From the Principal

STUDENT LEADERS 2016 INVESTITURE

LEADERS’ PLEDGE

Lord God,

We, the Seniors and Prefects of St Pius X College, pledge ourselves on behalf of the student body to provide Christian leadership for the College community. As we prepare for the journey through our Senior Year, we ask you to walk with us.

May we be leaders in your name. May we be to our fellow students, men of courage and compassion – strong to stand up for that which promotes peace and justice in the classroom, on playing fields and in the school yard. We pledge to use our authority to help and empower others.

Amen.

On Monday 19 October, the 2016 College leaders were invested with their leadership by the Mayor of Willoughby, Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney. In her wonderful address to 2016 Year 12, she drew upon the words of the sixth President of the United States, Quincy Adams when encouraging these leaders.

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

In sharing some of her personal story in leadership the Mayor urged these young men to strive for great things for themselves, for each other and for the community. We sincerely thank Councillor Giles-Gidney for investing Year 12 in their office of leadership and for her on-going support of St Pius X College.

2016 College Captain, Liam Houlihan delivered an inspirational inauguration speech in which he drew upon the allegory of a fairytale where knights slay dragons and show courage and determination for the greater good of all. He said to all gathered:
“The class of 2016 will lead St. Pius in becoming a more inclusive, more accepting, more positive and more liberating school. Each of us face dragons day in and out, but we must not fight them alone. We are all in this together, as a brotherhood – an army of knights. When one of us falls, we support one another and lift him up. We can’t fight this battle alone.

We want to encourage community within each year group, the school and the wider world. This means social activities amongst year groups, recognising and celebrating every student’s individual talent, sport and academic achievements alike, facilitating conversation and creating an environment of colour, positivity and acceptance.

It is therefore my privilege to announce that our college theme for 2016 will be the touchstone of Inclusive Community.”

The full text of Liam’s speech may be found in Woodchatta Extras along with a list of the Senior Student Leaders for 2016. Congratulations to the HSC class of 2016 and we ask for God’s Blessing on their school life and leadership in their final year ahead.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION
St Pius X College had 459 students participating in the Australian Mathematics Competition. Of these 459 students, 18 were awarded Distinctions (top 15% in Australia), 104 were awarded a Credit (top 50%), 243 Proficient students and 94 Participation awards.

The following students were awarded a Distinction:

**Year 8:** Benjamin Lamont; Zac Lomas; Cameron Lorking; Jonathan Ling; Lachlan Kee; Nicholas Bendall; Nathan Bainy

**Year 9:** Benjamin Di Tommaso; Daniel Hall; Robert Richey; Christian Harris; Lucien Briggs; Thomas Courtney

**Year 10:** Peter Maniatis; Daniel Marcellino; Daniel Butler; Sam John

**Prudence Award** - For the most consecutive correct answers: Benjamin Lamont Year 8.

The College has an outstanding record in Mathematics and we thank Mr Reay (Coordinator), Mr Steinman (Assistant Mathematics Coordinator) and all the Mathematics staff for their dedication and expertise.

Mr John Couani

From the Assistant Principal – Mission and Identity
Monday saw the Investiture of our Senior Leaders in the very impressive Concert Hall of The Concourse, Chatswood. We pray for our new Leaders, affirming them with the following Prayer as they commence this important role in the College.

Gracious God,
Throughout our history
You have called men and women to serve your people:
Abraham and Moses,
Mary and Joseph,
Blessed Edmund Rice and Saint Mary MacKillop.
We come before you today
to celebrate our new student leaders
answering your call.
May the gifts you have given us be used to serve
and bring witness to your goodness and greater glory.
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.
Amen.
Our College Captain for 2016, Liam Houlihan, gave a very stirring address where he offered his hopes for the College. In this he established and announced our theme for 2016 to be the touchstone, **Inclusive Community**, aligning with our core value of **Respect**.

This will certainly be the springboard and theme for our newly appointed College Seniors and Student Leadership Team as they work towards our Founders Day Festival on Friday, 20th November.

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**From the Social Justice Coordinator**

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.

*Mahatma Gandhi*

Monday saw Mr Listo and a cohort of Years 9 and 10 boys visit **Willowood Aged Care** to talk with residents. On Wednesday **The Edmund Rice Society** took on two challenges. Firstly the organisation for this Friday’s Junior School cake stall for Zaki which was accomplished with the assistance of Ms Williams and some of the ERS incoming leaders from Year 10, while other Year 10 students worked with Josiah Lising on a mission statement for **The Edmund Rice Society**.

Also on Wednesday Ms Ramsey and Ms Jellema took Year 10 boys to **Matthew Talbot Men’s Hostel** to set up and clean their dining room in the afternoon.

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**Your P&F In Action!**

**AGM for PERFORMING ARTS PARENTS ASSOCIATION (PAPA)**

**Next week - Tuesday 27th October**

All parents of students involved with music and drama are invited to the PAPA AGM next Tuesday 27th October, 7pm in the Core Music Room.

This will be the last meeting for 2015, election on the 2016 Committee will be held. We need a volunteers for the committee to keep PAPA viable. If anyone is interested in any of the committee positions - President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary - please call me for more details.

Come along to support your son’s performing arts endeavours and to catch up with other parents. Refreshments will be served, parking available in the school grounds.

