



Lighthouse

Volume 31 Number 2

16 February 2015



2015 COMMISSIONING CEREMONY





COMMISSIONING Captain's

Good morning everyone and welcome to St Francis Xavier's College commissioning ceremony 2015. I am honoured to be here today to address you all as one of the school captain's for the year ahead.

To start us all off I'd like for you all to close your eyes for a minute. Keeping them shut, I want you all to think, to yourselves, what you think the year ahead has in place for you?

Along with that I now want you to think what you are going to put in place for the year? What goals will you set? It might be to improve in a particular subject, get involved in the numerous opportunities that are provided, succeed in a particular sport or start an assessment task earlier than the night before it's due. You can open your eyes now. You see all these things and more are possible. The word *CAN'T* I believe is not in my dictionary and never will be. Simply the words *I CAN'T* are a simple excuse for I'm really not trying. With that I encourage you all sitting in front of me today to apply 110% effort into all that you want to achieve this year and I believe that if you put that 110% effort in, then at the end of the day if all doesn't go to plan you can still be happy within yourself knowing you actually put in that effort and you have no regrets on what you 'could' have done better. Now I know that this year for some may be more challenging than for others but there is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs, and take the ones at Merewether baths for example; they are not easy to get up even on a good day. But with that I certainly know Andrew and I and the staff here at SFX are willing to encourage and support you all along the journey this year in whatever way possible.

Moving on from that I'd like to provide you all with some valuable advice for when it comes to helping you get through your last two years or three terms of school. You see, I believe one of the biggest challenges people face during this time in their life, is maintaining a healthy balance between being happy and having a reputation amongst peers.

Former basketball player and coach John Wooden states, "Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are." You see I'm a strong believer that happiness is found when you stop comparing yourself to other people. And trust me it's hard, I still do it. But a very important man in my life once told me as I came off the netball court at halftime during an intense game, that every person on that court has "two arms, two legs and a heartbeat." That man was my dad and to this day I am very grateful for that advice because it has helped me get through a lot in life including going back on the court and believing in myself. It has taught me not to compare myself to others or put myself down before I even give it a shot. All my dad was trying to say was that every single person on that court is the same, not one better, not one worse. It just comes down to who is willing to give it their all on the day.

Now lastly I'd like to congratulate everyone for their efforts who have been on stage today to receive a leadership badge. Your contributions to the College have been greatly appreciated and I can't wait to see what this year has to bring for us all as a community. With that we all know that you do not need a badge to lead or embrace school life. I believe everyone in this school is highly motivated and prepared to make this year one to remember. So I wish the best of luck to everyone from Andrew and I for the year ahead. It will be a great year!

Thankyou.

Kadisha Haynes



CEREMONY

Speeches

Good Morning All

So, 'Just Love: Hearts Without Borders' that's the theme for this year, the big 2015.

I think this is a great motto for the year ahead seeing as of recent times our world hasn't exactly been a particularly peaceful one, and I believe that spreading the love is something we should all strive to do. Now if there is anything I have been taught in 1 unit Religion, it is that the Dalai Lama is a top bloke, and I think some of his messages can be particularly influential in our year ahead. The Dalai Lama says that "Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive." (brainy [quote.com](#)). In this year we will all be pushed to the test, but never forget that as decent human beings we must spread the love. Ya feel? Like when I'm working at the deli, slicing up \$12.99 triple smoked boneless leg ham, it doesn't matter who comes in, what they are like, if they are rude or insulting, you gotta give them the love that every human being deserves, and treat them as an equal.

Now I was thinking about what I should say in this speech, and to be honest I didn't really know. So I looked around YouTube, sorted through the fail videos and found a great gem that I think describes how we should all be aiming to strive for success this year. "Let me tell you something you already know, the world ain't all sunshine and rainbows, it's a very mean and nasty place, and I don't care how tough you are it will beat you to your knees and keep you there permanently if you let it, you me or nobody, is gonna hit as hard as life, but it ain't about how hard you hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward, that's how winning is done." I think you can all see what Mr Balboa is trying to show us here. You have to work for it, it doesn't matter if you fail your test, or miss that back page, or write about your first soccer game in creative writing, just get back on that horse and work for it. Yes it's tough, but what's life without a challenge? Pretty boring I think.

