saw the slithering snake in the corner of my eye. I got scared and went to run away but I ran towards the snake and jumped over it by accident. The staff came and caught it to take it away.
Tahlia Marci

Year 8

On Sunday we had the very sad news that Mrs Julie Merlo, mother of Nicholas, had passed away. This is obviously a very distressing time for the Merlo family and the St Leo’s community, especially Year 8, offer them our deepest sympathy.

I spoke with students on Monday morning, and we prayed for the Merlo family. We talked about how students could take good care of Nick when he returns to school and be sensitive to his needs. I also reminded them that if they themselves felt distressed then they should talk to someone, for example their friends, their parents, tutor teacher, myself or Mrs Newham our counselor. In tutor time, students reflected on some of the words of our college prayer: ‘God of love and understanding, you are the source of strength and understanding… Give us courage and hope to face the unknown… and live with the peace of the Holy Spirit..’
Very appropriately, in tutor time we will be looking at the importance of friendships and ways to be a good friend. We will be coming back to this area throughout the year. Students have also had a very thorough look at issues surrounding cyber-safety and respect for the belongings of others. Students have read information in their diary, heard from myself about expectations of St Leo’s College, had a presentation from Hornsby Police, and a theatrical presentation from Brainstorm Productions titled ‘Cyberia’. Each of these has focused on the idea that actions have consequences.

Finally, I’d like to commend and congratulate all the students who have shown their best over the last few weeks, either in the classroom, or as Open Day guides, hosting our Japanese visitors, representing the school in Basketball, or raising money for leukemia.

**Brainstorm Productions Cyberia Year 8**

Friday 15th March The Brainstorm Theatre Company presented the performance “Cyberia” to Year 8

**Year 9**

During Tutor the past 2 weeks, students have been focussing on managing their workload with regard to assessments and homework. Students were asked to complete some exercises requiring them to identify aspects that they find difficult in getting work completed on time. All students have now identified specific learning and personal goals for this term.

Thank you for assistance in reducing the level of unexplained absence in the Year Group over the past 2 weeks.

Just another gentle reminder to ensure that the Diary is signed each week. This is a vital communication tool between home and school. The diary should be signed at the end of each week. Tutors check these signatures weekly and do write notes in the diary for the parents.

If your child is away from school, please either phone or email the school to advise us of their absence. You must also provide a written note confirming their absence within 7 days.

A number of mostly female students are wearing items of jewellery not acceptable to the College - wrist bands, necklaces etc. All students are required to wear the correct sports uniform on Monday. I would greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that correct uniform is worn at all times.

We wish the following students the best of luck as they represent the College as part of the Swimming Team:

Rohan Bright
Timo Godbold
Liam Matthews
Kristian Moustakis
Ivan Zagvozkine
Lucy Jenkin
Sarah McIntosh
Elouise Princi
Maegan Chin
Natalie Foti
Year 10

This week in Tutor Time students will be working through some Career and Time Management Resources in their Diaries. They will be looking at:
- Four Dimensions of Me
- Building my living, learning and thinking power
- Reflection on my Performance last year
- Motivation

On Friday 22nd March Year 10 will be having a Brainstorm Production called Verbal Combat and next week in tutor time students will be doing some follow-up activities linked to the issues covered in this production.

Mr. Trainer

Year 11

During tutor lessons in weeks 7 and 8 all Year 11 students were presented with information on the “Illness/Misadventure” procedures for Preliminary and HSC. If you require more specific enquiries, please see the Assessment Handbook, or contact the College.

Students also are continuing the “Learning & Study Skills” program which will continue throughout the term. Topics include:
Be interested and Self Motivated
Be prepared to Listen, Concentrate, Question
Content, Skills and Issues
Be organised
Organise your Own Study
Revise
Develop Exam Skills
Evaluate

If Parents/Caregivers require more information on the above topics, please contact your young person’s tutor teacher.

