



Lighthouse

Volume 32 Number 6

20 May 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Friends of SFX

Political elections seem to be making headlines around the world. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are fighting it out in the US while back in Australia we are all preparing for a long and gruelling federal campaign.

It is inevitable that there will be much posturing and promising but at the end of the day each voter will need to wade through it all and make an informed decision. Each voter will have their own personal reasons behind their decision and have their own vision for an Australia of the future.

It is this process of weighing-up motives and visions that will shape the future of this country and every person within it. We do the same thing in our own lives. **Every important decision involves a process of considering motives and vision.** Sometimes this process can be straightforward, while at other times it can be very difficult. Of course, the difficult decisions can lead to worry and stress.

At this time of the year school students are in the midst of this very same process. Year 8 students will be considering their electives for Year 9, Year 10 students will shortly have to decide on their Stage 6 courses, while Year 12 students will be working out their post-school pathway. All are important decisions and all have benefits and consequences.

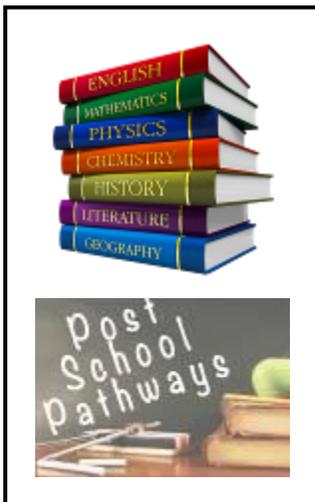
Decisions involve options. Take the circumstance of a Year 12 school leaver. There are those students who have been involved in many and varied activities. Activities that may have included community service, sport, work or performance. These students will then be able to demonstrate that they have developed their community skills and have been prepared to work with other people. All this is vital in raising

their employability potential and this gives them options for the future.

Unfortunately, there are also those students who have done little, or nothing, to enhance their position. They realise too late that their employability profile is limited and consequently their options for the future are also limited.

Good, mature decisions involve a journey. It is a journey that requires good preparation, good discussion and good deliberation. Hopefully the nation gets it right in a few months' time.

Br Robert Sutton, fms
Principal





YEAR 12

Monday, 23 May – Wednesday, 25 May

Year 12 Retreats

Thursday, 26 May

Year 12 Home Study Day

Friday, 27 May

Staff Inservice Day - Pupil Free Day

Thursday, 30 June

University of Newcastle Open Day

No scheduled classes for Year 12

Friday, 1 July

Term 2 Concludes

YEAR 11

Monday, 23 May – Wednesday, 1 June

Year 11 Exams

Friday, 27 May

Year 11 Exams as per Exam Timetable

Staff Inservice Day - Pupil Free (*except for students scheduled for exams*)

Thursday, 30 June

Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews

(1:30 pm - 7 pm)

Friday, 1 July

Term 2 Concludes

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS



OR



Support our fundraiser for the La Valla School, Cambodia by purchasing an Entertainment Book through the College. You can purchase a hard copy of the book through the College Finance Office or you may prefer to try the new digital book! Books can be bought on line at

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/3484k6>

or contact the Finance Office 4961 2863

or Cassie Mowbray cassie.mowbray@mn.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your support!

Year 11 students who will be participating in the 2016 Cambodia Immersion are



Rose Cousins



Grace Dever



Joel Donnelly



Sophie Gonano



Timothy Harrison



Phoebe Maguire

It is important to remember...

The poppies in this installation also represented the poppies of Flanders. The Flanders poppy has long been a part of Remembrance Day, the ritual that marks the Armistice of 11 November 1918, and is also increasingly being used as part of Anzac Day observances. During the First World War, red poppies were among the first plants to spring up in the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium. In soldiers' folklore, the vivid red of the poppy came from the blood of their comrades soaking the ground. The sight of poppies on the battlefield at Ypres in 1915 moved Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae to write the poem *In Flanders Fields*. In English literature of the nineteenth century, poppies had symbolised sleep or a state of oblivion; in the literature of the First World War a new, more powerful symbolism was attached to the poppy – the sacrifice of shed blood.



These poppies were also designed by Visual Arts students from our eleven high schools. Each poppy is unique in appearance and design. However the common goal for this venture is to enhance communication and unity of all schools in our Diocese. The poppies were also designed by Visual Art departments to commemorate the life of Mrs Fiona O'Donoghue. Mrs O'Donoghue taught in Catholic High Schools for well over twenty years. She was an excellent artist and an inspiring educator. Fiona was always there to assist and promote the arts within both the school and Newcastle community. Her legacy will always be with us, *Rest in Peace Fiona*.



2015 Performances



2016



Our talented and enthusiastic musical students of the College are busy preparing our College performances for this year's DioSounds Diocesan Performances. This year, DioSounds is ten years old and to celebrate, each of the eleven Diocesan High Schools will present musical items from different decades. Here at St Francis Xavier's College, our music was composed in the 1720's and the 1920's. Our College Choir will perform and we have many soloists and band members performing arrangements of jazz standards.

Parents and friends are most welcome to attend the evening performances.

The students would love to have you there and your support would be most appreciated.

Tickets are available through Ticketek for Thursday 2nd June, 2016.

Concert begins at 6:30 at the Civic Theatre.

Melissa Wattus and Luke Baker
St Francis Xavier's College Music Staff



FROM THE Finance Office

Finance Office Hours

8:30 am to 3:00 pm – Monday to Friday

E: hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au



SFX TERM 2 STATEMENTS

Your Term 2 statement was issued on Wednesday, 4 May.

Statements were sent home by email.

The Subject was 'St Francis Xavier's College Term 2 Fee Statement',
sender details hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au.

Please ensure emails from the College do not go directly to your spam account.

