



Lighthouse

Volume 32 Number 3

18 March 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Friends of SFX

Pope Francis has declared 2016 as the Year of Mercy. The Collins dictionary defines mercy as, “compassionate treatment of or attitude towards another.” Interestingly this definition identifies that mercy involves both a way of thinking and a way of acting.



Of course there are plenty of examples of mercy in our world. You only have to look. It is when friends make-up after a falling out. Perhaps it's when parents still love their child, even though the child has broken their trust, or when the child still adores their 'too busy' parent. Or, maybe it's when the student shows understanding to the overstressed teacher, or the teacher who helps the overstressed student. It all takes mercy. Not just once but over and over again.

Of course people cannot be merciful unless they have a merciful way of thinking. To have a merciful way of thinking people need to have the capacity to look beyond the actual issue or incident. Instead they have to be focused on the other person. It all takes effort and lots of willpower. It can even go against a person's natural instinct to want retribution or revenge.

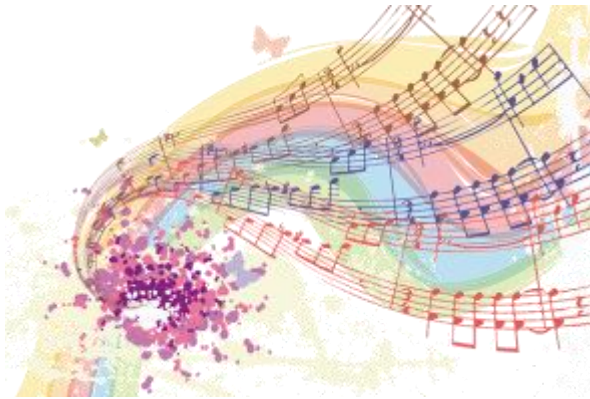
Unfortunately we live in a world where retribution rules. There was even a TV show a few years ago that was called 'Revenge'. Retribution is presented as the norm, the proper thing to do, it's what we deserve. Mercy is presented as weak, soft, unnatural, foolish, especially in a masculine environment.

So mercy is not for the faint hearted.

The merciful person will cut across social norms. The merciful person will exhibit forgiveness and compassion. And the truly merciful person will be compassionate even when the other person is undeserving. But really, people always have choices and in this case it's a choice between showing mercy or holding grievances. It's a choice between the joy of giving and the oppression of negativity.

Pope Francis' call to mercy is tough, but is also the message of Easter. After Jesus was tormented, tortured and crucified, he said “Forgive them.” It is this act, and every act of mercy, that brings hope for mankind and hope for our future.

Br Robert Sutton, fms
Principal



Music Department News

Mr Luke Baker and Mrs Melissa Wattus
Music Staff

NEW MUSIC FACILITIES AT SFX

Over the last nine months, the College has been conducting major facility and resource upgrades across multiple learning areas. The Music department has been fortunate to be a part of the new refurbishment and with great anticipation, the Music Centre is now open for students. The features of the space include a purpose built music performance room creatively called "The Sound Trap" including a raised stage and 21st Century learning spaces through the colourful designs of the new furniture. There are also new small rehearsal spaces available, all suited for different ensemble arrangements that are an added feature for the students when preparing for Music Performance Exams or recording experiences.

The Music Staff are thrilled with the new spaces and are excited to work with our music students.



WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

3:10pm till 4:30pm

MUSIC CENTRE IS



The music staff is continuing to offer the music students time after school on a Wednesday for extra assessment preparation in the new Music Centre.

The performance and practice room spaces are open from 3:10 pm until 4:30 pm, supervised by the Music Staff for extra help and advice in the areas of Performance, Musicology, Aural and Composition.

Students can notify the Music Staff for access to the spaces.

St Francis Xavier's College

Phone Number: 02 4961 2863

Facsimile Number: 02 4961 2384

Email: admin@hamilton.mn.catholic.edu.au

Web Site: www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au

Student Office

Hours: 8:00 am until 3:10 pm

Telephone: 4961 2110

Email: 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.



Monday, 21 March – Thursday, 24 March

Year 12 Mid-Course Exams continue

These exams commenced on **Monday, 14 March and conclude on Thursday, 24 March.** 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 period.

