



Lighthouse

Volume 31 Number 4

27 March 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Friends of SFX

Currently there is widespread discussion in educational circles about what are called 'employability skills'. Employability skills can be broadly summarised as those personal skills that are needed for a person to be productive in the workplace. Of course such skills may vary with different types of employment, but there still remains considerable consistency.



Employability skills include each person's own attitudes and behaviours. These would equate to values such as; dependability, punctuality, pride in performance, responsibility, initiative, loyalty, resilience, integrity, getting along with others, enthusiasm, responding well to pressure, flexibility and adaptability, tactfulness, good grooming, self-confidence, high motivation and a positive attitude. All of these are important with some being included as part of the official College References that are provided at the time of graduation.

Other skills involve those that are critical in a modern workplace. These revolve around communication skills, teamwork, organizational skills, initiative, technological knowledge and skills, essential numeracy and literacy skills, critical thinking and decision-making abilities.

Education has evolved in more recent years to place a greater emphasis on the development of these employability skills. The curriculum has also changed to incorporate them more into the classroom. Other opportunities also exist for students to develop their skills in areas such as student leadership, sporting endeavours and cultural pursuits.

All these attitudes and skills are not acquired overnight. They will develop over time when they are encouraged and nurtured by the individual, the family and school.

Br Robert Sutton, fms
Principal

BISHOP'S AWARDS

Catholic Schools Week
Bishop's Scholarship Awards
10 March 2015

Congratulations to Alexander Melville and Gabrielle Smith who were presented with the Bishop's Scholarship Award in recognition of their deep commitment to their school and parish community, their active service and leadership.

Alexander Melville

CITATION



"Alexander is commended for his strong commitment to his school and parish community. Alexander is interested in music and shares his gifts with his parish playing guitar and singing. Alexander is a member of the Pure Flame Lifeteen group and generously shares his musical talents and skills with other members.

Alexander plays at school Masses and Liturgies, Diocesan Masses such as the Special Needs Mass in 2013 and volunteers at Our Lady of Victories teaching guitar to students. Alexander was elected as the Year 10 St Vincent de Paul leader and used this role to raise awareness of the needs of others in his local community with a variety of fund raising, charitable and social activities".

Gabrielle Smith

CITATION



"Gabrielle is commended for her deep commitment to her school and parish community.

Gabrielle has demonstrated a strong involvement in her parish. Gabrielle is an altar server and a member of the Guild of St

Stephen. Gabrielle became a senior altar server four years ago and assists with the training of new altar servers in her parish. Gabrielle reads at Mass and supports Children's Liturgy by volunteering with family to lead this group.

Gabrielle has also participated in school Liturgies and feast days including Ash Wednesday, Advent and Commissioning Ceremonies. Gabrielle has represented her school at a Diocesan Mission Mass and was also involved in the St Vincent de Paul society through school".



Congratulations to **Nicola Kelly** who has been awarded a Scholarship with the International Police Association to tour Spain. She was one of only two students in Australia to be awarded this prestigious scholarship, aimed at cementing her decision at joining the NSW Police Force.

Dates for your Diary

Monday, 23 March – Thursday, 2 April
Year 12 Mid-Course Exams

Thursday, 2 April
Term 1 concludes

Monday, 20 April
Term 2 begins

Thursday, 30 April
Student School Photos
Refer below for details

Student School Photos

The date for the 2014 student school photos is **Thursday, 30 April (Week 2 of Term 2)** and the photos will be taken by Academy Photography. It is important to understand that **all students** need to have their photos taken on this day. Students who are on Work Placement on this day can come to the College from 8am onwards to have their photo taken. Students will receive an envelope from Academy during Tutor Group and these envelopes need to be presented to Academy when your photo is taken. *If you wish to purchase your photo the correct money needs to be placed inside the envelope. Neither Academy nor the College can provide any change on the day of the photo.* **Full school uniform is required for the photo. Blazers and ties for the boys and blazers for the girls.**

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact Mr Robert Sheridan at SFX.



music:

department

news



Opera House Excursion



Our Year 12 Music students were given the opportunity to attend ENCORE 2014. Spare tickets enabled some of our Year 11 music students to attend as well. Encore is a concert of performances by HSC 2014 music students who achieved exemplary results in their HSC performance examination. Also on the program was a selection of the best HSC Music Compositions performed live. It was a fabulous experience for our current music students to attend the concert along with hundreds of other music students from throughout the state. It also enabled our students to see and hear the standard of excellence needed for outstanding HSC results. It was a gorgeous day to be at the Opera House and as always, our students were a delight to be with at this spectacular venue.

