From the Principal

PALM SUNDAY – 20TH MARCH 2016

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord starts with a commemoration of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. As Jesus rode, the people lay palm branches in front of him. Palm fronds were placed in front of him as a symbol of honour. The crowds shouted, “Hosanna in the Highest”, cheering Jesus on. The word hasanna is short for “save, rescue, saviour”.

On Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem the crowd called for his divine help to save them. In a few days they would yell, “Take him away. Take him away. Crucify him. Crucify him.”

“The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times”.”

(Luke 22:61)

EREA RENEWAL PROCESS
Last week the College underwent the three day process of EREA Renewal. The Renewal Panel met with many parents, students, staff, the College Board, Christian Brothers and Parish representatives.

I am pleased to pass on to you the appreciation and congratulations of the Renewal Team. The College Leadership Team received a briefing at the end of the process and the affirmations and many commendations are exceptional and the professionalism and work of the College by the staff, Board, students and parents was very highly commended. There are very helpful recommendations as well.

The College will receive a report in May from this process and I will share it with the community in full when it comes.

Sincere thanks to each of you and the Panel wishes to thank the College for the warmth of the welcome and their wonderful hospitality received throughout their visit.
OPEN DAY THIS SATURDAY – 19 MARCH 2016
Please see the flyer in Woodchatta Extras.

St Pius X College Open Day
Saturday 19 March
Chatswood Campus - 10am to 2pm
Principal’s Address 12 noon
Oxford Falls Campus – 8am to 12pm

P&F COCKTAIL PARTY
Don’t forget to book in now. See the P&F section and Woodchatta Extras for details.

CHATSWOOD CHRISTIAN BROTHERS APPRECIATION MASS AND DINNER
The Appreciation Mass and Dinner for the Chatswood Christian Brothers will be held on Tuesday 3 May 2016. The Mass will begin at 5pm at our Lady of Dolours Church, Chatswood, and will be followed by Dinner in the Chatswood Concourse at 6.30pm.

Enquiries can be directed to Ann Brady via abrady@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or 9414 4312. Bookings can be made through our trybooking site: https://www.trybooking.com/189679 which closes on Friday 15th April.

Please see the full invitation in Woodchatta Extras.

CORRECTION
The College congratulates Declan Warn (Year 12) on being a Distinguished Achiever in Mathematics when he sat the HSC last year as a Year 11 accelerant. In the College’s recent 2015 High Achievers publication, Declan Warn’s name was incorrectly spelt. We would like to apologise to Declan and congratulate him again on his achievement.

Mr John Couani

From the Registrars’ Office
2018 ENROLMENTS
The College is enrolling now for Years 5, 6 & 7, 2018. Applications close on 29 April, 2016. Please contact the Registrars for an application form.

Ms C Jennings and Ms M King

From the Facilities & Resources Coordinator
Willoughby City Council will be upgrading the footpath around the intersection of Anderson and Help Streets in Chatswood during a two-week period beginning Tuesday 29 March (Weeks 10 and 11 of Term 1). This will involve part road and footpath closures and redirection of vehicles and pedestrians may be experienced.

Mr J Olson
From the Assistant Principal Mission and Identity

Last Friday Year 10 attended the first of their three Reflection Days. The theme was Life is a Journey and students reflected on the diverse aspects of life including what we called the Capital Letters, which are the peaceful times when everything is going well to the challenging times which we called the Full Stops, when everything in life seems to come to an abrupt halt because of a challenging or difficult event or situation.

The day was supported by a presentation by Paul Wade, a past Socceroo Captain, TV and Radio commentator author and O.A.M. recipient. Paul shared the many Capital Letters in his life including his involvement with soccer and playing with the Socceroos from 1986 to 1996 and his National pride in being able to Captain this side from 1990 to 1996. The students greatly appreciated Paul’s honesty and frankness in talking about his battle with epilepsy, his greatest ‘Full Stop’.

Several operations and much rehabilitation has allowed Paul to continue commentating and lead a reasonably normal life. His resilience when faced with such a difficult and constant life-changing situation was inspirational and showed that anything can be achieved through a positive attitude and hard work.