Now this year will be filled with success and spills and endless thrills as half of us make our way through our last eight months of schooling and the other half begin their last two years. For Year 12, this is the year to do it. To just gun it out. There really isn't much time left, and looking back on the last full year I sometimes wonder where it went. Yes, we all know the HSC isn't struggle street, it's struggle city, but we are all in this together and I know that this year group is a bunch of wacky and wonderful people full of talents ready to sweep the world off its feet. **DO** your best, I know you can. Year 11, I hope you take on this message and realise that these last two years are a time of meeting new people, making friends and working hard. And I mean that. You have a year group of 500 plus people. Embrace new opportunities, get to know one another and help build the SFX community and make it strong. Just like Brother Robert builds those quiche planters around the school.

Also a big thanks to all the teachers and staff for their continuing hard work over the years. I know that without this dedicated group of people, obviously, we wouldn't have gotten far. Hopefully we can all look back on this year and know that we tried our best and gave it our all. From me and Deesh here, goodluck!

Thankyou

Andrew de Souza



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday, 18 February

Year 12 Information Evening
College Hall - 7:00 pm
Refer below for details

Friday, 20 February

2014, 1st in the Diocese Assembly
College Hall – 9:15 am

Wednesday, 4 March

Year 11 Parent Information Evening
College Hall – 7:00 pm
Details will be readvertised in the next newsletter

Monday, 23 March – Thursday, 2 April

Year 12 Mid-Course Exams
Refer below for details

Thursday, 2 April

Term 1 concludes

Year 12 Information Evening

Wednesday, 18 February

7:00 pm – College Hall

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:45 pm

A letter (dated 10 February 2015) was sent home with all Year 12 students inviting students and parents to attend this evening.

At this meeting aspects of the NSW Board of Studies, Teaching & Educational Standards (BOSTES) HSC Rules and Procedures will be explained.

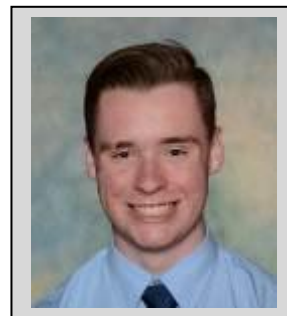
The evening is an opportunity for parents to consider how they can support their child in the HSC Year and clearly understand the expectations of the school and the Board of Studies.

Students are to bring their HSC Assessment Handbook to the meeting as this will be referred to in the presentation.

Year 12 Mid Course Exams

These exams commence on Monday, 23 March and conclude on Thursday, 2 April. Students have been emailed an examination timetable and received a hard copy. Please be advised that as per our Assessment Policy leave will not be granted during exam blocks, therefore students should carefully check commitments during this nine day period.

Mrs Patricia Hales
Assistant Principal – Dean of Studies



Congratulations to **Patrick McCoy** for his most impressive performance on viola of the **Slow Movement from Winter, one of Vivaldi's Four Seasons**. Patrick is in our **Music 2** class in our new Year 11 and he performed this piece as part of the Diocesan 'Called To Serve' Mass last Tuesday evening. In front of hundreds of Diocesan Office, Teaching and Support Staff, Patrick was truly a credit to the College. He performed most maturely and musically in a high pressured environment as a soloist in the Cathedral with only a week to prepare the performance. Well done Patrick!

Melissa Wattus
Music Staff



JOIN VINNIES!

Do you want to be more involved in the school community? Why not join Vinnies! Help others, have some fun and make new friends. We meet each Thursday at 11:25 am in room B201.