Friday, 25 March – Monday, 28 March

Good Friday and Easter Monday Holidays

Friday, 8 April

Term 1 Concludes

TERM 2 Commences on Tuesday, 26 April

YEAR 12

Friday, 29 April - Friday, 13 May

Parent Teacher Online (PTO) open for parents to book interviews

Wednesday, 18 May

Year 12 Student/Parent/Teacher Subject Interviews (1:30 pm- 7 pm)

Friday, 20 May

Year 12 Academic Awards Ceremony beginning at 10:15 am in the College Hall

Monday, 23 May – Wednesday, 25 May

Year 12 Retreats

Thursday, 26 May

Year 12 Home Study Day

Friday, 27 May 2016

Staff Inservice Day - Pupil Free Day

Thursday, 30 June 2016

**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



From the Finance Office

Finance Office Hours

8:30 am to 3:00 pm – Monday to Friday

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

Term 1 Statements were emailed on 15 February with a due date of 7 March. For all accounts not paying under an agreed payment plan please ensure your account is finalised immediately, by BPAY, cash, cheque, EFTPOS or QKR.





Payment Method Update



**For your convenience QKR is now
available for College Fee payments.**

Qkr! by MasterCard can be downloaded for free from Apple's app store for iPhones, iPad users can also download the iPhone app or from Google Play for Android phones. Simply:

Step 1 Download Qkr! on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app  	Step 2 Register Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register
Step 3 Find our school Scan the QR code or search for our school name. Our school will also appear in "Locations Nearby" if you are within 4kms of the school	Step 4 Register your children When first accessing your school menu, you will be prompted to register your child. This allows you to make school orders on their behalf.

For more information about QKR visit our website www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au/. (Click on Information, Fees, select QKR information.) Or Hyperlink to QKR video



An initiative by ANZ and the
Brotherhood of St Laurence, with The
Smith Family

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- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
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You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Cynthia Culhane your local Saver Plus Worker
(02) 4032 4703 / 0418 699 646
cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au

BATTLE of the BANDS

SFX instalment of Battle of the Bands 2016 was a major success once again with the involvement of incredible and talented SFX students that provided an entertaining day. The bands were made up of both Years 11 and 12 students and the bands that made it past the audition process were Azalayne, King Grizzly, Standard Deviation and Sons of Tomorrow. All bands created a nail biting finish as they provided a strong competition and the judges came to the conclusion of Sons of Tomorrow taking out First Prize. Our sponsors included **Grill'd Kotara**, **McDonald's Newcastle** and **Musos Corner Newcastle**. Special thanks to all bands and production crew for making the day come together successfully.



"Sons of Tomorrow"



SFX

**SPORTS
DESK**

REPORT

*Mrs Amanda Corrigan
Sports Coordinator*

BMX National Titles - Gillian Anderson-Fox



The 2016 BMX National Championships was held Tuesday, 1 March to Sunday, 6 March, 2016, at the newly constructed Supercross Track in Bathurst, NSW and our very own Gillian Anderson-Fox TG42 was present and ready for action.

The new course was extremely challenging and there were a few incidents that occurred throughout the competition, regardless of this Gillian put it all to the back of her mind and competed strongly. Gillian has competed at this level in both Year 11 and Year 12, although luck was not on her side this year, Gillian is pleased with her efforts and we at SFX could not be more proud of her performance.

Congratulations Gillian!

SPORTS

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NSWCCC Open Boys Cricket - Joseph Hart



Congratulations to Joseph Hart who represented the College in the Open Boys NSWCCC Cricket side. This is Joseph's second consecutive year playing the NSWCCC side. The NSWCCC boys were undefeated throughout

the competition and crowned the Champions of the All Schools Competition.

Congratulations Joseph on your performance and we're sure you have a bright cricketing future ahead of you!

SPORTS

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Diocesan Rugby League

Congratulations to our College Rugby League Team who competed at the NSWCCC Cup on Wednesday, 9 March at Lakeside Oval, Raymond Terrace. It was a scorcher of a day and the boys played fiercely in both of their games, defeating St. Joseph's Aberdeen and going down in a close match against ASC St. Mary's Maitland.

All of the boys played well, but amongst them were six highly competent players who will progress to represent the College in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Team in the hope of being selected in the NSWCCC Open Division Rugby League Squad. The boys who have been selected are **Carl Randall, Kurtis Dark, Tom Starling, Lyndon Hills, Tex Hoy and Jarrod Balcomb.**

Congratulations boys and a big thank you to the team's coaches Mr Mark Wright and Mr Rowan Kelly.

SPORTS

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Diocesan Swimming Team

Our College Swimming team competed admirably in challenging conditions on Tuesday, 15 March. Amidst the Mid-HSC exams and with hot and humid conditions, our talented swimming team gave it their best in the water.