The Project Compassion tally continues to grow but as we highlighted last week it is down compared to last year. Families are encouraged to use the web page that has been set up where you can make a $20, $50 or $100 one off donation to assist the St Pius X College community to reach its target for 2016. Thank you for continuing to support Caritas and St Pius X College. The link to the website is https://www.trybooking.com/188432

Our final Pancake Breakfast will be held on Friday morning. Pancakes will be served from 7.30 am and the cost is $1 each. This initiative has been greatly supported by both staff and students.

As Lent begins to draw to a close, it is time for our Easter Liturgy. This will be held next Thursday and parents/carers and family members are most welcome to attend. The Liturgies will be held at St Dolours Parish with the Year 5-8 Liturgy starting at 11.10 and the Year 9-11 Liturgy at 12 midday.

Mrs D Dempsey

From the Social Justice Coordinator

PROJECT COMPASSION
Project Compassion and St Pius X College have worked hand in hand for 50 years through the 6 weeks of Lent to raise funds annually for Caritas and their life changing development programs throughout South East Asia. Project Compassion helps end poverty, promotes justice and upholds the dignity of people living in vulnerable communities around this area.

This year, we focus on the theme “Learning more, creating change”. As Pope Francis says “Education is an act of hope”, so this year’s Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

The St Pius X College annual appeal is down considerably from last year. Therefore to catch up I would like all SPX families to consider a one off donation to Project Compassion through the College Finance Office.

A web page has been set up where you can make a $20, $50 or $100 one off donation to assist the St Pius community to reach its target for 2016. Thank you for continuing to support Caritas and St Pius X College. The link to the website is https://www.trybooking.com/188432

Mr D Blake - Social Justice Coordinator
From the Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning

2016 NAPLAN TESTING

Please see the BOSTES (Board of Studies Teaching & Education Standards) Letter to Parents in Woodchatta Extras for information on NAPLAN testing in 2016.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Dear Parents,

A quick puzzle for you to try!

A bat and ball cost $1.10
The bat costs one dollar more than the ball
How much does the ball cost?

If your answer was 10 cents, then you are like the majority of people.

Year 10 were given this puzzle to solve at a Year Assembly on Tuesday. Two thirds of the group said the answer was 10 cents. The problem is, the correct answer is not 10 cents, yet this is the most common response! (The correct answer is at the bottom of this article)

Why? It is natural for people to depend on intuitive thinking when solving a problem. It is the mind’s way of trying to get a quick answer without engaging in further cognitive processing which is hard work. This is a natural phenomenon and people will always resort to the easiest path – including our students. Our challenge is to be aware of this and develop thinking skills so we can overcome our reliance on intuitive thinking and engage in critical thinking.

Think of the implications for our students if we can reduce their intuitive thinking for the HSC. It also becomes an important skill that will extend way beyond their final examinations.

Here are another two simple puzzles to try:

If it takes 5 machines 5 minutes to make 5 widgets, how long would it take 100 machines to make 100 widgets?

In a lake, there is a patch of lily pads. Every day, the patch doubles in size. If it takes 48 days for the patch to cover the entire lake, how long will it take for the patch to cover half of the lake?

These three puzzles combine to form a Cognitive Reasoning Test which is more commonly referred to as a Lazy Thinking Test.

It does give us something to think about but also to be aware of the Science of Learning and how the brain works. The above is taken from the book, Thinking Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman who also won a Nobel Peace Prize for his research into the psychology of judgement and decision-making.

The proportion of Year 10 students who gave the incorrect answer would have been much higher. They completed the puzzle in a group environment and towards the end, the correct answer was being passed around!

Correct Answers

- 5 cents. The ball costs five cents – if you don’t know why, work it out!
- 5 minutes
- 47 days

Mr A Damo
MindMatters for Families

A HELPFUL REFLECTION ON ‘GAMING’ AND SOME POSSIBLE WAYS TO KEEP IT UNDER CONTROL IN YOUR HOME

Taken from Tackling Compulsive Gaming In Boys by Justin Coulson

While research shows that a moderate amount of gaming is positively correlated with wellbeing, games do not make our boys “happy”, help them achieve anything worthwhile, or live well-balanced lived. So it’s up to parents to actively monitor their boys’ game usage and, where necessary, restrict it.

This means we should not be demanding that our children turn off their games and walk away. It will only create conflict. Instead, the following tips may be helpful:

- First, talk it through. Be calm – and don’t have the conversation while they’re halfway through a level or a mission. It will end badly.
- Second, work out why it means so much to them.
- Third, problem-solve together.
- Fourth, minimise control.

