



# Lighthouse

**Volume 31 Number 1**

**6 February 2015**

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Friends of SFX

I wish all students, and their families, all the very best for the 2015 school year. The College has now assembled for the year and I look forward to seeing our students' progress in their studies during the months ahead.

One of the matters that we will be addressing with all the students relates to their goals for the year. Unfortunately, some students have not developed any worthwhile goals and therefore they are in danger of wasting their own time and their parent's resources.

Many students, however, do have goals and ambitions. Then it becomes a question of the types of goals that the students have developed.

There are short term goals and then there are long term goals. For senior students their short term goals might include buying a car, saving for a holiday or buying other personal items. Alternatively, their long term goals would hopefully relate to securing a good ATAR, gaining entry into a desired university course or starting in a particular area of work.

With some students, however, their short term goals take on a domineering priority. As a result they are working extended hours in various jobs which can finish late into the night or involve long hours on the weekend. This can negatively impact on their ability to succeed in their studies and therefore achieve their long term ambitions.

Of course having paid work can be a most useful endeavour. It provides an opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in the workforce and work with adults who are not their teachers or parents. It can also create a degree of self-reliance for the young person. It is especially admirable when students are involved in paid work in order to assist with the finances of the family.



Needless to say that not all short term goals are worthless. There can be some excellent ambitions that relate to the more immediate future. Similarly there can be some pretty ordinary long term goals that overwhelm the lives of some people.

It is all a matter of balance. When senior students are working long hours at the expense of serious study then questions need to be asked. Because, the end result of that pathway can be disappointing HSC results and limited post school options.

Br Robert Sutton, fms  
Principal

# St Francis Xavier's College

## Student Leaders 2015

### Captains



Andrew  
de Souza



Kadisha  
Haynes

### Vice Captains



Paul  
Kelly



Lauren  
Freemantle

### House Leaders



Nicholas  
Price  
*Champagnat*



Taylah  
Smith  
*Dominic*



Phoebe  
Cousins  
*MacKillop*



Joseph  
Woods  
*McAuley*

### Solidarity Leaders 2015



Lydia  
Frazer



Harrison  
Gresham



Cleopatra  
Ngilasi



Janice  
Muller

# St Vincent de Paul Society Leadership Team 2015



Lara Fuller  
President



James Seldon  
Vice President



Shay O'Callaghan  
Secretary



Alexandra Kerr  
Treasurer



Christopher Chapman  
Committee Member



Kieran Palmer  
Committee Member



*Lake Macquarie*



**Emily Ogden**

*Lake Macquarie 2015*

*Young Citizen of the Year (under 18 years)*

Lake Macquarie's 2015 Young Citizen of the Year is effervescent, generous and hard working. And she is only 17 years old. Belmont's Emily Ogden has already achieved a lot in her life. Her main role in the community is a Warners Bay Girl Guide Leader. Emily has been involved with Girl Guides NSW for more than nine years. She started at the Belmont North Branch when she was seven. When she was nine she joined Charlestown Girl Guides, where she earned the highly coveted junior Baden-

Powell Award. She has now been at the Warners Bay Branch for four years and a junior leader for the past 18 months. On top of her duties as a senior guide, Emily helps develop and implement programs for the junior guides. She particularly loves to help with craft and cooking activities. She said guides had taught her about leadership, teamwork and communication skills. "All of the skills I've learnt are transferable to every area of life so it's been an invaluable experience," she said. These skills have helped Emily outside of guides. She has also volunteered at Taronga Zoo through its youth program since 2011. As part of the program, she travels to Sydney once a month during school terms and three to four times during school holidays to help out with the Roar & Snore overnight program, cleaning animal enclosures and manning information services. Last year, the then Year 11 St Francis Xavier's College student gave up one lesson a week to teach religion in local primary schools. It was her responsibility to catch up on missed school work, but Emily said she was honoured to be part of the program. Her attitude is reflected in her nomination for an Australia Day Award. Warners Bay Girl Guides' Michelle Smith nominated Emily and spoke highly of her. "Emily is a quiet achiever and loves to lead by example," Ms Smith said.