*Jill Shadbolt (Retiring President) ph: 0413 307 431.*

**P&F AGM - Monday 9th NOVEMBER**

Don’t forget, the P&F will hold its AGM on Monday 9th November at 7.30pm in the Sarto Centre. All P&F positions will be become available. Information on the P&F roles can be found at the P&F website or by clicking [here](#).

Steve and Christine welcome your calls to chat about how you can contribute. Please contact them via - Steve 0408 118 116 or Christine 0414 579 664.

*Nadine Robson - SPX P&F Secretary / Communications*

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**First Prize for Zaki!**

As you may have been aware Zaki has been a part of our St Pius X Community for the past two years. He joined us in 2013 for our annual Founders Day at Oxford Falls to share his stirring story of his life in Afghanistan and his uncertain and risky journey to reach the shores of Australia. He found St Pius, who then became a voice of compassion to help him feel he was home.

We are proud and excited to announce his most recent great achievement of ‘**International Student of the Year**’! Congratulation to our community for helping him achieve such a prestigious award.

*Mr P Whelan*
MindMatters for Families

**BOXERCISE: ‘GET FIT FOR SUMMER’** Classes have recommenced for Term 4 with excellent numbers of students making a commitment to improve their mental health and physical wellbeing through regular attendance. It is not too late to join this voluntary activity – every Thursday and Friday morning at 7.30am. Contact Mr Russo for further information.

**ROCKCLIMBING ACTIVITY FOR MENTORS/MENTEES:** I am pleased to report that we have over 50 students (mentors/mentees) attending tomorrow’s rockclimbing activity at Climb Fit in Artarmon. I am particularly impressed to witness the strong bond of peer support and friendship that is evident by the large numbers of seniors and juniors participating in this well-being activity.

Thanks also to the teachers accompanying me: Mr Stollery, Mr Virgona, Ms Mowle, Ms Allington, Ms Kugananthan and Ms Foord, who will generously give of their time to support our students in building confidence, self-esteem and friendship.

Mr R Russo – College Counsellor

Performing Arts News

**PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL:** Last week saw 230 students participate in this event. Over four afternoons/evenings boys from Years 5 – 11 had the opportunity to show their talents on numerous instruments, as well as present original compositions written during Music Production and Composition lessons. The success of the Festival was due to the hard work and efforts of many: Ms Cathy Jellema who prepared the programs for each evening; Ms Natalie Rawle and Ms Pip Waters, who assisted with supervision on different nights; Year 11 students - Stewart Ross, Matthew Ross, Harry Heaney, Tom Benson and Patrick McKenzie who were responsible for setting up the various venues and assisting with supervision; and College Instrumental Tutors, Mr Tom Andrews, Mr James Blunt, Mr Shane Cranney, Mr Stephen Cummins, Mr Jonathan Dollin, Ms Stephanie Gan, Mr Pawel Lewandowski, Mr Geoff Power, Mr Chris Richardson, Mr David Sisme, Mr Ian Talati, Mrs Stella Talati and Mrs Stella Waddington, who worked tirelessly in preparing the students for their performances.

Finally, congratulations and thank you to all the students who participated, helping to make this Festival so successful!

Photos from the various evenings can be found in Woodchatta Extras.

**SENIOR LEADERS INVESTITURE:** Congratulations to the Senior Concert Band and their Director Mrs Stella Talati on their performances at this important College event on Monday.

**AUDITIONS:** New enrolment auditions are taking place on Saturday 7th and 14th November between 9.00am – 2.00pm in the College Band Room. Current students who missed out on auditioning for Concert and Jazz Bands last term are welcome to attend. To do so, please go to http://www.trybooking.com/160057 and follow the prompts. The site is now open for bookings and it will close on Tuesday 3rd November 2015. Entry to the College will be via the Kirk Street Laneway.

**AMEB RESULTS:** Congratulations to Oliver Osborne (Year 8) on achieving honours in his Grade 3 Piano for Leisure examination and James Plummer (Year 8) on achieving a credit in his Grade 4 Trombone examination.

Ms T Bates – Performing Arts Coordinator

Attention Parents of Year 12, 2016

A reminder of the Year 12, 2016 Information Night next Wednesday, 28 October, commencing at 7.30pm in the College Gym and running for about an hour. Parents and students to attend.

Please also note that the first Year 12, 2016 Study Day will be held on Thursday 29 October at Oxford Falls.

Mr B Batchelor – Year 12, 2016 Coordinator

Careers News

UTS Course Guides offer detailed course and faculty information for all areas of study available at UTS. The guides are easy to read and have information about bonus points, ATARs, assumed knowledge and recommended study areas. Being informed about the various options available for tertiary study is crucial in planning your own career pathway. To view guides on line follow the link provided. http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/teachers/tools-and-resources/course-guides


Ms D Janes – Careers Adviser
From the Learning Support and Enrichment Team

The Learning Support and Enrichment team is pleased to advise that we are exploring the possibility of providing an occupational therapy service here at the College on various afternoons in the week, beginning in Term 1 2016. There is a choice of three short courses (8 weeks per term) which cover different skill areas for the benefit of your son’s academic writing and personal development:

- Handwriting skills
- Touch typing skills
- Communication and social skills

The courses will be offered on a small-group basis, at a cost of $280 per 8 week course (each session is 1 hour 15 mins). Please find in Woodchatta Extras three flyers outlining each of the three courses which may be of interest to you for your son during Term 1 of 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN A PARTICULAR COURSE FOR TERM 1 2016 email Joanne at: JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

Ms J Raheb-Mol – Coordinator, Learning Support and Enrichment

Homework Help

There will be NO HOMEWORK HELP next Wednesday 28 October due to an after-school Staff Meeting.