You will find that this is harder than it seems. But getting the conversation right will aid you enormously. Even so, your son (or student) will still struggle to regulate his behaviour. The following ideas may be helpful:

- Agree ahead of time how long is suitable on games
- Agree ahead of time what time games will go off at night
- Agree ahead of time on a strategy for getting him to switch off when asked
- Agree ahead of time to keep games out of bedrooms and in public areas
- Agree ahead of time that text messages, a tap on the door, or the oven timer will be used for a 15 minute warning
- Agree ahead of time that he must respond to those warnings
- Agree ahead of time what the consequences of refusal to get off the game will be
- Agree ahead of time that schoolwork and other priorities will be completed ahead of gaming
- You will note that this approach requires pro-activity, and active parenting.

The games are designed to be as compelling as possible. They are literally designed to trap and compel our children to play and play and play.

Consistent, calm, kind conversations with our boys (at the right time and in the right place – not in the heat of battle) are how we eventually beat the game – and take our parenting and our relationships with our boys to the “next level”.

WHITE KNIGHT FOUNDATION - ANNUAL GALA DINNER

Save the date: Friday 17 June at the Novotel Manly Pacific

(Please note that the Trybooking link will be available early April)

The White Knight Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation providing financial and emotional support to victims and their families affected by youth violence, as well as providing educational programs to the community on the impact of random and unprovoked acts of violence. SPX Community strongly promotes the themes of ‘connectedness’ and ‘safe and respectful relationships’ among us all. We, as a school community, proudly support our ex-student, Liam Knight and The White Knight Foundation in their work to create a harmonious and inclusive community.

Please read through the information in the links below and see if your company, family or friends are able to make a contribution to the success of this dinner.


If you are able to assist in any way, please make direct contact with Ms Jan Hunter on either jhunter@monte.nsw.edu.au or 0415 629 242, or you are welcome to contact Mr Russo on rrusso@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or 0418 438 325. Let’s get behind the WKF and make this dinner a huge success in the promotion of a safe, harmonious and inclusive community.
WHY DO PARENTS SEND THEIR SONS TO ST PIUS X COLLEGE?
In last week’s Woodchatta I expressed a genuine interest in knowing why parents decide to send their sons to St Pius X College and asked that you respond, in a short simple sentence, be sent to my email address rrusso@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

Thanks to those parents who have already responded to the question. Others are still welcome to answer in the week ahead. Your answers will be invaluable in providing “food for further thought and reflection” for our staff, as we reflect on our privileged position in supporting you in providing a Catholic, comprehensive, non-selective education for your son(s).

Thank you for your time in providing this feedback. Your collective responses will be generated to guide staff reflection on best ways forward in meeting our current parent community’s needs and once collated, will be made available in a later Woodchatta.

Mr R Russo – College Counsellor

Your P&F In Action!

THE ANNUAL P&F COCKTAIL PARTY - FRIDAY 1ST APRIL - BOOK NOW!
Purchase your tickets for the P&F Cocktail Party via trybooking by clicking here! Cost is $40 per head which includes cocktail food, beer, wine, sparkling and soft drinks. Dress is Cocktail with the option of wearing a mask.

This year the P&F are trialling a bus service between Chatswood and Oxford Falls. Cost is $10 per person return but you must book it in via trybooking. Please see the invitation in Woodchatta Extras for full details.

YEAR 9 MUMS’ DINNER: THIS FRIDAY 18TH MARCH
Come along for dinner at Terrazza in The Concourse this Friday night and mix with other Year 9 Mums. If you weren’t able to RSVP before the 11th but want to come along, please email spx2016year9@gmail.com or send an email to one of the Year Parents. Click here for the details.

YEAR 12 PARENTS’ DRINKS: THIS FRIDAY 18TH MARCH
Come and join other Year 12 parents for tapas and drinks at Match Smoke House, Roseville (at the station), Friday night from 6.30pm. Please click here for more information. RSVP and enquiries to spx2016yr12parentreps@gmail.com

YEAR 11 PARENTS’ COCKTAILS AND CONVERSATIONS: FRIDAY 8TH APRIL
Join other Year 11 Parents at Casa Ceravo! Click here to see the invitation on the P&F Website. Please bring something to drink & plate to share. RSVP and enquiries to Tanya Ceravolo - tanyac@tilearte.com.au

Nadine Robson
robben.nadine@gmail.com - 0412 272 056

Careers News

This week senior students had the opportunity to attend a UNSW lunchtime presentation. UNSW is one of Australia’s leading teaching and research universities.