Five of our students were successful in their races and made it through to compete at the NSWCCC Swimming Championships at Homebush. Congratulations to **Alicia Daniels** who swam an incredible time. She will be competing in the 17's 50 m Freestyle event. Also to our male Relay Team comprising of **Lucas Corrigan, Travis McFadyen, Kyle Kingston** and **Harry Rees Parkes**. The boys took out both the Medley & Freestyle Relay, with Kyle bringing home the Medley Event coming 25m from behind and overtaking his competitor by swimming an incredible 50m freestyle lap only taking a single breath! The boys also took out the Freestyle Relay leaving their competitors in their wake with a 25m lead.

Congratulations to all of our competitors and all the best at the NSWCCC Championships.

SPORTS

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Upcoming Sport Events

- Diocesan Soccer Trials (Boys & Girls):
24 March
- Diocesan Touch Football Gala Day:
28 April
- NSWCCC Swimming Carnival: 29 April
- Diocesan Cross Country: 5 May
- NSWCCC Hockey Gala Day: 19-20 May
- Diocesan Team Tennis Tournament:
26 May
- Diocesan Football (Soccer) Gala Day:
15 June
- NSWCCC Basketball Championships:
20-21 June

From the Careers Desk



Mrs Julie McLoughlin
Careers Coordinator

P: 02 4961 2863

F: 02 4961 2384

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



If you are at all interested in **Bond University**- this is a great deal!

Date: Saturday, 9 April 2016

Time: Depart Sydney at 7:10 am

Return 6:35 pm

Cost for BU-X is \$99 to secure a place and includes:

- Return airfare from Sydney to Gold Coast
- Pick-up and return to the Gold Coast Airport
- Lunch and light refreshments / campus tour / presentations from our faculties and staff

The program means you will fly in and fly out in the same day and take part in a range of sessions throughout the day, including: The Bond Business School's Battle of the Majors, the Faculty of Law's session on how to argue like a Lawyer, tour of the Pathology Museum, Film & TV Broadcasting Studios and more.

Contact directly to register

Kayla Warner, Manager, Schools and Community

Phone: 0418 556 880 / Email: kwarnar@bond.edu.au



**The Charles Stuart
University
Representatives will be at
the College on
Tuesday, 5 April
at lunch time
in the Theatrette**

AND...

The first of the MY Day events in Communication will be held at the Bathurst Campus on Monday, 11 April 2016 (*first week of the NSW school holidays*). The Communications day is one of the more popular events.

This will be an interactive day giving students a taste of living and learning on campus at CSU.

Registering:

All the details and registration have been emailed to students AND can be found on the School Portal under Careers.

This event is for students who may be considering study in the Advertising, Journalism, Media Practice, Public Relations, Radio, Sports Journalism and Theatre Media fields.



**OPEN DAY
FRIDAY, 6 MAY 2016**

Open Day will give you a sense of what it's like to study on campus at UNE and get the complete university experience: a vibrant, supportive community; small classes; and access to lecturers.

Students will have the opportunity to find out about degree options that may be of interest to them, meet the lecturers, and get a feel for campus life.

There will be a number of activities on Friday including:

- Free breakfast in the colleges
- Academic advice and information sessions
- Degree and discipline-specific tours, demonstrations and activities / tours
- Free games and entertainment
- Free morning tea & lunch

More information on the specific program of activities will be made available at www.une.edu.au/openday or by contacting your UNE Schools Liaison Officer at study@une.edu.au to discuss your accommodation requirements.

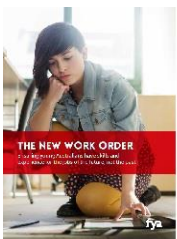


Research indicates that Australia is massively short of people with STEM skills. The UK and USA have the same problem. In Australia 16% of university students' graduate with a STEM subject degree. Compared to all other degrees STEM has flat lined since 2003 despite the many programs to encourage kids to take on these subjects. Australia has a shortage of people in a sector where 75% of the new jobs created will require a STEM qualification. This is compounded by the fact that many jobs will disappear to automation and disruptive technologies. Many new jobs will be created and it is these jobs that require a competence in technology.

It's hard to get students to engage in technology. They love to use it and will be the beneficiaries of its boundless opportunities but getting them to study these subjects is another matter.

Kids are natural engineers. Anyone watching a child play with Lego can see that they've figured out to stack blocks to form bridges, houses, planes and cars. Introducing Lego electronics adds another layer of complexity. This creative innovative spirit however doesn't carry into teenage years for most students.

Over the past year a number of publications and research papers on STEM have been released; here are some of the best to help you understand the issues facing future jobs in Australia.



Ensuring young Australians have skills and experience for the jobs of the future, not the past.