Homework Help will be held every Tuesday to Thursday inclusive after school from 3.15pm - 4.00pm in the Senior Resource Centre. Students are to be actively engaged in school work, reading or study. All ages and levels of ability are welcome to attend, so come along and take advantage of the service.

Ms J Raheb-Mol – Coordinator, Learning Support and Enrichment

Kokoda 2016 Training Begins

The first of the training hikes for the Kokoda Track 2016 Expedition will take place on Sunday the 8th November. This hike is open to all Kokoda hikers and anyone that would like an opportunity to get some pre-summer training in. If you are interested in participating in the Kokoda 2016 expedition this would be a good opportunity to come along and chat about what’s involved. If you are interested and haven’t put your name down please email myself or Mr Brannan.

The hikers will meet at Cowan train station and catch a train to Brooklyn. Hikers will then walk from Brooklyn back to Cowan station via the Jerusalem Bay track. You will need to pack a light lunch and carry at least 2 litres of water.

Meet: 8.15am at Cowan train station (train to Brooklyn at 8.36 am)
Finish: 2.00pm (approx.) Cowan train station
Distance: 13.4 km

Mr P de Silva - Outdoor Education Coordinator

Snowy Mountains Expedition Training Hike

A training hike has been organised for the afternoon of Tuesday 27th October. Students are to bring their backpacks and boots to school. Students will be leaving the College at 3.15pm and travelling by coach to Acron Oval from where they will walk to Frenchs Forest. We will return to the College at approximately 6.30pm.

Mr P de Silva - Outdoor Education Coordinator
Junior School News

GROOMING: The following is an extract from the College Diary - Page 12:

‘Hair must be clean, tidy, gel-less, of natural colour, even grade and of a style and length unlikely to cause comment. Students who cannot respond will be sent home until they remedy the problem or may be asked to wear alternate collar and tie.’

At present we have a few boys who have undercuts such as the side is very short and extra long on top which isn’t an even grade. We also have a boy whose hair has been dyed. If your son is one of these boys could you please rectify. In the first Junior School Newsletter this year I stated under grooming the following:

SPX rules are for the benefit of all; we are not a supermarket where you choose the rules you feel like following. We believe our selection of rules is fair and reasonable.

If your son needs his hair rectified could you please attend to this, and thank you to all the parents whose sons follow the policy.

ORIENTATION MORNING- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We still require some volunteers for the Orientation Morning on the 31st October from 9am to 11 am. The task is to serve tea and coffee and really to welcome the new comers. A calming word from an ‘experienced’ parent can work wonders.

NO HOMEWORK HELP OR BASKETBALL TRAINING NEXT WEDNESDAY: Due to a staff meeting after school next Wednesday 28 October there will be no after school activities such as Homework Help or basketball training.

CAKE STALL: Zaki is an international student hoping to seek residence in Australia to further his studies. He has given several powerful presentations to our students about the conflict and oppression he has been subjected to in his previous country.

The Edmund Rice Society have taken the initiative to assist in a small way in helping Zaki achieve his goal. After canvassing the boys they have overwhelmingly come up with the idea of having a cake day stall.

The stall will be held on Friday 29th October during recess and lunch.

What can we do to make this work? We would appreciate the Junior Students donating a cake towards this worthy cause which will be sold to the students. We always keep in mind that when we give, it is in the true spirit of the Edmund Rice Charism and inherent in the values of our Touchstones.

“We give to those in need in handfuls”.

Edmund Rice Society Junior Chapter 2015: I would like to personally thank Mrs Williams and Mr Whelan for their leadership of this very worthwhile initiative. Zaki is a wonderful young man with an incredibly powerful story.

Mr T Long – Head of Junior School

Uniform Shop

TRADING HOURS – MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 8.00AM – 2.00PM DURING SCHOOL TERM

Orders can be placed via the College website http://www.spx.nsw.edu.au/facilities-resources/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=83 or by sending an email to uniformshop@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au.

Parents are reminded that the Uniform Shop also sells second-hand school uniforms. Blazer Buttons are available from shop $2.00 each.

A full price list is available on the College website:

Mrs D Muirhead – Coordinator

Canteen Roster

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<th>26/10 – 30/10</th>
<th>2/11 – 6/11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
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<td>H Edwards, B Hurley, C Watson, C Bath, L Holroyd</td>
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<td>S Brown, L Book, M Bronk, CSnell, D Manson</td>
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<td>D Speedy, L Pniici, A Wesley</td>
<td>J Shadbolt, T Weber, P Rodrigues, M Hardman,</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
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<td>S Fong, N Andrews, F Felice, G Fitzroy, C Savorgnan</td>
<td>E Proudfoot</td>
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| Fri          |
| A Spencer, M Mooney, J Bendall, P Scaiff, S Roberts, C Ventura, A Berthold, R Baldock, K Spencer |
Senior School Sport

BASKETBALL

Thanks to everyone who helped on the score benches on Saturday to kick off the new season of basketball. We only need to do the score bench at home games and I ask that parents please volunteer and help. Thanks also to Ms Pence, Ms Janes, Mr Spedding and Mr Lynch who made the long trek to Bathurst.