There are many world class degrees available across a diverse range of faculty areas. The presentation covered degree courses available, ATAR’s, Scholarships, Early Entry Programs and ‘university life’ at UNSW.

The event was well attended by senior students interested in their future pathways after SPX. For more information about UNSW go to https://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/


Ms D Janes – Careers Adviser
Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Hike

Nine Year 10 and 11 students started their hike on Friday afternoon at the close of school. They caught a train to Mt Kuringai station and after a brief resupply from Aldi began their three-day Adventurous Journey. The students hiked through Kuringai Chase National park to Berowra where they caught a train to Wondabyne on the northern side of the Hawkesbury river. The group then hiked out to Pindar cave via Pindar lookout and pools. They were given and completed a range of navigational and bushcraft activities. A very musical group with 3 ukulele for company!

Special thanks must go to Mr J Donnelly for his assistance and perseverance with the group. Well done to all.

Any student 14 years or older is invited to join our Duke of Edinburgh program. Please see Mrs Manga or myself for details.

Mr P de Silva - Outdoor Education Coordinator and Expedition Leader

Performing Arts News

OPEN DAY: The Senior Guitar Ensemble, Senior String Trio, Intermediate String Quartet and Senior Jazz Band will be performing this Saturday. The times are listed below. Full summer uniform is required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00 – 10.30am</td>
<td>Senior Guitar Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30 – 10.50am</td>
<td>Senior String Trio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.50 – 11.10am</td>
<td>Intermediate String Quartet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.15 – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Senior Jazz Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30 – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Senior Jazz Band</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BEFORE SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL TUITION: Students who have lessons between 8.30 – 9.00am MUST go immediately to the front office at the conclusion of the lesson with their Music Pass so they can be marked present for the day.

MUSIC PASSES: In recent weeks many students have lost or misplaced their Music Passes. Consequently, replacement passes have been issued. If students do not take more care with their passes then they will be unable to continue tuition in the College Instrumental Music Program.

INSTRUMENT STOREROOM IN BAND ROOM: The shelves in this storeroom have now been labelled and students are asked to place their instruments in the correct place. By doing this unnecessary damage can be avoided.

Ms T Bates – Performing Arts Coordinator
Public Speaking & Debating

CSDA DEBATING COMPETITION
All debaters are well into their training commitment and meeting with their coaches twice a week for their two hours of training per week.

PRE-SEASON ‘FRIENDLY’ DEBATES
Last Friday 11th March St Pius X College hosted Marist College North Sydney in a ‘friendly’ debate. Our Year 11 and Year 12 students adjudicated most of the debates and the students experienced an effective ‘first’ debate for the season, gaining experience debating and chairing and hosting a debate event. Well done to all debaters.

This Friday 18th March Marist College North Sydney and Mercy College, Chatswood will be arriving at St Pius X College at 4pm for our 2nd friendly debate. This ‘friendly’ debate will replace training and students will be out of school grounds by 5pm. Topics have been handed out and put into the daily notices and are listed below. Debaters will go to training straight after school on Friday afternoon and be in the gym area by 3.45pm for Marist and Mercy 4pm arrival.

   Years 7 & 8: That Australia should have its own space program
   Years 9 & 10: That technology is over-utilised in education
   Years 11 & 12: That human rights do not conflict with each other.

Loreto is not able to travel to St Pius X College on Thursday 17th March as planned. Unfortunately we are not able to travel to Normanhurst so this friendly debate is cancelled.

DEBATE ADJUDICATOR SEMINAR
On Thursday 17th March, Riverview are hosting a Debate Adjudicator Seminar with 6pm registration for 6.30 commencement. Our Year 12 debaters who plan to become adjudicators will travel to Riverview with St Pius X staff. The event should conclude between 8-8.30pm.

Thank you on behalf of our brilliant St Pius X College debating coaches. Ms M Waterson – Convenor

Visual Arts – Watch this Space

Art Club was announced at this week’s assembly by Liam Houlihan and Thomas Benson on behalf of the Student Leadership Team. It is an invitation for students from all years to engage in making artworks to be displayed around the school. The club will meet in the art rooms at lunch time once a week to plan and make works for areas like the one pictured.