*Article written by Georgia Osland  
The Star Newspaper*



## Vinnies Christmas Gift Appeal 2014



### College St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

Many thanks to all students, especially our members and staff, who helped in organising the various activities and who supported our Christmas Appeal on St Francis Xavier's Day late last term. The total raised was \$1156.45 and about eight cartons of presents were also donated.

The money and presents were given to the Hamilton Parish Conference who delivered food vouchers and presents to about 35 needy families in the local area on the Sunday before Christmas.

A special thanks to our members Chris Chapman, Lydia Frazer, Grace Lancaster, Shay O'Callaghan, Kieran Palmer, Rachel Saidi and Brooke Varnum who took part in this delivery.

Br David



*Christmas Appeal Fashion Parade during SFX Day,  
5 December 2014.*



With the theme JustLiving: Hearts Without Borders, the National Marist Youth Festival brought together young Marists from around Australia with big hearts set on change.

On Monday, 12 January, Brother David and two students from Year 12, Lara Fuller and myself, attended the Marist Youth Festival along with 200 young Marists. The Festival extended over four days and included words of wisdom from international speakers such as the Superior General of the Marist Brothers, Br Emili Turu, The Australian Youth representative to the United Nations for 2014, Laura John, as well as many other inspiring Key Speakers with a passion for justice and change.

It was an energetic celebration of Marist family spirit and faith as many young Marists shared their ideas through workshops centered around social justice issues, group activities based on forming strong human relationships, empowering musical performances by Fr Rob Galea and his band, and liturgies aimed at strengthening the relationship of youths to the changing world around them. The festival reconnected young Marists to their faith and exhibited the large supportive Marist family worldwide.

The Marist Youth Festival was an extremely empowering experience and we look forward to practising many of these ideas shared in the St Francis Xavier community.

Phoebe Cousins





## St Francis Xavier's College

Address: 286 Parkway Avenue, Hamilton  
Office: Hebburn Street, Hamilton  
Postal: PO Box 300, Hamilton NSW 2303  
Telephone: (02) 4961 2863  
Facsimile: (02) 4961 2384  
Email: [admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au)  
Web Site: [www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au)

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### Switch/Reception

Hours: 8:00 am until 3:30 pm

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### Finance Office

Hours: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Email: [hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au)

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### Student Office

Hours: 8:00 am until 3:10 pm each day  
Telephone: (02) 4961 2110  
Email: [hml-studentoffice@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hml-studentoffice@mn.catholic.edu.au)

*All student related phone calls can be made directly to the Student Office.  
If the phone is unattended please leave a message.*

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### Uniform Shop

Telephone: (02) 4962 4423  
Email: [stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au](mailto:stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au)

**Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:**

**Tuesday.....8:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
**Thursday....10:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Payments can be made direct to Alinta Apparel in the form of cash, credit card, or debit credit card.

Shop Online at [www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au)



## For your information

### Classes

- The school day starts for the majority of students at 9:05 am with Tutor Group and finishes at 3:10 pm.
- Extension classes and some other classes commence at 8:00 am.

### End of the School Day

**The school day concludes at 3:10 pm.**

Please **DO NOT** phone to collect students earlier, or for students to leave early, unless it is an emergency.

*Julia Lederwasch  
Assistant Principal – Dean of Students*

### Students on School Premises

Students are to remain on the premises for the entire school day unless permission has been granted for leave.

The consequence of leaving without permission is suspension!

### Library

Opens at 8:00 am of a morning

Monday and Wednesday opened until 4:30 pm

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday opened until 3:30 pm

### Jewellery

**Eyebrow rings, lip rings and nose rings are NOT permitted.** Large earrings and coloured beads and necklaces are not part of the College uniform. Students who fail to abide by these simple rules will be asked to remove the items or may have them confiscated.

### Change of Addresses and Phone Numbers

In case of an emergency it is important that students' contact details are up to date.

If there have been changes to family details please have your student go to the Administration Office where an appropriate form will be issued.

### Mobile Phone, iPod and other Devices

#### **LIABILITY**

Students bringing mobile phones to the school do so at their own risk.