There were some great games on the weekend with a full mix of results. Win or loss, I was very pleased with the efforts our players put into their games, along with the great support of their team mates from the benches. Well done to all our players, it was a solid start to our season. Check the scores. Use this link to see the ISA results: http://www.isa.nsw.edu.au/summer-sports/boys-basketball/

B teams will need to organize their own transport to Oxley College this weekend.

3rds mid-week game: The 3rds will play Redlands next Thursday 29th at 5:00pm.
Venue = Dunnet Hall, Redlands Primary Campus. Allister St Cremorne.

Game of the day: The FIRSTS battled it out with a quick and talented St Stanislaus’ right up to the last minutes, in which we just skipped ahead

Deserves a mention: 13C – Team, 14C – Joshua Del Rosario, 14E – Team; 15C – Lachlan Chue, 5B – Alex Mardirossian and Matt Garrett; Firsts – Anthony Maras - 22points, Oliver Jacquot - 18points, Angus O’Donovan.

Venues:
- Oakhill College: Old Northern Road Castle Hill
- Oxley College: Railway Road Burradoo. Past Bowral
- Sydney Uni: Noel Martin Sports Centre Syd Uni. Butlin Ave, Off City Rd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 2 - 24th October</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Court</th>
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Mr N Gibson - Convenor
CRICKET
ISA Cricket. Saturday saw the start of the ISA (1st XI and 2nd XI) season. SPX Cricket kicked off with two impressive wins and some excellent personal performances. 79 to Christian King (1st XI); debutants James Brown 5/24 (2nd XI) and Joe Unwin 4/21 (2nd XI).

Winning the toss and electing to bat the 1st XI had a great start with a 50 run opening stand to Nick Onslow (33) and Christian King (79). Harry Heaney (38) contributed and when dismissed the score was 3/157. Late over runs to Matt Kennedy (12) and Dermott Beattie (20) pushed the 1st XI score to 7/202 after 50 overs.

The bowlers had to work hard to dislodge the SACS batsmen who were intent on keeping their wickets. With score 5/65 at 30 overs slow bowlers Dermott Beattie (3/18) on Max Magee (2/19) shut down the SACS innings with Ned McDermott-Healey (2/8) closing out the match. Wickets to Luke Humphrey (1/13), Matt Kennedy (1/6) and Pat Purcell (1/4).


Year 7 T20 v St Edmund’s College Gosford. As Woodchatta goes to print this week a Year 7 team will be playing a T20 match against St Edmund’s. This is a great opportunity for engagement between two EREA schools and as it’s being played at Oxford Falls, give the rest of Year 7 an opportunity to witness some Year 7 cricketers in action.

Twitter. Keep up to date with the latest SPX Cricket happenings and send SPX Cricket your results on Twitter to @SPXCricket or #GoSPXCricket.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Results (17/10/15)</th>
<th>24/10/15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPX Black U12 - NSJCA</td>
<td>SPX Black 3/66 [D Thirugnanaranj 25*] drew with Pirates 8/91</td>
<td>Mosman Strikers  Primrose Park #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Blue U13 - NSJCA</td>
<td>SPX Blue 7/117 [J Sheather 34*] defeated by Mosman Hurricanes 177</td>
<td>Gordon Gold  Edendurgh Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPX Red U14 - NSJCA</td>
<td>SPX Red 8/146 defeated St Ives Warner 91</td>
<td>St Ives Perry  Watkins Oval, Oxford Falls</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPX Orange U15 MWJCA</td>
<td>SPX Orange 8/133 [T Colgan 45] &amp; 3/64 [T Colgan 31*] defeated St Augustines Gold 109</td>
<td>Wakehurst Red  David Thomas #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Yellow U16/18 MWJCA</td>
<td>SPX Yellow 156 [J Furlan 39, J Rayner 32] defeated by Wakehurst Green 5/281</td>
<td>Harbord Scorchers  Killarney</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPX 2nd XI ISA</td>
<td>SPX 2nd XI 9/158 [A Graffeo 30*, J Unwin 29] defeated St Stanislaus College 95</td>
<td>Oakhill College  Oxford Falls #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX 1st XI ISA</td>
<td>SPX 1st XI 7/202 [C King 79, H Heaney 38, N Onslow 33] defeated St Andrew’s Cathedral 93</td>
<td>Blue Mountains Grammar School BMGS</td>
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Mr D Reay - Convenor
NSTA TENNIS
Round 2 of the competition proved to be another successful Saturday for many of our teams. Of the 13 matches played at our home courts at Talus St, 11 teams were victorious. Of the teams that played ‘away’ – there were 4 wins too! Some SPX Teams enjoyed a 3-0 win, these teams included: SPX 1, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, and 24 – well done! Round 2 marked the first week of the ‘Lucky (Prize) Ball Draw’ – SPX 16 won on Saturday and scored themselves some new grips!