Interested students should attend the first meeting on Friday 18th March in Art Room 3 at 1:00 pm. Materials will be provided.

Mr M Anderson – Visual Arts Coordinator
From the Language Department

YEAR 7 COOKING INCURSION
As part of the Chinese New year celebrations, Year 7 Chinese had the great opportunity to learn more about Chinese traditions by making Chinese traditional sticky rice dumplings, called “YuanXiao” and “Tangyuan”. The students learned first-hand about Chinese New Year celebrations and how to make the traditional celebration treats. The students were surprised at how easy they were to make and how delicious they tasted. Here are some of our photos of the experience.

YEAR 5 & 6 CHINESE
Last Tuesday, the Junior School was treated to a traditional Chinese New Year celebration. As part of the Stage 3 Mandarin program, students have been learning all about Chinese New Year and the significance of traditional Chinese customs. Our students had a wonderful opportunity to wear the Dragon and Lion costumes and to dance to the beat of the Magic Drum, scaring off the bad luck and bringing prosperity and happiness to the New Year at St Pius X College. Here are some of the photos to enjoy.

FUNDRAISING - EASTER EGGS FOR NEW CALEDONIA 2016 TOUR
As a way of fundraising for extra excursions and cultural experiences on our New Caledonia Trip in the June/July holidays, French students from Years 9, 10 and 12 will be selling Cadbury chocolates throughout Term 2 in the school community. We are offering the opportunity for families to purchase Easter eggs for their friends and family, whilst supporting our fundraising efforts at the same time. We have packets of Cadbury Easter eggs for $4 each for a 125g bag of mini eggs in plain, caramello and crunchie flavours.

If you would like to purchase your Easter eggs this year through our fundraising program, please put your order in a clearly marked envelope addressed to “Miss Sumner” with the quantity, correct cash payment and the flavour of Easter eggs you wish to purchase. These envelopes should be handed to Miss Sumner directly or to the student office.

Merci for your support and we wish you and your family a happy and holy Easter.

Ms K Manga – Teacher in Charge of LOTE

Miss S Sumner - French Teacher
From the Science Department

USYD GIFTED AND TALENTED SCIENCE PROGRAM

In November last year 29 Science students from Years 8 and 9 sat for The University of Sydney Gifted and Talented Science Qualifying Examination. The examination was very challenging, requiring students to draw on their knowledge of Science as well as to think creatively.

I am pleased to announce that the following Year 10 students have each been offered a place in The Science Gifted and Talented Science Discovery Program to be conducted during the July and October school holidays at The University of Sydney: Benjamin Johnson, Michael Currington, Marcus Rossetto, Liam Hunt and Hunter Clarke.

Congratulations and well done to all participants.

Ms J Schuster - Assistant Science Coordinator

For Years 5 – 9: The Premier’s Reading Challenge 2016

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is a chance for every student to read, to read more and to read more widely. Encouraging a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to provide an experience of quality literature are its key aims.

The Challenge is to read 20 books before the 19th August. There is plenty of choice in the extensive Reading List with some fantastic new books added for 2016. Below are some of our picks from the new titles.

For serial readers:
The Horrible Histories, The Alex Rider graphic novels, The Map Maker Chronicles and the Divergent series

Novels:
Infinity Drake: Sons of Scarlatti by John McNally, The Boy with two lives by Abbas Kazerooni, Havoc by Jane Higgins (Year 8 +), Prince of Afghanistan by Louis Nowra( Year 8 +), Paper Planes by Steve Worland and Two Wolves by Tristan Bancks

Non-fiction or Biography:
Freedom Ride by Sue Lawson, Guarding Eden by Deborah Hart and I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai & Christina Lamb

Picture books:
Dreams of Freedom, Teacup and Beach they called Gallipoli

Many students are already off to a great start, recording books they have read since the close of the PRC 2015 on their online Student Reading Record. This process has been assisted by an email sent to every student containing their PRC log ins.