We organise activities such as the Easter Egg Appeal, Vinnies Day, the Winter Clothing Appeal, the Spring Food Appeal and the Christmas Appeal, as well as visiting needy families and the Vinnies Store at Islington.

Hope to see you 11:25 am, Thursday in B201.
Bring a friend as well.

HSC Geography Excursion



On Friday, 6 February Year 12 Geographers took to the field to study both human impacts and management of the Stockton Dunes ecosystem. The day was facilitated by Mr Jonathon Lilley of the Worimi people and students were able to access traditional lands that are not open to the public.

Jonathon shared stories with the students and from his extensive knowledge of both traditional and contemporary approaches to managing the areas. The students found the day to be both enjoyable and informative.

Mr A Stone
HSIE Coordinator

Ms J Rees
Teacher

HSC Legal Studies Excursion



On Wednesday, 11 February Year 12 Legal Studies students travelled to Parramatta to view the operation of the Drug Court as part of the Crime topic. The Drug Court operates a rehabilitation program for convicted offenders whose criminality is related to a drug addiction.

Students viewed a range of court functions and deepened their understanding of this law reform initiative. They also had the opportunity to observe some trials in the District Court.

Thanks to Mrs Finlayson and Mrs Anicich who supervised the day.

Mr A Stone
HSIE Coordinator

STUDIES OF RELIGION

Excursion

Tuesday, 28 and Wednesday, 29 April

North Shore Synagogue, Sydney

Sydney Jewish Museum

Nan Tien Buddhist Temple
(near Wollongong)

Auburn Gallipoli Mosque



This excursion is open to Year 11 and Year 12 Studies of Religion students

Details have been emailed to each student

Please note there are limited places available!

Cost – \$160.00

(Includes transport, entry, workshops, accommodation and three meals)

A \$60 non-refundable deposit, to confirm your place, is to be paid to the Finance Office

**Balance of \$100 is due on
Wednesday, 1 April 2015**

**Contact Rev Noble
if you have any questions**

Rev. Jon Noble – Religious Studies Coordinator
jonathan.noble@mn.catholic.edu.au

From the Careers desk



that it
becomes
a reality

you have to
believe
with so much
passion

To succeed

MN Live / The School Portal



Every week you will find on the School Portal a list of potential jobs available. Most of these are full time – some are part time positions.

The Portal under Careers, will also contain all the relevant careers information for students throughout the year.



The ATAR for Nursing has spiked substantially over the past two years, the demand for this discipline area is growing year on year. This year it rose another 8 ATAR points to 78.15

MY DAY Calendar



MyDay events are interactive days targeting Year 11 and Year 12 students to give them a taste of living and learning on campus at CSU and the opportunity to find out more about their chosen course and career. The most popular day for us is the Paramedics day held in April.

All the details can be found on the School Portal under Careers.

With regards to Midwifery, again the demand for this area has grown substantially and there is no increase in placements allocated to the University. Therefore, to ensure



that the limited student positions go to individuals who will make outstanding midwives, the Faculty has introduced a Personal Quality Assessment (PQA) similar additional entry requirement to that of Medicine students. The demand is so high now that selection purely based on ATAR is no longer appropriate and the Faculty firmly believes that non-academic personal qualities are just as important and influential to learning and practice of midwifery.

Traineeships in Agriculture and related areas - across NSW

Traineeships are now available under NSW Smart & Skilled in various locations across NSW. Certificate III and Cert IV in Agriculture, Agribusiness, Conservation and Land Management, Horticulture, Organic Farming and Production Horticulture are being offered. Contact RuralBiz Training on 02 6884 8812 or lodge your expression of interest at

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NSW_Smart_Skilled

Because of the additional entry requirement, a published ATAR is not applicable as selection is based on a combination of ATAR and PQA results.