There were some improved serves on show from players in SPX 6 and 24, some great rallies too across the courts, especially from players in SPX 2 and 13. When asked as they left what the best shots of their matches were, it was good to hear team mates being so quick to offer compliments to their partners. A great attitude.

Players are reminded of the playing format that has been outlined since we started. At Talus St, these rules of play and guidelines have been placed on the Court Folders that you collect. Students were asked to familiarise themselves with this information but here it is for you again and parents’ information.

- 2 player team format:
  Doubles Player 1 and Player 2
  Singles Player 1
  Singles Player 2

- 3 player team format:
  Doubles Player 1 and Player 2
  Singles Player 1
  Singles Player 3

This format allows for all players to play at least once on the weekend, even in a team of three players. Boys are expected to follow this format as outlined by the NSTA.

Ms Sarah-Jane Grove - NSTA Tennis Convenor

SENIOR SWIMMING SQUAD
As scheduled at the beginning of the 2015 season, there is the St Aloysius Invitational carnival held at North Sydney Pool this Friday night 23rd October. Warm-up is at 7.00pm and races start 7.30pm sharp.

The St Patrick’s College Invitational will be held at Drummoyne Pool the following Friday 30th October. Details to follow.

All Swimmers are expected to attend both carnivals as it does not impact any other school sport. Student and parents were notified via the Swimming Letter given out at the beginning of the season.

Parents and friends are welcome to attend to give the boys extra support.

Miss L Proc - Senior Swimming Convenor

BOXERCISE FOR FITNESS & FUN
Boxercise is available for all students every Thursday and Friday morning at 7.30am in the Blue Room. Please contact Mr Russo if you have any queries.

Junior School Sport

Thursday Sport: Sport at Oxford Falls. Summer training continues for Basketball, Cricket, Softball and Tennis.

Term 4 Swim Program: All students will take part in this program. It runs each Thursday in November in lieu of regular Thursday Sport. Year 5 attend Macquarie University Aquatic Centre for a pool based program and Year 6 attend Dee Why Beach for a surf skills program. All details including a detailed information letter (all boys) and Waiver (Year 6 boys only) can be found under Jnr Swimming on the College website: http://bit.ly/1uGgCM0
**Basketball:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Last Week Rd 9 – Saturday 24th October</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Grammar St Ives</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Grammar Outdoor – Mona Vale &amp; Ayres Rd, St Ives</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>SPX ‘H’</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>SPX ‘G’</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>Scots</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>St Ignatius Junior School (Regis outdoor courts)</td>
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**Softball Report Round 2**

We played Tudor House at our home ground. St Pius won the toss so we fielded first. Arleigh Eden caught some great balls. He is a strong player on 1st base. Ethan Rossetto at short stop did the same to give Tudor House a real scare of what was ahead of them. It was going to be a tight game. Cody Choi, our catcher, worked well with Arleigh and Connor Cassar, who was our pitcher. At the end of the 2nd innings Tudor were only 3 runs ahead. An effortless catch by Charlie Jackson, caught left handed, was brilliant. Frank Houlihan on 2nd base was ready for every ball and fielded balls which came his way fantastically.

David Casey made a good hit and safe run to first base and was our first batter home. Alex Vaccher displayed excellent back up play when balls were mis-fielded and Douglas Daniels kept up the players’ spirits, calling plays and keeping everyone alert as the temperature began to rise.

Though we lost, ‘Team A Softballers’ demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, never once questioning any calls made by umpires. They displayed real St Pius spirit and Edmund Rice would be extremely proud of this group of young students. To our parents who lead these boys thank you for your support and role modelling as spectators.

Thank you to Mrs Daniels for handling the scoring duty, Mr Houlihan for helping prepare this report and Mr Rossetto for assisting with coaching.

Next week we play at Heffron Park, Maroubra. I look forward to seeing you all 9:10 am for a warm-up.
WOODCHATTA EXTRAS
Issue No 32 ● 21 October 2015

The following information is contained within this week’s Woodchatta Extras. Click on the link below to take you straight to that section.


1. INVESTITURE SPEECH – Liam Houlihan

2. PHOTOS FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

3. LEARNING & ENRICHMENT COURSES
   - Social & Communication Skills
   - Handwriting Skills
   - The Art of Touch Typing

4. CRICKET NEWS

5. OLD BOYS NEWS – 1990(88) 25th GRADUATION REUNION
Good afternoon, Mayor Giles-Gidney, Mr. Couani, staff, parents and students of St. Pius.

Fairy-tales. Everyone loves to hear them. They have dragons. They have knights. They have princesses. They have quests for gold. But above all, what makes a fairy-tale so enthralling – is it’s ending. As fairy-tales always end with a happily ever after.

The idea of a happily ever after is extended into every bookcase and cinema, every video game, and every uplifting piece of history. It’s a frequent reminder that we can all achieve something great, and that, when confronted with adversity, happiness lays beyond.

Unfortunately, as students of St. Pius, we are not wizards from Hogwarts, we are not hobbits from the Shire, and we are not ogres from the swamp. However much it may distress you, neither are we Rapunzels or Snow Whites or her many, many dwarves. We cannot cast spells to solve problems, call upon kings or queens, or enter platform nine and three quarters. We are humans. Our quest through this school will not be a fairy-tale.