Mrs Melissa Wattus and Mr Luke Baker
Music Staff



Wednesday Afternoon



Our Wednesday Performance Practice afternoons have been a great benefit for the students who have stayed back after school to work on their performances. All music students are welcome to work on their performance skills from 3:15 pm until 4:15 pm with both Mr Baker and Mrs Wattus each Wednesday.

Music 2 Year 11



On Saturday, 21 March our three Year 11 Music 2 students performed for the first time this year in a formal setting with the other Diocesan Music 2 students from St Joseph's High School Aberdeen and St Clare's High School, Taree. All six students performed two pieces. It was a lovely occasion for the students to meet each other formally face to face and for their parents to visit St Francis Xavier's College and see performances by all six students. These students are working very hard and have adjusted well to the online nature of the course combined with video conference lessons.

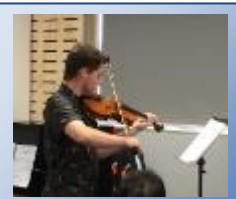
Congratulations to the three SFX music students for their performances **Jessicah Pawley, Mil Brooks and Patrick McCoy.**



**Jessicah
Pawley**



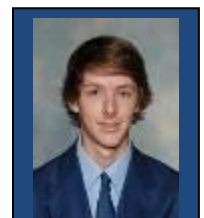
**Mil
Brooks**



**Patrick
McCoy**

Thanks also to Andrew Ovenstone from Year 12 who designed our concert's invitation to parents.

Mrs Melissa Wattus
Music 2 Teacher



**Andrew
Ovenstone**



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

EXCURSION



Congratulations and thank you to all the Year 11 Food Technology and Year 12 Food Technology/Hospitality students who were so well mannered, engaged and enthusiastic as they visited Steggles Vegetable processing plant at Sandgate Fruit and Vegetable Markets on Thursday, 12 March 2015.

The students noted the mechanisation, as well as food quality procedures used from receiving the vegetables from the farmer to supplying venues such as Subway, Woolworths and much of the Sydney Market.

From there, we visited "Tailor Made Barramundi Farm". This is an aquaculture farm who supply fresh Barramundi in their local restaurant-"Cookabarra". Students were able to trace the lifecycle of the Barramundi from "the farm to the fork". It was a really informative and enjoyable day.

Many thanks also to Mrs Anne O'Connor for accompanying the students with me.

Mrs Nicolee Hodges
Food Technology/Hospitality Teacher.



100th ANZAC Day Anniversary Invitation

**Hamilton Anzac Day
Dawn Service
Gregson Park**

Merewether-Hamilton RSL Sub Branch would like to invite students, parents and staff to attend the 100th Anniversary of Anzac Day at the Hamilton Dawn Service at Gregson Park on 25th April, 2015. Anzac Dawn Services have been held in Gregson Park, Hamilton since 1922.

Everyone is welcome to participate in the march from Beaumont St to Gregson Park. Those wishing to march, will need to form up on the corner of Tudor and Beaumont Sts at 5:00am. Marshalls will be in attendance to assist.

If you just wish to attend the service please make your way to Gregson Park prior to 5:15am.

The service begins at 5:30am and is completed just on sunrise.

A sausage sizzle along with tea and coffee will be served, for a gold donation, at Hamilton PS which is just across the road from Gregson Park, at the completion of the service.

If you have any questions please call David Jack on 0447 902 352.