The College cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile phones.

The same applies to portable computer games, MP3s, iPods and similar devices.

### Out of Uniform Days

Due to Work Health & Safety regulations, on these occasions students are still required to wear **covered in shoes**. Dress should be appropriate for a school setting ie no inappropriate slogans on clothes, no short shorts, singlet tops.

### Students Applying for Exemption from Attendance at School

Students wishing to apply for leave from the College are required to submit a letter from a parent/guardian describing leave requested.

*Please be aware that leave will **NOT** be approved during exam periods.*

### School Leaving Age 17 Years of Age

If students leave under the age of 17 years the College must sight documentation that they have enrolled in approved education or training or have gained full time paid employment (average 25 hours/week) or a combination of these.

### Crossing Roads

All students are reminded of the importance of crossing roads in an appropriate manner and at an appropriate place. Students who need to cross King Street of an afternoon are to cross at the Traffic Lights at the crossing in King Street, in front of the TAFE, opposite Wood Street. Students are to follow the directions of staff on duty at this crossing

### TAFE

Students approaching the College in the morning or leaving the College in the afternoon in the direction of the TAFE are asked to walk **AROUND** the TAFE not through it. The TAFE grounds are private property and are not to be used as a shortcut to King Street.



## **Parking in Parkway Avenue**

A reminder to students and parents that it is illegal to park on the median strip in Parkway Avenue, however, even more importantly, parking in this manner puts students and drivers at risk as it is a very congested area at 3:10 pm. Newcastle Council Officers will be monitoring this area, with our full support, and therefore it would be in everyone's best interests to comply with regulations!

**Student are NOT to park in the Staff Car Park.**

Students driving to school are to hand in their registration number to the Student Office.  
Please refer to 'Road Safety' form on the back of this Lighthouse.

St Francis Xavier's College  
Phone Number: 02 4961 2863  
Facsimile Number: 02 4961 2384  
Student Office Phone Number: 02 4961 2110  
Email: [admin@hamilton.mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@hamilton.mn.catholic.edu.au)  
Web Site: [www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au)



**The Uniform Shop**  
(02) 4962 4423  
[stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au](mailto:stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au)

Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:

**Tuesday: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**

**Thursday: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm**

The uniform shop can be contacted during these hours by phone or email:  
[stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au](mailto:stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au)

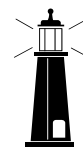
Payments can be made direct to Alinta Apparel in the form of cash, credit card, or debit credit card.

Uniform price list & online shopping available at:  
[www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au)

## **Lighthouse Newsletter**

is available on the  
College Web Site

[www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au)



## **FOOTWEAR**

### **Girls' Footwear**



*ALL* girls and boys must have *black*  
**Canvas shoes are NOT an option.** The  
the upper foot and have safe heels and soles.  
**This has been a requirement of enrolment.**

## **FOOTWEAR**

### **Boys' Footwear**



The Canteen requires volunteers to work on a Tuesday and a Wednesday.

***Can you help?***

Please phone the College  
on 4961 2863

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 11 February

**Year 11 VET Information Meeting**  
College Hall – 7:00 pm

Thursday, 12 February

**Student Commissioning Liturgy**  
Civic Theatre – 9:00 am

Tuesday, 17 February

**Year 11 Getting to Know You Day**  
**Year 12 HSC & Beyond Day**

Wednesday, 18 February

**Year 12 Information Evening**  
College Hall - 7:00 pm

Friday, 20 February

**2014, 1<sup>st</sup> in the Diocese Assembly**  
College Hall – 9:15 am

Wednesday, 4 March

**Year 11 Parent Information Evening**  
College Hall – 7:00 pm  
*Refer opposite for details*

Monday, 23 March – Thursday, 2 April

**Year 12 Mid-Course Exams**

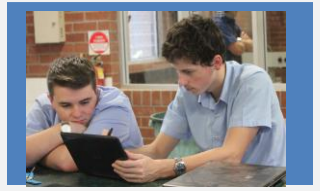
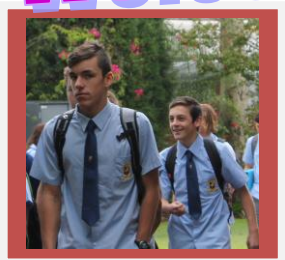
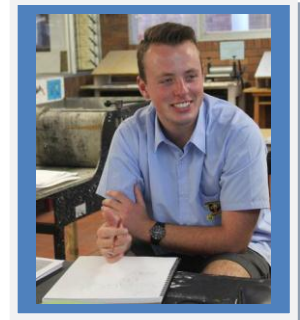
Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!