Foundation for Young Australians PDF

A smart move: Future Proofing Australia's Workforce. PwC. PDF

Progressing STEM Skills in Australia: Australian Industry Group. PDF

The Future of work: How we can adapt to survive and thrive. Chartered Accountants. PDF



The ADF Gap Year program is an excellent way for students to experience military life and to gain a greater understanding of what's involved. On completion they can continue serving in the Navy, Army or Air Force, or offer the skills and experience they've acquired to an alternative career path.

In 2017 there are 11 roles to choose from, ranging from admin to artillery, and flight crew to logistics. Places are strictly limited and will only be open for a limited time so make sure you are informed!

Details of all the Gap Year roles are available at defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear

Employment commences early 2017

Applicants must have completed Year 12 and be aged between 18 and 24 as of 1 April 2017 (Navy), 31 May 2017 (Army), or 7 April 2017 (Air Force).



Women in Defence Information Session

Monday, 21 March
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Location: 528 Hunter Street
Newcastle

This information session will be attended by an ADF member who will give a presentation on career paths in the Australian Defence Force.

RSVP's are essential.

Email: cptnewcastle@dfr.com.au

Include in RSVP: Women in Defence and Your Name

Adamstown Army Reserves Information Session

Tuesday, 19 April at 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Location: Bullecourt Barracks, Military Road, Adamstown.

This information session will be attended by an ADF member who will give a presentation on career paths in the Army Reserves.

RSVP's are essential

Email: cptnewcastle@dfr.com.au

Include in RSVP: Adamstown and Your Name



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

New Offerings + Changes to Degrees

UON announced a brand new degree, **Bachelor of Creative Industries (BCI)** that will be on offer from 2017. The BCI is designed for the creative and visionary student who is looking to make a real cultural and social impact.

It will offer students the choice in a chosen field of creative interest, such as visual art, performing arts, music, design, creative writing, IT or communication and media, or the option of breadth and study across this range of disciplines. These specialisations are built around a core of critical courses in entrepreneurship, business skills, digital capabilities and social innovation, all within the creative context. Details of the new degree are being finalised, but we expect to be promoting the Bachelor of Creative Industries to students from May 2016.

Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Teaching (Fine Art) (Honours) Programs

For students wishing to study Fine Art at tertiary level, we recommend they enrol in the BCI. From Semester 2, 2016 the University will not be enrolling new students into the Bachelor of Fine Art. Fine Art will have a significant presence in the BCI majors and core component.

The Bachelor of Teaching Fine Art will also cease enrolling new students. The School of Education is currently reviewing how it can prepare future creative teachers and will work on new possibilities throughout 2016, with further information to be communicated in June.

Health and Medicine

The Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science and its three streams ([Diagnostic Radiography](#), [Nuclear Medicine](#) and [Radiation Therapy](#)) have recently changed to four year embedded honours degrees. This change introduces a 40 week professional placement in fourth year to transition from university to practice with high employability.

The Newcastle University intake for 2016

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Andrew Parfitt, said the University was delighted to have made a total of 8,399 offers to date to students to commence studies in 2016.

This year our total offers to date included the 4,136 UAC Main Round Offers, as well as 1,126 offers to enabling students and 808 offers to students transferring degree programs. Our enabling pathways provide alternative guaranteed entry pathways, and UON has already made over 1,300 enabling offers to date through Open Foundation, Newstep and Yapug.

Demand for the University's programs increased to over 10,000 first preferences in 2016, and the total offers made to date are currently comparable to last year.

Around 80 per cent of our offers to date are to students in the Hunter, Central Coast and Mid North Coast regions, cementing our place as the university of choice in our region.

A quarter of our offers are to applicants with an ATAR of 90.25 or above, and the median ATAR of applicants receiving an offer is 82.75.

Areas with the largest number of offers remain nursing, arts, teaching and business.



Science & Engineering Evening

Wednesday, 23rd March 2016
5:30pm - 8:00pm
UNSW Kensington Campus.
John Niland Scientia Building

Contact

Scarlet Lung : s.lung@unsw.edu.au / 0293858809

The event is designed to give high schools students an insight into the degrees on offer from UNSW Engineering and Science.



**Summer 2016
Application Deadline**

info@campamerica.com.au

Applications for summer 2017 open 1st August 2016.