More information about PQA can be found at this link

<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/degrees/bachelor-of-midwifery/additional-entry-criteria>

An Australian Defence Force representative will be here on Wednesday, 18 February. Major Joanne Baker is an ex-student of SFX and she will be here to talk specifically about Jobs in Health Care in the Defences. The talk will commence at 11.15 am.

Bring your lunch with you.

Year 11 & 12 are both welcome!

ADF GAP Year;
NOW open for application.
Check the School Portal for all the details.



IN THE USA!



**Are you interested in Au Pair work
for your Gap Year?**

This organisation will be holding an information evening on Sunday, 22 March @10am - 12noon.

Belmont Library
19 Ernest Street, Belmont

To register go to www.culturalcare.com.au
or call 1800677373

AIT FREE Digital Workshop

AIT offers **FREE** digital workshops in
1. Animation 2. Game Design 3. Film Editing.
Hands on experience for students.

Saturday, 21 February and Friday, 6 March from
10am - 4pm.

RSVP: <http://www.ait.nsw.edu.au/free-day-courses/>

Meet the Business Leaders 2015

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand are hosting the annual Meet The Business Leader (formerly Cadetship Evening) on Wednesday, 20 May at Luna Park.

This is a fantastic opportunity for students to connect with universities and top employers and secure a highly sought after cadetship.

More Information email
careers.nsw@charteredaccountantsanz.com



This is a residential College within the University of Sydney. They have up to \$1 million available in scholarships, bursaries and prizes for students for 2016, should you be considering tertiary study in Sydney.

Scholarships information can be found at:
standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/scholarships-and-prizes/

Applications are now open for the 2016 St Andrew's Scholars intake. Applications close 30 June, and students should apply as soon as possible.

You are also welcome to contact the College directly with any questions on (02) 9565 7300. Contact Alana Chambers, Marketing & Communications Officer.

Our Bursary Assistance information can be found at: standrewscollege.edu.au/current-students/bursary-assistance/ The means-tested Bursary Assistance include packages up to full fee relief, depending on need.

Mrs Julie McLoughlin
Careers Coordinator

P: 02 4961 2863

F: 02 4961 2384

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



From the Finance Office ...

Finance Office Hours

8:30 am to 3:00 pm – Monday to Friday

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

College Fee Information

YOUR COLLEGE FEE ACCOUNT

Your first statement for Term 1 will be issued this week, Week 4. The statements will be sent home by email, statements will only be posted if we do not have an email address. Please ensure your email and address details are up to date and you notify us of any changes immediately. The email will contain the following sender information.

The Subject will always include 'St Francis Xavier's College Fee Statement'. Please ensure that this does not go directly to your spam account. It is your responsibility to ensure you receive the statement. If you do not receive an email please contact the Finance Office immediately.

Payment of your account is required within 21 days of the statement date unless you are paying by direct debit or BPay.

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 School'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 & 3.

Method of Payment Options

BPay: Is our preferred option to receive school fees. Biller Code is **132340** and the Reference Number is the account number which is on your invoice/statement. *Excursions and sport payments cannot be paid via Bpay.*