It is your responsibility to ensure you receive the statement.

If you have not received an email please contact the Finance Office immediately.

If email details have not been provided, the statements have been posted.

Please note mailed statements attract a charge of \$2.50 which will be added to your account.

The email contained the following sender information.

Payment of your account is required by

Wednesday, 25 May 2016, unless you are making regular payments by direct debit or BPAY.

Please note accounts must be finalised no later than end of Term 4 for Year 11 students and end of Term 3 for Year 12 students.

If you are making regular instalments a calculator has been provided [St Francis Xavier's College Fee calculator](#) to enable you to check your payments will finalise your account by the required date. Alternatively please contact the Finance Office to assist you in calculating a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment.

Items listed on the College Statement include: Tuition fees, Diocesan Family & School Building levy, laptop contribution (Year 12 only), Technology levy, Facilities/Resource fee and High Cost Electives (if applicable to your student) and other course related costs for example work placement insurance, if applicable.

Year 12 Retreat is a compulsory part of the College's ethos and a vital element in the spiritual development of students. The cost of these events will be billed in Term 1. As a result of this billing structure, Term 1 School Fees will be more than Terms 2 and 3.

Receipts will be emailed.

Method of Payment Options

QKR is now our preferred option to receive school fees alternatively BPAY, the Biller Code and Reference Number can be found on your statement. Your nominated deduction amount must finalise your account in full no later than end of Term 4 for Year 11 students and end of Term 3 for Year 12 students.

Excursions and sport payments cannot be paid via BPAY but can be paid using the QKR app. Details of which are available on our website [St Francis Xavier's College website](#). **Please take the time to read the information and download the App as it provides a secure method of paying for excursions and fees.**

Credit Card / EFTPOS The College accepts Mastercard or Visa only. Please be aware that if you are paying by credit card you can email, fax, post or telephone your credit card details to the College. An authorisation slip is provided at the bottom of your statement each term.

In Person: Parents are welcome to pay directly at the Finance Office between 8:30 am and 3:00 pm. Students can only pay before the start of school and in their lunch and recess breaks.

Direct Debit: Please contact the Finance Office.

From the Careers Desk



Mrs Julie McLoughlin
Careers Coordinator

P: 02 4961 2863

F: 02 4961 2384

E: julie.mcloughlin@mn.catholic.edu.au

UAC HAS LAUNCHED A MOBILE APP TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR STUDENTS TO MANAGE THEIR UNIVERSITY APPLICATION.

AVAILABLE FOR FREE IN IOS AND ANDROID



My UAC Explore over [2,000 courses](#) in NSW and the ACT on UAC's mobile app. Find courses from more than [40 institutions](#), easily manage your course preferences, check your offers and view your [ATAR](#) on your phone or tablet.

SEARCH COURSES

- quick search keyword, course name or course code
- browse all the courses at a particular institution
- find courses with entry below or between cut-offs
- refine your search results by field of study, institution, attendance mode

CHECK OFFERS AND CHANGE YOUR PREFERENCES

After you've applied online you can use My UAC to...

- check your offers
- view your eligibility status
- check any document requirements
- add and change your course preferences.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD

iOS

1. Open the Apple App store on your phone or tablet.
2. Search for 'My UAC' – our logo should be visible.



3. Select the 'My UAC' app – it's free.
4. Select the download icon.
5. Select **open** and start browsing.

Android

1. Open the Google play store on your phone or tablet.
2. Search for 'My UAC' – our logo should be visible.
3. Select the 'My UAC' app – it's free.



4. Select **Install** and then **accept**.
5. Start browsing.

Stats of interest from UAC

- The Median ATAR for 2016 entry was 68.7
- For Females it was 70.7
- For Males it was 66.3
- 16% of the ATARs allocated were 90 or above
- 62% of ATARs were at least 60.00

**ENGINEERING
GREAT CAREERS
FOR GIRLS!**

Engineers Australia is hosting a free Information Evening
'Girls Talk....just for the Girls'

Thursday, 16 June 2016

Auditorium of Engineers Australia, 122 Parry St, Newcastle West
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

The evening is aimed at female secondary school students interested in a career involving maths and science.

Guest speakers will give informative presentations including what it's like to be an engineer, what they do and how they got started.

Visit www.engineersaustralia.org.au/newcastle-division to register.

Invitations from the University of Newcastle

**Women in Engineering
and
Built Environment
Careers Day**

Brennan Room, Shortland Union Building
9:30 am to approximately 1:00 pm

Thursday, 22 September

Students (GIRLS) have the opportunity to experience what life is like on the Callaghan campus and to hear about student and graduate experiences.

Please contact **Jenny Taylor** to register

E: Jenny.Taylor@newcastle.edu.au T: 4921 7997 M: 0409 122661



UTS has two very prestigious scholarships on offer each year.

**Bachelor Accounting Co-op
Program**

**Bachelor Information
Technology Co- op Program**

See Mrs Mac for details.



The ACU are offering a free program for students during their school holidays in July. This event gives you the opportunity to sample the degree of your choice as well as get a taste of ACU life – meeting with current teaching staff and students.

**Wednesday, 6 July at Strathfield
and Friday, 8 July at North
Sydney Campus.**

Register via

[www.acu.edu.au/university
experience](http://www.acu.edu.au/university_experience)

Western U Day at Parramatta

**WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY**



31st May 9:30am to 2pm

Contact: Allison Slade
a.slade@westernsydney.edu.au

Western U Day provides the opportunity for senior high school students to experience a day on a Western Sydney University campus. The event will allow high school students to speak to current University students and academic staff, experience the range of courses available at Western Sydney University through interactive workshops and presentations, and learn about scholarships.

http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/future_students_home/events_at_uws/westernuday