Open Day

**Saturday, 7 May 2016
2pm-5pm**

82 Cope Street, Waterloo

<http://www.sydneyfilmschool.com/news-events/events/may-open-day.aspx>

Get an insider's perspective with teachers, current students and graduates on hand to share their experiences. See student films, take a tour of the school and hear about courses: Diploma of Screen and Media / Advanced Diploma of Screen and Media



Tuckwell Scholarship

The Tuckwell Scholarship at The Australian National University provides a one-of-a kind experience that nurtures undergraduate students to fulfill wider ambitions during their study. Scholars receive over \$20,000 annually and are selected not only on academic abilities, but a demonstrated desire to make a positive difference in the world.

Applications close Wednesday, 30 March
<http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au/>



A Free Session

Learn about applying to US Universities and Colleges for Undergraduate study

Wednesday, 23 March
4pm OR 7pm

Cranbrook School, Victoria Rd, Bellevue Hill

Register <http://www.trybooking.com/KNVP> or
Contact deb@uscollegeconnect.com

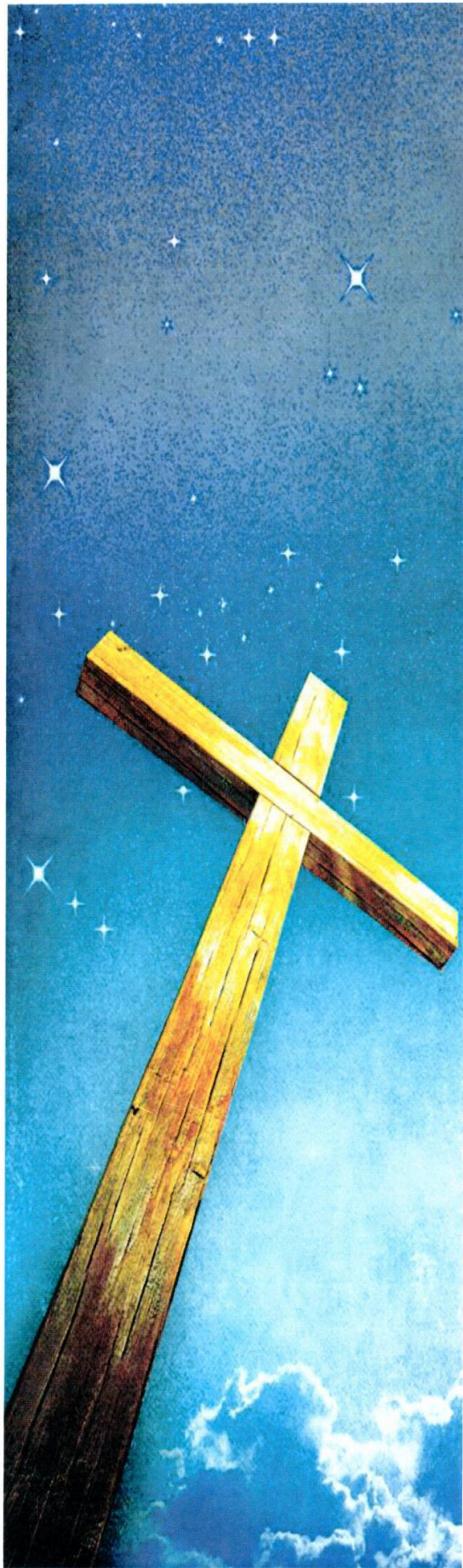
US University Standardised Test Requirements-
new SAT and ACT

Students interested in studying at uni in the US are encourage to read the article outlining the new SAT and the ACT standardised tests which are used for admission purposes to most US universities.

<http://www.internationallyeducated.com.au/#!/learn/cfpx>

Contact for assistance if you are considering
studying in the US.

www.internationallyeducated.com.au or 02 8006 9737



Ecumenical Way of the Cross

**Sunday
20 March 2016
3:00 pm**

St Joseph's Church and School
Conference Centre Grounds

**140 Wangi Rd,
Kilaben Bay**

Picnic facilities available from 1pm
Afternoon tea provided
P 4979 1111



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS



Entertainment Books can be ordered through the College. \$12 from each book sold goes towards our commitment to the La Valla Community in Cambodia (the College contributes at least \$5000 each year to pay for the rice needs of the students and staff at La Valla).

Books cost \$60 and will be available for collection from the College from approximately 4 April 2016.

Digital or paper options are available.

Get in early to get the benefit of the 'Early Bird Special Offers'!

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160+ Takeaway and Attraction Offers!	2 for 1	2 for 1	25% off	2 for 1	2 for 1	2 for 1
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St Francis Xavier's College - Hamilton

Contact: Cassie Mowbray Phone: 0249612863 Email: cassie.mowbray@mn.catholic.edu.au

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Alternatively, please complete your details below

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*CVV is the last 3 digits on the back of your credit card

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