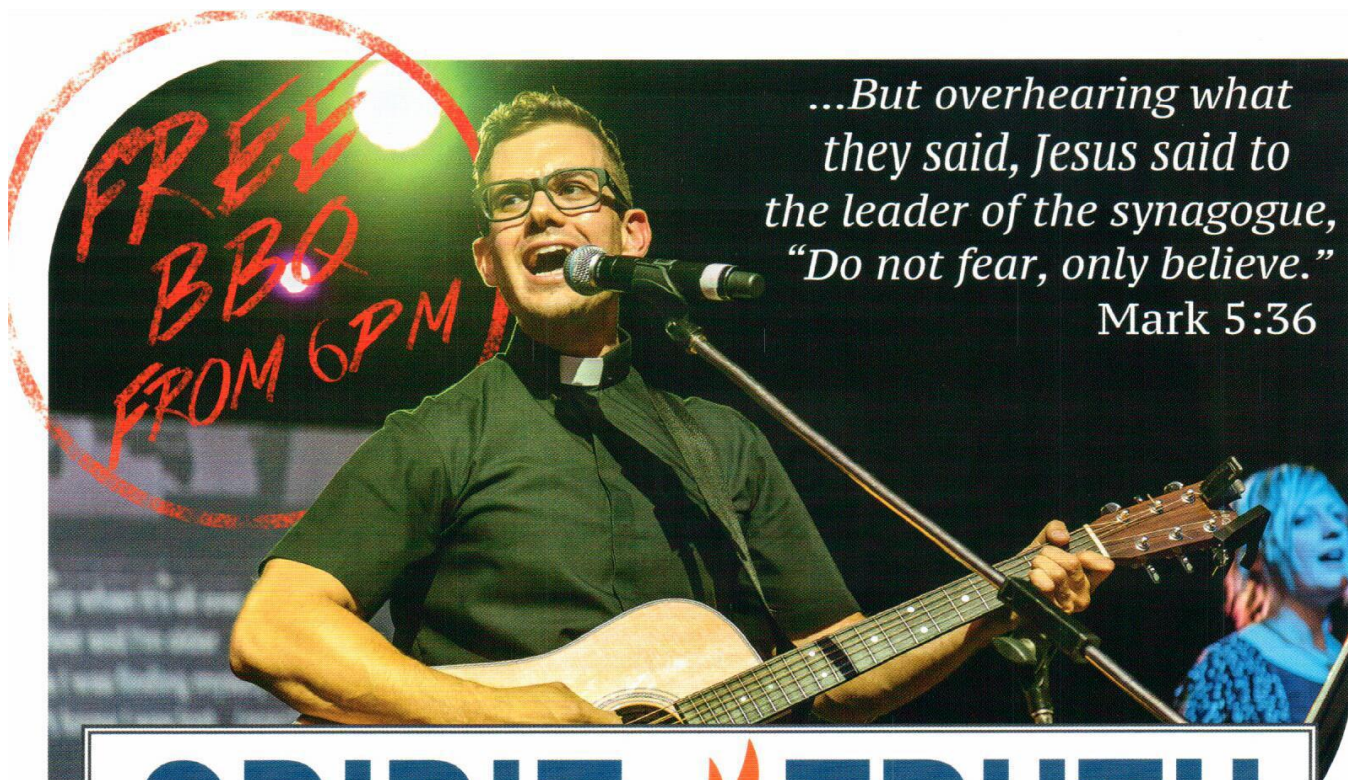
Instalments: You need to establish this payment method during Term 1 only. Your nominated deduction amount must finalise your account in full by early December. Year 12 School fees must be finalised by the end of Term 3. If you wish to pay by instalments, please contact the Finance Office to assist you in calculating a weekly, fortnightly or monthly payment.

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 or post your credit card details to the College. An authorisation slip is provided at the bottom of your statement each term. Your signature is required to authorise these transactions.

In Person: Parents are welcome to pay directly at the Finance Office between 8.30am and 3pm. Students can only pay before the start of school and in their lunch and recess breaks.

Direct Debit: Please contact the Finance Office.

Receipts: Any receipts not collected from the Finance Office at the time of processing will be given to the relevant student during their Tutor Group the next day to take home to you.