## Year 11 Parent Information Evening Wednesday, 4 March 7:00 pm – College Hall

A letter will be sent home shortly with all Year 11 students inviting parents to attend this evening. We encourage all parents to commit to this evening. *Students are not required to attend.* The session will commence in the Hall with a welcome from Br Robert (Principal) and short presentations from Mrs Lederwasch (Dean of Students) and Mrs Hales (Dean of Studies).

Parents will then join their child's Tutor Group Leader for a briefing and to answer any concerns.

Mrs Patricia Hales & Mrs Julia Lederwasch  
Assistant Principals



Year 11 Opening Mass  
Sacred Heart Cathedral





## Instructions for student/parent/caregiver/legal guardian

1. Please read this document carefully.
  2. Discuss the Road Safety rules with your child.
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### Arriving and Departing

Parents/carers and family members are encouraged to inform students about and reinforce correct and responsible road use behaviours.

There are four designated points of entry to St Francis Xavier's College.

- Everton Street
- Parkway Avenue
- Hebburn Street
- Ada Street

### Arrival and Departure on Foot

Given the large number of students who drive to school, students need to exercise caution when approaching and leaving the College grounds and the environs. Students are not to walk along the median strip along King Street but must use the pedestrian crossing and lights appropriately.

Staff will be on duty after school to supervise the students using the crossing on King Street in front of the TAFE.

### Arrival and Departure by Car

Parents/carers, family members and students are expected to use the legal street parking spaces for pick up and delivery of students. It is illegal to park on the median strip in Parkway Avenue.

The College has a large student population. Drivers should ensure that they exercise caution and arrive and depart the College and its environs in a safe, responsible and legal manner. Similarly pedestrians must exercise due caution given the large number of relatively inexperienced drivers who arrive and depart around the same time.

The car park is for staff and visitors only. Students are **NOT** to use the car park unless given permission by the Principal for exceptional circumstances. There is a disabled parking spot for appropriate use.

Students who utilise the Assisted Travel Scheme are accompanied to and from the vehicle by a staff member.

The school is located in a 40km school zone where a 40km speed limit applies for the hours of 8:00 am – 9:30 am and 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm on school days. The speed limit is lowered to 40km during these hours to increase the safety of the students arriving and departing the school. Drivers must abide by these speed regulations.

# ROAD SAFETY



## Students who drive a car to and from school



Please read the following, complete this document and return to the Student Office when you start driving to school.



### Agreement

The following information is required as a part of the College Road Safety Policy which seeks to provide a framework of common understanding for students, staff, parents/carers and the community who interact with the College to provide a safe environment.

This information will also be used to inform students should their car need to be moved if they have inadvertently encroached upon a neighbour's driveway which prevents access.

In the event of complaints from members of the public regarding dangerous or careless driving practices, parents will be informed.

I agree to the following:

1. My car will not be used during the day to leave the school grounds without permission from the College who will seek permission from a parent/carer.
2. I must hold a valid driver's licence.
3. The car I will drive must have current registration, together with current comprehensive insurance or third party property insurance.
4. Other rules relating to parking, use of student car park during school hours, etc is at the discretion of the Principal.
5. I will drive in a safe manner and follow all road rules.
6. I agree that no student passenger will be transported in this vehicle unless permission has been given by their parent/carer.

#### *Please print*

Student Driver's Name & Tutor Group

Student's Licence Number

Date of Licence Issue P1

P2

Vehicle Make/Model

Registration

Insurance Details

Company

Comprehensive/Third Party

Policy Number

Parent/Carer Phone Number/s

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