OR



New Entertainment™ Digital Membership



entertainment™

Get your Entertainment™ Membership sales campaign off to a great start!



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!



Parramatta Courts Excursions

On Wednesday, 11 March Preliminary Legal Studies students attended Parramatta Courts precinct to view the operation of the Local and District Courts as part of the topic: Operation of the Legal System.

Students viewed a range of minor matters heard in the Local Court including bail applications, possession and cultivation of prohibited drugs and applications for A.V.Os.

In the District Court they saw parts of trials for robbery, assault and home invasion.

Some students were able to view a sitting of the NSW Parole Authority as well.

Court officials commended our group on their excellent conduct throughout the day.

Mr Stone
HSIE Coordinator

Mrs Anicich and Mrs Finlayson
Legal Studies Teachers



Mock Trial

Round 1, Police v Ward was conducted at Newcastle Court on 16 March. We prosecuted a murder charge against Merewether High School, arising from a poisoned cup of coffee. Our legal team was:

Barristers: **Jacob Askew**
Sophia Castro

Solicitor: **Anna de Souza**

Witnesses: **Eliza Cook**
Paige Owen

Court Official: **Chelsea Gilbert**

The trial featured excellent performances from both sides, with clear evidence challenged by probing cross examination. We were able to gain a conviction, but narrowly lost the points 221-220. A very encouraging first up performance.

Our next trial is likely to take place in Week 2 next term.

Mr Stone
HSIE Coordinator



Flaggy Creek Fieldwork

On Wednesday, 18 March our Year 11 Geographers undertook fieldwork in the Flaggy Creek Reserve as part of their studies in the Biophysical Interactions Unit.

They studied the link between micro climate, soils and vegetation at sites within the reserve and completed a number of water quality tests. This fieldwork forms the basis of their first assessment task and was a very enjoyable and educational experience.

Mr Stone
HSIE Coordinator

Ms Hospkins and Ms Rees
Geography Teachers



Human society
& its environment

From the Careers Desk



Mrs Julie McLoughlin
Careers Coordinator

P: 02 4961 2863

F: 02 4961 2384

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

The job that you end up doing may not even exist at the moment!!

Garbage Designers: will find new ways of creating quality items from recycled materials and will need a combination of skills in materials sciences, engineering and industrial design.

There is an ever growing need for **analysts**, both management and systems analysts. **Data analytics** is already a growth industry, as organisations require deeper insights into the volume of data produced by their own business activities.

Gerontologists : specialising in dealing with the aged will be in high demand along with associated specialties in hearing, OT, Physio, and even games designs that help with stroke recovery and wards off Alzheimer's disease.

With the average age of **Teachers** over 50, many will start considering retirement and make way for a younger cohort. The areas of Maths and Sciences will be in high demand.

The ageing population will also pay dividends to the **Financial Services** industry, with people seeking advice on investment and managing retirement funds.

Telesurgeons will specialise in performing surgery on patients in remote locations through the use of robots and will draw on skills in medicine, surgery, robotics, and an understanding of telecommunications technology.

End of Life Navigators will help people plan for the last phase of their lives and will combine skills from Social work, health care, education, and psychology.

Gamification Designers will create interactive tools to help people of all ages learn new skills, combining game logic with activities and events. They will combine games design as well as a background in human motivation and play behaviour.

This data was sourced from Macquarie University – Connect Magazine.



Are you considering a career in Paramedics, Dentistry, Communications, Animal / Veterinary Sciences or Criminal Justice?

Charles Sturt University offers all these and representatives will be at the College on Thursday, 7 May 2015 Theatrette – Lunch time

Charles Sturt also holds MyDay events which- are interactive days targeting 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. There is also the Physio / Dentistry / Clinical Sciences / Pharmacy day which you can also find on the **School Portal**.



These courses have been booked for Term 2. Notes and details will be put out to Year 12 only. **Week 1 of Term 2**. I do not "save" places or take names for these courses, it's a first in with the payments basis!!