SPIRIT TRUTH

PRAISE & WORSHIP

With Guest Speaker
Fr Rob Galea
Friday 27th February

St Pius X Catholic High School, Park Ave, Adamstown

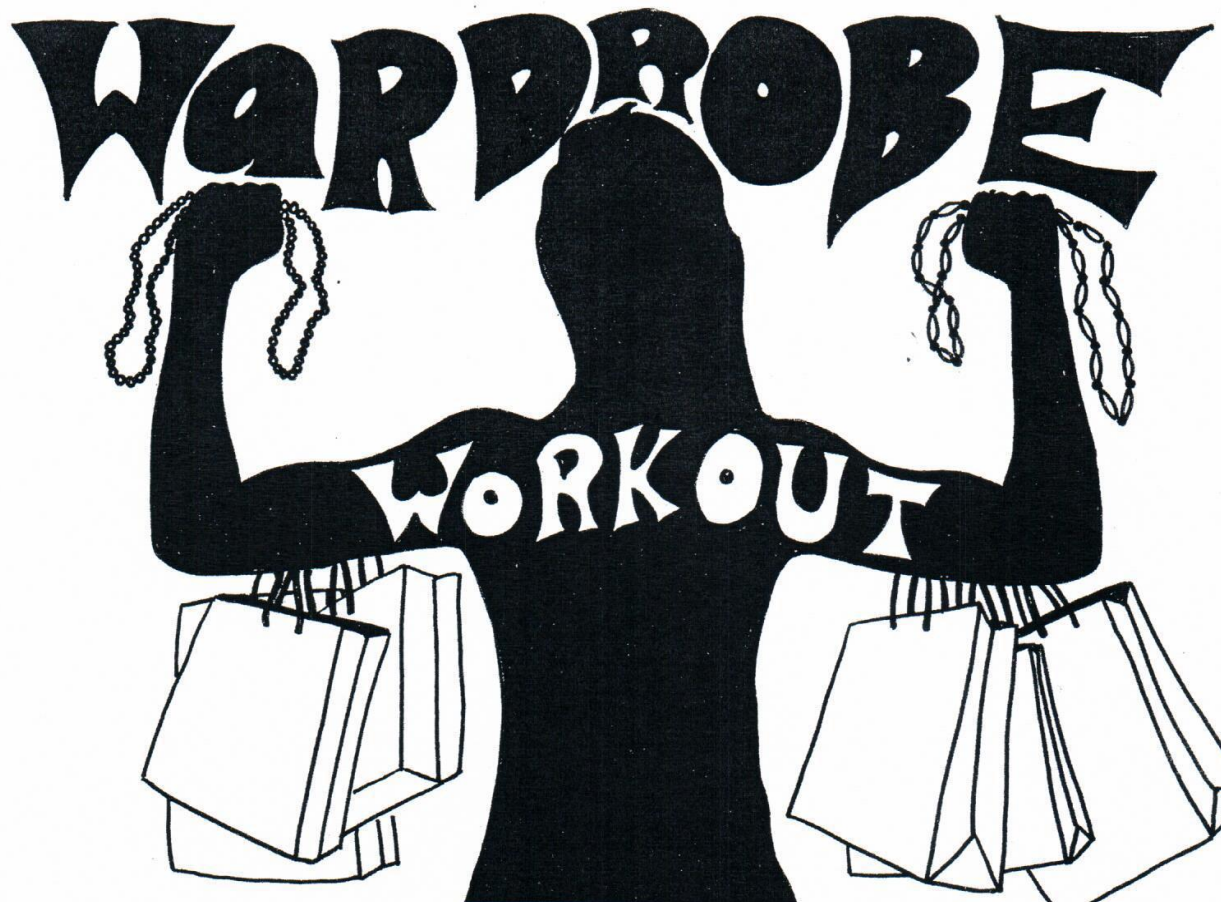
Free BBQ from 6pm For more info please contact:
Praise and Worship with Andrew: 0410 686 474
Spirit & Truth Band 7 - 9pm Baden: 0423 663 985
All ages event - Families welcome youth.ministry@mn.catholic.org.au



Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle: Youth Ministry



Council for Ministry
with Young People



It's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

STEP 1:

Work that wardrobe out!

STEP 2:

Exchange your old clothes, shoes and jewellery from 23 February before Tutor Group at the canteen for trade tokens.

STEP 3:

Swap your Trade Tokens on the day for other people's groovy clothes, shoes and jewellery!

Wardrobe Workout
is on Week 6:
Friday 6th March



My Wardrobe is
so last season!