But as I have found, our journey will spark some of the greatest moments, build some of the greatest friendships and fuel some of our greatest victories. It has been and will be an epic adventure. But like any teenager and student, there will be colossal challenges. And these challenges, unlike any fairy-tale, we will not always be guaranteed to win.

Despite this, fairy-tales do share many commonalities with our reality. In my opinion, everyone seated here before me, including myself, is actually a knight in glistening armour. Our dragons are our challenges, our imperfections, our struggles. Our treasure is our greatest memories already made and yet to come. The best memories or most valuable treasures anyone will ever claim will not be the applauds, or laughs, or smiles, or to those it will disappoint, any ISA Cup we will ever win. The greatest treasure any student, or knight, can take from their quests of life or quests of fairy-tales, are simply from the dragons they fought. These dragons come in many shapes and sizes, hexagons included. They evoke inevitable hardship, but motivate us to grow. Without adversity, we do not progress.

To give you some understanding, these dragons include everyday challenges. They include every beep test, every down-to-the-wire handball match, every papercut, every cold early winter morning wake-up, every late night cram for the exam we’ve have already failed, every Rainbow Road on Mario Kart, every out-of-nowhere pop quiz, every single maths class – everything and anything that has caused struggle. I say a sincere thank-you to these dragons. They have shaped who we are.

But the reality is, some of these dragons are so big, so mighty, so undefeatable, that alone, as small brave knights in shining armour, you and I cannot slay. Because we are not Harry Potters, we are not Little Mermaids, we are not Buzz Light-years, we are not The Avengers. We are imperfect. But that’s all right.
Getting through school can be hard for a lot of us. Because it means peer pressure, conformity, being accepted in many aspects – online, in the yard, in the classroom. It means juggling family issues with a workload, meeting social expectations and academic stress. While we are individuals, we are expected to wear the same uniform, behave the same way and sit the same tests. Our value is measured by a number, by our beauty, by our intelligence, by our wealth. Not the amount of friends we have, or the smiles we create. We exist in a system that asks for perfection, when it itself is imperfect, and perfection is not achievable. That’s school, and it can knock you to the ground.

It is therefore my privilege to announce that our college theme for 2016 will be the touchstone of Inclusive Community. The class of 2016 will lead St. Pius in becoming a more inclusive, more accepting, more positive and more liberating school. Each of us face dragons day in and out, but we must not fight them alone. We are all in this together, as a brotherhood – an army of knights. When one of us falls, we support one another and lift him up. We can’t fight this battle alone.

We want to encourage community within each year group, the school and the wider world. This means social activities amongst year groups, recognising and celebrating every student’s individual talent, sport and academic achievements alike, facilitating conversation and creating an environment of colour, positivity and acceptance.

In this quest of life, fairy-tales and perfection are simple impossibilities. Dragons will persist to challenge us and defeat us – tear us to shreds. But if we unite, and slay our dragons together, as brave students of St. Pius, I know that we can all exist in a happily ever after.

Liam Houlihan

**SENIOR STUDENT LEADERS 2016**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE CAPTAINS &amp; VICE CAPTAINS</th>
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<tr>
<td>College Captain</td>
<td>Liam Houlihan</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Vice Captain</td>
<td>Christian King</td>
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<tr>
<td>College Vice Captain</td>
<td>Nick Parker</td>
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<th>HOUSE CAPTAINS</th>
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<td>Barron House Captain</td>
<td>Luke Humphrey</td>
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<td>Purton House Captain</td>
<td>Max Magee</td>
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<td>Rice House Captain</td>
<td>Jordan Smith</td>
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<td>Tracey House Captain</td>
<td>Tom Graziotto</td>
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<th>PREFECTS</th>
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<td>Thomas Benson</td>
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<td>Hamish Book</td>
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<td>Kane Eden</td>
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<td>Harry Heaney</td>
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<td>Matthew Kennedy</td>
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<td>Josiah Lising</td>
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<td>Pat McKenzie</td>
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<td>Ned McDermott Healey</td>
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<td>Billy Moran</td>
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<td>Stewart Ross</td>
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<td>Keenan Smith</td>
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<td>Mitchell Tutill</td>
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PHOTOS FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL
Communication and social skills

Good communication and social skills are essential if you want to: experience positive interpersonal relationships with peers, teachers, and parents; if you want to make and keep friends; get along with others; express your ideas and feelings more clearly so that they aren’t misinterpreted – in person or online; become more confident and communicate more effectively at home and at school; and learn to develop resilience in the face of crisis.

Could your son benefit from improving his communication and social skills?

Designed by and run by an experienced occupational therapist, this program has been developed to help students manage their communication styles and needs, and bring greater confidence to their everyday practice of communicating and interacting with others in practical and effective ways.

The Program will include activities with a dramatic twist to:
- Develop awareness of self and others
- Foster listening and sharing skills
- Practise working as part of a team
- Explore and practise different ways of communicating, looking at the way we talk, and how we express ourselves through the way we talk
- Develop problem-solving skills

The program will be run on a small group basis (6 students max.) so that professional guidance, peer feedback and modelling can be maximised.