AIE Work Experience Program (games, animation and visual effects)

The Academy of Interactive Entertainment's Work Experience Program returns for 2015. For Year 11 and 12 who are considering a career in animation, games or visual effects. Students spend the week in a mini studio where they create a small game or film while learning some core skills. To register: www.aie.edu.au/workexperience



Ella Bache College Open Day

Tour the state-of-the-art campus on Saturday, 18 April, 2015 11:00am - 1:00pm. **Open Days are FREE** but registration is essential. Register via the ellabachecollege.edu.au website.

WEP Student Exchange Scholarships

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is awarding two \$3000 scholarships towards semester and year-long student exchange programs to over 25 countries around the world commencing in 2016 (Jan/Feb or July/Aug departure). To request program information for your school visit: <http://wep.org.au/info/teachers> or email judithortmann@wep.org.au.

EA Ski & Snowboard Training

Specialise in full season job placements through the popular Internship Program for the **2015/16 winter season** starting this December, and are looking for enthusiastic individuals looking to experience a fun gap year, or stepping stone into the snow industry.



EA are looking for school leavers who:

- Have a passion for skiing or snowboarding -Low level intermediate to advanced
- Have a willingness to learn through training and working
- Have an interest in travel and adventure
- Are available between December and April
- Will be 18 years of age by November
- Have the financial support to participate

Locations: Canada, USA, Japan, New Zealand and Switzerland. For information about the internship program, check out website

www.easkiandsnowboard.com OR sstraining@educatingadventures.com



528 Hunter Street Newcastle

- Women in Defence : Tuesday 28 April at 6pm
- Army Communication Roles : Wednesday, 29 May at 6pm

Session will also be held at Bullecourt Barracks Adamstown

- Army Reserve : Tuesday 14 April at 6:30pm

For bookings please email

cptnewcastle@dfr.com.au or call 02 4974 5400



How Facebook Can Help (or Hurt) A Student's Job Prospects

Teenagers share a wide range of information about themselves on social media; indeed the sites themselves are designed to encourage the sharing of information and the expansion of networks. In fact teens are sharing more information about themselves today than they did a few years ago. Older male teenagers share the most.

Facebook is huge – 1.3 billion users worldwide. In Australia 9 million people use Facebook every day. Employers will often check out a student on Facebook before they hire them. Many are looking to verify resume details while others look to find out more about the student and some, for reasons to count them out!

Here are five reasons employers look at a student's Facebook (and other social media sites):

1. What sort of image their online profile portrays
2. Clues about personal, social and work style preferences
3. How they interact with people and share views
4. What are their Interests, passions and accomplishments
5. To verify resume details and qualifications

Employers often use social networks to see if there are any 'red flags'. The reddest flags for most employers seem to be:

- Provocative or inappropriate images
- Information about drinking or using drugs
- A candidate bad-mouthing a previous employer
- Poor communication skills
- Discriminatory comments related to race, gender or religion
- A candidate who lied about qualifications

Employers want 'professional and responsible' which for many is the opposite of being a teenager.

The transformation as the teenager morphs into an adult is determined by how people view the evidence of a past life. Teenagers need to start by shedding their child persona. The first thing to do is clean up their online profiles.

Here are three essentials.

1. Lose an inappropriate email address. hotlips@yahoo is OK at school for mates but not quite the email address to use on your resume or to communicate with an employer.
2. Change your phone message. If it's silly, humorous, or adult rated change to be more professional.
3. Edit your Facebook page. Go to Google and search your name. Your future employer will do just that. If there's anything that you don't think appropriate, get rid of it.

NSW Country Schools Rugby Union



Thomas Newman is set to embark on a 12 day Rugby adventure to Hong Kong and Singapore. Tom will be part of the tour which is to be undertaken in the Easter holidays and in which he will play in four high quality matches throughout.

We wish Tom all the best for the tour and hope that he has a fantastic time enjoying new cultures and experiences.

Kaman tests himself at the Nike Football Academy

Kaman Bol (pictured here with John Aloisi) has recently returned from a training camp in Melbourne where his skills were tested against the best footballers around Australia. The aim for Kaman was to gain selection in the prestigious Nike Football Academy, of which SFX Hamilton already boasts a former student in Adam Edgar.