Please continue to keep Kiernan and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Angelo Solomonides
Year 11 Coordinator
Come Join Us in Eucharist
Every Tuesday from 8 am
Every Friday from 1.05 pm
Mass in the College Chapel

The Passion of Christ.
The community is invited to share with the College, as we commemorate the Passion of Christ, in a service to be celebrated by the College at the Light of Christ Centre, on Holy Thursday, 28th March at 10.30am.

The Easter Triduum is the name for the three days that precede Easter Sunday. Starting with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on the evening of Holy Thursday continuing through the Good Friday service, and concluding with the start of the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday the Easter Triduum marks the key events of Holy Week.

This year the College will mark these significant days, with a Passion Play, marking the key events in Jesus’ life, leading up to Easter. Students of the College will depict these events with drama and music under the leadership of the Youth Minister, Ralph Kershler.

Social Justice at Leo’s
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Project Compassion is a diocesan initiative that closely reflects Catholic Life and Mission at the College.

Collecting for Project Compassion continued this fortnight with more tutor classes reaching their targets, and connecting with their stories.

Mission Australia Mufti Day - organised by student leaders
A ‘green’ themed mufti day raises money for another of the College’s chosen charities, as students were asked to make a gold coin donation, as they sported every shade of green on Wed, 20th March to raise money for Mission Australia.

The Year 7 class of 2013 explores the concept of Belonging to a Catholic community, as they trace the history of the College. The Chapel, the heart of the College, is a key aspect of this concept. The old uniforms, the connection with the Christian Brothers and past school experiences, all form part of this understanding and connection, as the students are guided on a school-walk by Youth Minister, Mr Kershler.

‘BELONGING’ TO ST LEO’S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Catechesis at the College
Trained, and presented by Youth Minister, Ralph Kershler, our senior students Alicia Hickey (Yr 12), John Kohne, Tim Kelly, Patrick Geier, Sam Arthur and Sophie Livermore from year 11 are commissioned as catechists by Fr David Ranson at Holy Name Parish, Wahroonga. They are part of the catechist ministry in the local public schools, and are an important aspect of Catholic life and mission in the College, as they volunteer their time and talents in spreading the Word.

Weekly Bible Study
Weekly Bible Study at the College is ‘packed to the rafters’ as students of all ages flock to the Youth Minister’s room to share food, fellowship, and their understanding of God’s word. Usually led by Ralph Kershler, this group has been gaining numbers, and is now often run by the students themselves, a testament to this aspect of Catholic life and mission at the College.
News from around the College

EVER THOUGHT OF VOLUNTEERING TO HELP OUR STUDENTS?

No experience or expertise needed as all training is provided!

You only need as little as one spare hour a fortnight to become part of the team.

An exciting intervention program has been running for a number of years at the College providing that little bit of extra help and encouragement to students. The program uses parents and community volunteers to tutor students on an individual basis during the school day. The program involves instruction in basic literacy and numeracy, and full training is provided.

My thanks go to all our existing volunteers. This program is making a positive impact for many students and our tutors find their involvement very rewarding.

For more information please contact Tony Gulliford at the school: Phone: 94873555 (anthony.gulliford@dbb.catholic.edu.au)
or the tutor administrator, Sarah Szacsvay, Phone: 98752843, Mobile: 0421082909, (sbuttfield@hotmail.com)

SOIREE IN AUTUMN

Wednesday 3rd April 6:00-7:00pm

The first Soiree for 2013 will be held on Wednesday 3rd April at 6pm. The Soiree will be held in the Light of Christ Centre and goes for approximately 1 hr. Parents, family and friends are invited to attend and enjoy the variety of performances on show.

Bel Canto (the College vocal group), Max 12, various solos, duets and small group items from years 7-12 will be performing.

If you would like to perform at this Soiree there will be auditions on Friday 22nd March at lunch time in the Music Centre. You will need to bring your backing track to your audition if you are using one. If you miss the Auditions just come and see Mrs Gauci or Ms McFarlane as soon as possible.

Hope to see many students and parents supporting this concert.