The program will run over 8 weeks (from week of Feb 8 up to and incl. the week of Mar 28)
Time: 3.30pm–4.45pm each Monday (for Years 7 and 8, or for 9 and 10 – depending on numbers of interested students in each group)
Location: St Pius X College, Leary Learning Centre, D Block
Cost: $280.00 per student

You may be able to claim on your Private Health Insurance cover (if it includes OT under extras cover) for this program which will be run by Anna Orchard, a registered occupational therapist.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR TERM 1 2016, email Joanne, Coordinator, Learning Support and Enrichment at: JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au
handwriting skills

How’s your son’s handwriting? Does your son’s handwriting affect his ability to get his ideas down on paper in a coherent and legible way? Would improvements to the speed and style of his handwriting help him perform to his potential on tests, exams, assignments and assessments?

Designed and run by an experienced occupational therapist, this program has been developed to bring develop creativity and good mechanical and organisational skills to the practice and improvement of handwriting.

The Program will include activities with a dramatic twist to:

- Promote imagination and foster a desire to write
- Encourage focus and concentration
- Develop core and shoulder muscle control, eye hand coordination and finger strength
- Identify the right tools and spaces so writing feels comfortable and is optimised
- General assessment of writing to see what’s working and what’s not
- Practice program to encourage improved writing
- Get organised with writing tasks

The program will be run on a small group basis (6 students max.) so that professional guidance, peer feedback and modelling can be maximised.

The program will run over 8 weeks (from week of Feb 8 up to and incl. the week of Mar 28)
Time: 3.30pm–4.45pm each Tuesday (for Years 7 and 8) or Friday 3.15–4.30 (for Years 5 and 6)
Location: St Pius X College, Chatswood, Leary Learning Centre, D Block
Cost: $280.00 per student

You may be able to claim on your Private Health Insurance cover (if it includes OT under extras cover) for this program which will be run by Anna Orchard, a registered occupational therapist.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR TERM 1 2016 email Joanne, Coordinator, Learning Support and Enrichment at: JRahebMol@stpiuss.nsw.edu.au
The art of touch typing

Could your son benefit from touch typing skills for a wide variety of his writing and communication needs at school and beyond?

Having great typing skills is a must-have skill in our digital world. This is an essential academic skill which can be learnt, improved or mastered with practice. It can help your son to organise his thinking and planning, and save him time and mental energy when producing written work. He can learn to edit as he goes, making his written work more presentable, readable and accurate. Typing skills are also highly valued in the workplace, so there are long-term benefits for establishing better typing skill and speed during the school years.

Designed and run by an experienced occupational therapist, this program has been developed to give students the touch typing skills they need to undertake effective word processing on their PLDs, in a way that develops good and sustainable typing habits and improved typing speed. The course is designed to bring creativity, fun and organisational skills to the practice and improvement of typing for homework, assignments and self-directed tasks.

The Program will include activities with a dramatic twist to:

- Develop fine motor skills, eye hand coordination and finger strength
- Look at overall posture and ergonomic workstation set up
- Teach how to touch type, using a popular and easy-to-learn system
- Give incentives to make practice manageable

The program will be run on a small group basis (6 students max.) so that professional guidance, peer feedback and modelling can be maximised.

Students will need their own PLDs or laptops.

The program will run over 8 weeks (from week of Feb 8 up to and incl. the week of Mar 28)

Time: 3.15pm – 4.30pm each Wednesday (for Years 5 and 6), or Thursday 3.30pm-4.45pm (for Years 7 and 8)

Location: St Pius X College, Leary Learning Centre, D Block

Cost: $280.00 per student

You may be able to claim on your Private Health Insurance cover (if it includes OT under extras cover) for this program which will be run by Anna Orchard, a registered occupational therapist.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR TERM 1 2016 Joanne,
Coordinator, Learning Support and Enrichment at: JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au
CRICKET REPORTS

SPX U12 Black– 17/10/15, Round 3
SPX Black 3/66 drew with the Pirates 7/91

Another close match at Morrison Bay in hot conditions saw the Blacks right on target for a win until the weather intervened.

With both Fitzys (Callum & Olly) opening the attack we had the Pirates 1/5 after 4 overs. Followed by Josh “Dicko” Dixon making it a foot race to the stumps to run out number 2 rather than miss by throwing the red leather. Angelo backed this up with 2 more wickets in the same over. Aiden "hav a chat" Wilson troubled them with 2 caught behind and a stumping. The Pirates managed 7/91.

It was a chase for runs against the clock and the weather. Kaiya kept them guessing while Dave “the Axe” Thirugnanara bashed the attack from cover to square he didn’t care.

On the edge of our first win lightning strikes, literally, saw the game was abandoned with the Blacks 3/66 and closing fast. Both teams shared the points.

SPX U13 Gold – 10-17/10/15, Round 3
SPX Gold 80 defeated by Wakehurst Red 6/152

Round 3 saw the U13 Gold team playing their first afternoon game against of the season, with our opponents the strong Wakehurst Red team. Wakehurst won the toss, sent St Pius in, and soon had the team struggling at 6 for 18. A captain’s knock from Lachlan Milenkoski (31), with assistance from Liam Kinna (11) and Tom Kennedy (15), brought some respectability to the score, with St Pius eventually dismissed for 80 in the 35th over.