From the feedback given by the coaches, Kaman has returned ready to contribute strongly to both his club team and of course the 'ever-successful' College team who will begin their campaign for a fifth NSW CCC Championship trophy in Term 2.

From everyone at the College, we would like to congratulate Kaman on his fantastic 'showing' at these trials and a further thank you must go to Robert & Rosemary Sheridan who organised accommodation for Kaman in Melbourne during the trials.

College Rugby League

The College Rugby League team successfully won the 'Phil Tobin' Plate for winning this region of the NSW CCC Cup. This is the first time the College has won this region.

Game 1 v St Clare's Taree won 40-4

Game 2 v ASC Maitland 6 all draw (*we won on for and against*)

The boys were fantastic in both their on field and off field performance. We congratulate them!

Myles ready to go the 'Extra Mile' in bid for National Selection

Myles Cherry TG26 will for the second year running lead the NSW Country U18's basketball team into the National Championships. This tournament signals another opportunity for Myles to impress and gain selection into the Australian U18s Basketball team, of which he was a member last year.



"It is always a really difficult tournament, not only because you are playing against very skilled opponents but more so due to the scheduling of games being so tight. It really is a matter of making sure you prepare, recover and relax between matches," said Cherry.

"I love playing Basketball, so I am really looking forward to finishing the term and the focusing on playing as well as I can – anything else in terms of selection is a bonus from there".

Always humble, we wish Myles all the best and can't wait to see some footage on Australian Basketball's website where some of the games will be streamed live.

Australian Interschools Downhill BMX Success



Christopher Clarke

Christopher Clarke and Louis Oliver have recently returned from the Australian Interschools Downhill BMX Championships held in Thredbo. Both boys performed strongly and enjoyed the experience of racing against high quality opponents. Chris was able to finish strongly and took his place on the podium for a 3rd place.



Louis Oliver

The SFX community would like to congratulate both boys on a fantastic effort. Good luck for the future in what is no doubt a sport that most of us would be somewhat 'fearful' of attempting ☺

Mr Paul Dan
Sports Coordinator



Mark Wells



Congratulations to the winning team "SPLIT FEED"
Brad McLean, Joe Willis and Will St Claire

Battle of the Bands 2015

Thanks for the support from students, teachers and especially Mr Baldwin for the organisation of Battle of the Bands. Also thanks to the Production Crew!

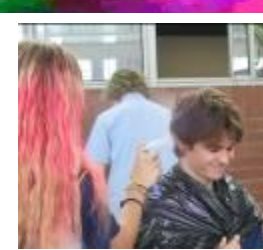
Thank you to our sponsors:

- The Burton Family Toyota
- Musos Corner
- Tile Rescue
- Alana's Kitchenware
- Anna Bay Thai Restaurant

Jack Dawson and Chotika Boonon
Battle of the Bands Promotion Managers



COLOUR FOR A CURE





2015 YEAR 11 HOUSE LEADERS

Congratulations to the following students who have
been elected to Year 11 House Leaders



Julia Clarke
Champagnat House



Chelsea Gilbert
Dominic House



Jonathon Bleakley
MacKillop House



Desai Gordon-Lane
McAuley House



Students: A reminder to leave enough
distance from neighbours' driveways when
parking.

We would also like to remind students of the
importance of being considerate of neighbours,
especially on garbage collection day ensuring
**you don't move the residents' bins or block
access to the bins.** *This is an ongoing issue
with neighbouring residents of which the
Council and the Police are working together
to rectify.*

Parents: Please do not park across
neighbours' driveways whilst waiting for your
child of an afternoon or of a morning when you
are dropping them at school.

Thank You!

COLLEGE GATES **CLOSED**

ENTRANCE TO THE COLLEGE VIA
PARKWAY AVENUE

Parkway Avenue entrance gates will
be closed from
9:30 am until 2:30 pm each day.

Hebburn Street will be the College
entrance available
during these times.