Mrs Olivia Gauci & Ms Carolyn McFarlane

On Thursday 14th March, Year 11 Photography students finally got to have their excursion, after previously missing out due to torrential rain. We caught the ferry from Circular Quay via Darling Harbour, disembarking at Cockatoo Island. Students spent the next couple of hours exploring and photographing the old warehouses, machinery and former convict quarters. After lunch at Circular Quay, students took photos of the slick city buildings, concentrating on reflections and patterns created by these skyscrapers. These images will form the basis of their first assessment task.

Juliette Carson Visual Arts Coordinator
The Bishop David Walker religious art prize will be awarded each year.

Eligibility:
All primary and secondary students attending Catholic Schools (systemic and congregational).

Entries may include art work completed as part of the school curriculum or art work undertaken independently.

Topic for 2013:
An expression of Catholic Discipleship

Media:
All artistic styles and media including, drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, textiles, video

Prizes:
Primary - $500
Secondary - $1000

First prize winners and their school will receive a certificate.

There will be a number of highly commended awards.

Entries will close on Friday 19 July (Week 1 / Term 3)

Winners will be announced during Term 3 and be exhibited at the Caroline Chisholm Centre.

They will also be a focus during Catholic Schools Week in 2014.
Artworks in focus Year 10 expressive Selfies

Ink and watercolour on paper Left to right - Oscar, Natalie, Krystyan, Bianca and Will
Community News

St Agatha’s Catholic School, Pennant Hills
Car Boot Sale and Market Stall Day
Sunday 7 April
11am till 4pm
7 Trebor Road, PENNANT HILLS

Everyone is welcome to come and join in the fun at St Agatha’s Catholic School Car Boot Sale & Market Stall Day. Fun for the whole family will include car boot sale, market stalls, white elephant, car wash, children’s activities and entertainment.

Visitors will be able to sit down and enjoy a coffee and fresh cake with a coffee van onsite. As well as homemade cakes, a variety of lunch options will be available including an international food court.

$50 to book a car spot
$100 per market stall

Contact: Simone on 0407 836 389 to book a spot or for further information.
Parenting Programs
Child & Adolescent Parenting

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 2 - COURSES/WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Communicating with Teens Course
Skills to communicate with your teenagers so that you understand each other better & are able to build positive relationships.
★ Understanding teenagers today ★ Assertiveness skills
★ Problem ownership ★ Problem solving
★ Listening skills ★ Peer group pressure & self-esteem issues
Chatswood 5 wks/2.5hrs (20/5 - 24/6, 7.00-9.30pm)

Dealing with Teen's Backchat Workshop
★ Learn how to restore a respectful & positive relationship with your teenager
★ Understand what it is like being a teenager today
★ Learn how to talk so that they listen & how to listen so that they talk to you
Chatswood (13/5, 7.00-9.30pm)

Tuning in to Kids Course - Chatswood (28/5-25/6)
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Course - Chatswood (8/5-26/6)
Communicating with Kids Course - Chatswood (23/5-27/6)

WORKSHOPS ON REQUEST FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF TEENS - 9887 5830
★ Dealing with Teen’s Back Chat
★ Transition to High School
★ Triple P Seminar Series (Teens)
★ Resilient Kids
★ Bully Busting Workshop

OTHER WORKSHOPS ON REQUEST (2-2.5 hours)
★ Understanding Your Toddler/Discipline & Tantrums
★ Tucker without Tantrums/Toilet Training
★ Speech & Language Development/Sleep
★ Older Sibling - New Baby
★ Transition to School
★ Triple P (PPP) Seminar Series (1-12 years)
★ Grand Parenting

Enquiries: Child & Adolescent Parenting 9887 5830

NSW Government
Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District
BBMA
BLACK BELT MARTIAL ARTS

- Build Children's Confidence
- Develops Children Discipline,
- Attitude & Focus
- Resist Peer Pressure

The Light of Christ Centre
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WAITARA

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FREE UNIFORM
*Some conditions apply

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