Despite some lively bowling, Wakehurst made good inroads on the St Pius total before stumps, and finished the day at 1-65, with Liam Chang (1-3) the successful wicket taker.

Day 2 began on an emotional note, as the teams held a minute’s silence for Lachie Muldoon, a player from the Peninsula Club who lost his battle with brain cancer earlier in the week. Lachie’s team, the Peninsula Scorchers, plays in the U13 Division, and all teams in the competition took time out this weekend to remember a young boy who loved his cricket.

Once the game resumed, it didn’t take long for Wakehurst to pass the St Pius total, and then set about building a lead, eventually declaring at 6 for 152. The wickets went to Lachlan Milenkoski (2-23), Tom Wunsch (1-13) and Tom Kennedy (1-21). Brad Power had a good afternoon in the field, effecting one run out and taking a good catch at mid-wicket, and Liam Kinna took a sharp slips catch to dismiss Wakehurst’s top run scorer (fellow St Pius student, Logan Nicey).

With two hours to play, and Wakehurst chasing an outright win, a solid batting effort was called for. Stone wall defence from Josh Osborne (4), and a return to form for Joe Colgan (14no) with support from Luka Krizan (8) and Brad Power (8no), saw St Pius through to stumps, preventing the outright win.
SPX U14 Green – 10-17/10/2015, Round 3
SPX Green 9/143 defeated by Wakehurst Green 7/149
The toss was won by St Pius X and they elected to bowl first. The St Pius X bowling attack was impressive across the entire team. Stand out bowlers were: J Healey 2/14 with a double wicket maiden over, A Greenwood 1/2 and 2 maiden overs from 4 delivered, A Gangemi 1/12 and 4 maiden overs, L Vinci 1/8 with a wicket maiden over.

On day two, St Pius X started the run chase well, the opening partnership of 41 runs by A Greenwood and J McDonald make life easy for the batsmen to follow. Unfortunately, one of the St Pius X players was injured off the field, reducing the team to 10 players. With score at 6/136 and 14 runs remaining to get off 11 overs, the Wakehurst Greens fought back, taking the last three wickets for only 4 runs.

Special mention is made of: B Gunaratnam 1/19 and a wicket in his first ever bowling spell. W Turner for a catch off the bowling of L Vinci. The whole team for the encouragement they gave each other throughout the game.

Thank you to the Umpires, Scorers, Coaches, Parents, and Players.

Richard Boxall

SPX U15 Orange - 10-17/10/2015, Round 3
SPX Orange 8/133 defeated St Augustines Gold 9/109
SPX Orange knew they had drawn the fixtures short straw when they arrived at the dusty goat track that is Killarney Heights oval and they wondered if St Augustine’s had insider knowledge when they won the toss & sent SPX into bat. Openers Tom Colgan (45) and Nic McLachlan (17) soon showed them they had made the wrong decision. After Nic was out on an unlucky edge, Laurence Sheehan added to the innings with a quick 15, aided by Daniel Mooney (7) and Alec Favelle (9).

However, the run rate was slowing, and with 4 quick wickets for just 11 runs things were starting to look grim. Maybe Augustine’s strategy was about to pay off. But just when SPX thought all hope was lost, Josh Foley and Roarke Ryan came to crease and settled in for man of the match performances. With an impressive 13 over partnership under difficult conditions against a tough bowling attack they stabilised the innings, frustrated the opposition and SPX Orange finished their 50 overs at 8/133. It was not quite 11 am so St Augustine’s chose to start their batting innings. They seemed more comfortable with the rough ground frequently dispatching the ball to all corners of the field but it didn’t take long for opening bowlers Jimmy Quillan and Hayden Robertson to get a quick wicket each closing the day with the opposition on 2/32.

It only took a few overs on Day 2 for early wickets to fall thanks to Jimmy, Luke Ventura and Roarke, and SPX Orange were clearly well in the game. They kept the fielding as tight as possible notwithstanding rogue tufts of grass and spurious turf placements that sent the speeding ball in unexpected directions, perplexing the fieldsmen. There was some impressive caught and bowled action from Luke and Tom; with Luke proving that catches do win matches as he teamed with captain Tim McLachlan to dismiss 2 of the last batsmen leaving St Augustine’s all out for 109, after just 28 overs. A fine morning’s work, but a job not quite done as the coaches & umpires decided to kick on for a second innings.

SPX went back into bat with our usual opening pair facing some fierce bowling and all too soon Nic was clean bowled for a duck’s egg. Laurence’s wicket also fell quickly leaving our score a paltry 2/1 with the scary realisation that maybe it was possible to lose outright after winning on first innings.

Thankfully it was not to be, with the calm, staying power of Tom at the crease (n/o 31), the reverse batting order showed that our bowlers could also bat if they got the chance, and Luke Ventura impressed us all with a stylish 15 runs. The steady hands of Josh Foley and Cian Roberts held their own for a further 12 overs contributing to our eventual 88 run lead, with both teams happy to call it a day.
OLD BOYS NEWS

Come along & share some stories & laughter at the St. Pius X College 1990(88) 25th Graduation Reunion, Saturday 7th of November from 7pm ‘Upstairs at the Willoughby’ Hotel 315 Penshurst St North Willoughby

Mr A Brannan
abrannan@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au