Parents with Privacy concerns should get in touch if they do not wish for their son to receive a certificate (listing their name and school) or if their name were to appear on the Gold or Platinum Honour Roll on the PRC website. If parents or students have any questions about the PRC, the PRC website is a terrific support, otherwise please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ms E Martin & Ms Keighery - PRC coordinators
From the Learning Support and Enrichment (LSE) Team

FOR THE INTEREST OF PARENTS AND CARERS OF BOYS WITH SPECIAL (DISABILITY) PROVISIONS

Your son’s eligibility for disability provisions has been confirmed for his upcoming timed written in-class assessments, as well as whole cohort tests and exams, in all his subjects, until further notice. The Learning Support and Enrichment (LSE) team will be in touch with you as needed, as we are obliged to review disability provisions on a regular basis during 2016 and beyond. If you can assist us by scanning and sending any recent medical assessments, letters or diagnoses, which report on your son’s condition, this would be most helpful – as it means we can update your son’s provisions where necessary, and also that we can inform his teachers as to any new or changed recommendations for how they can adjust their teaching in the classroom to better meet your son’s learning needs.

Please send relevant documents to JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

The LSE team works closely with the teachers of Years 5, 6 and 7 to promote effective management of confirmed provisions for whole year tests, exams and assessments in each subject area. However if your son is in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12, it is vital that he collects and completes an Student Request Form: Access to special (disability) provisions for Assessments, as soon as he receives official notice about an upcoming assessment task, for which he wants to use his confirmed provisions. The form is available from the Student Office, and I also confirm that your son has been directly emailed so that he knows the procedure, and has a copy of the form on his PLD.

Joanne and the LSE team thank you for your help with our processes for the effective administration and delivery of special (disability) provisions. We also welcome queries from you and all our parents and carers at any time.

HOMEWORK HELP PROGRAM – OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS IN YEARS 5-12

Homework Help is an academic support initiative of the LSE Department which runs throughout the year, and is held after school in the Senior Library (SRC) on three afternoons per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) from 3.15pm - 4.30pm for all students in Years 5-12. Students may attend on one or more than one afternoon, on a regular or occasional basis, and there is no need to make an appointment.

Homework Help provides academic support and assistance for all students in Years 5-12 who wish to work in a supportive academic environment, with supervising teachers on hand who will:

- provide intensive assistance with homework and other assignments,
- help students plan out their assessment tasks, including sources for research
- teach specific literacy, numeracy or writing skills that are required for assessment tasks across the curriculum,
- improve reading comprehension skills,
- help students develop good note-making habits and revision skills for upcoming tests and exams
- identify and improve specific literacy skills that need improving, using specialist graded resources which target grammar and punctuation, spelling and vocabulary, comprehension skills and writing effective topic sentences and paragraphs.

Senior students, in particular, may wish to improve their essay-writing, creative writing, report and analytical writing including: ways to develop a strong argument or thesis statement, ways to incorporate quotations and other source material into their writing, as well as ways to write about the language features and techniques of prescribed texts in English.

Whatever the motivation, all students are encouraged to come along, and be actively engaged in catching up on school work, getting ahead on their reading or study, or improving their literacy and writing skills to reach a personal best this school year.

All years and levels of ability are welcome to attend, so please do take advantage of this free service. Parents/ Carers, staff or students may direct any enquiries about the Homework Help Program to Ms Joanne Raheb-Mol, Coordinator of Learning Support and Enrichment, via email: JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

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

CRICKET

Last weekend of Cricket for Season 2015/16. Good luck to our MWJCA teams who will contest the final round.

End of the NSJCA Season. With last Saturday’s completion of this year’s North Shore season, here’s how our three teams - U12 Blue, U12 Black and U14 Green, fared and well done to everyone:

- **U14 Plate Cup Winners** - U14 Red
- **U12 Division 2A Plate Cup Joint Winners** - U12 Blue
- **U12 Division 2 Plate Cup Runners Up** - U12 Black

Presentation Night - Monday 5 May 2016 (Monday Term 2 Week 2). This is a compulsory event for all players. 7pm start.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>RESULTS (12/03/16)</th>
<th>19/03/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPX Black</td>
<td>SPX Black 131 (D Thirugnanaraj 26) defeated by Mosman Bradman 6/175 (L Satharine 2/6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U12 NSJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Blue</td>
<td>SPX Blue 116 (J Thornton 30*, W Thomson 28) tied with Lindfield Tavener 116 (B Hoolahan 2/8, B Pucell 2/17)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U13 NSJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Gold</td>
<td>SPX Gold 7/139 defeated by St Augustines Gold 7/142</td>
<td>St Augustines Gold Oxford Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U13 MWJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Green</td>
<td>SPX Green 40 defeated by Harbord Vampires 137 (W Turner 4/8, JH McDonald 2/12)</td>
<td>St Augustines Green Newport Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U14 MWJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Red</td>
<td>SPX Red 5/152 defeated St Ives Warner 142</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U14 NSJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Orange</td>
<td>SPX Orange 73 defeated by Beacon Hill 8/82</td>
<td>Beacon Hill Killarney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U15 MWJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U16/18 MWJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPX Yellow</td>
<td>SPX Yellow 90 (J Furlan 33 defeated by Beacon Hill 2/91)</td>
<td>Collaray Plateau Neutrons Nolans # 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U16/18 MWJCA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOOTBALL

Training commences for Football next week on Mondays and Wednesdays at Oxford Falls. Buses depart outside OLD Church at 3:25pm and return at approximately 5:30pm. Times and locations of trainings MAY change in Terms 2 and 3 when we gain access to local council grounds. Our first round of trial matches occurs on the 2nd April against St Aloysius. Times and venues will be published the week of the fixtures.

The SPX Football Club has organised a Football Camp in the holidays, 11th-13th of April. Details can be found in Woodchatta Extras.

This weekend the 1st and 2nd XI have trial fixtures against Sydney Boys High with times and venues below:

- **2nd XI**: 9:00am at McKay 4
- **1st XI**: 10:15am at McKay 4

Field location: McKay 4 is inside Centennial Park. Enter via Randwick Gates. Park adjacent to McKay 1 and walk through to the field on the other side of the tree line.

Mr Simon Yue - Convenor

RUGBY

ST PIUS X COLLEGE SENIOR RUGBY DRAW – SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

On Saturday 19th of March, St Pius X College welcomes Sydney Boys High School to Oxford Falls for the first trial match of the 2016 season. Please see the confirmed fixture list below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st XV</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd/3rd</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16s</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15s</td>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14s</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13s</td>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Sydney Boys</td>
<td>Chaplin No. 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Matches will be played in squads with coaches of each team to liaise with the referee and each other in determining the running of each fixture. College Open Day duties, district cricket and cross-country take priority over rugby commitments this weekend.

**RUGBY REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN – PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION ASAP**

To register simply click on the Trybooking link: [http://www.trybooking.com/69784](http://www.trybooking.com/69784) It only takes a few minutes with no payment required during the process.

All students wishing to play rugby are required to be registered here to be included in a team, allowing the school rugby administrators and coaches to best prepare for the coming season, plus allow your P&F Rugby Club to best support and communicate with you!

**RUGBY TRAINING CONTINUES ON TUESDAY AND THURSDAY AT OXFORD FALLS DURING TERM 1**

Buses depart Archer Street no later than 3:30pm and head to Oxford Falls for a training start time of 4pm. Training finishes at 5pm for age groups 13s-16s and 5:30pm for Opens, with buses arriving back at Chatswood by 5:30pm and 6pm respectively. All age groups will train at Oxford Falls on Tuesday and Thursday for the remainder of Term 1.

**OPENS PRE-SEASON RUGBY CAMP – BOWRAL**

Over the weekend 26 students from the Opens age group attended a pre-season training camp at Bowral in the NSW Southern Highlands. The weekend consisted of fitness and skills work, an internal trial and recovery pool sessions. In hot conditions the boys worked extremely hard, with many impressing the coaching staff ahead of the first trial match against Sydney High this weekend. Well done to all the boys who attended.

Please check Woodchatta weekly, including the Woodchatta Extras section, for all the latest Rugby news throughout the season or contact Mr Lynch at JLynch@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au for any general rugby enquiries.

**COACHING CLINIC**

Francis Cullimore, the College’s 1st XV Rugby Coach, will be running an Elite Performance Rugby Coaching Clinic on Sunday 27 March. Please see the flyer in Woodchatta Extras for details.

Mr J Lynch – Convenor

---

**RUGBY TRIAL AGAINST SYDNEY BOYS HIGH THIS SATURDAY**

This Saturday’s age group trial against Sydney Boys High is an ideal opportunity for you to demonstrate your rugby skills without fear of failure. That is the value of trials. They give you the opportunity to measure your own progress and development.

Which areas of your game are you happy with and which areas of your game do you need to improve? Sometimes it is only a slight adjustment to your technique that will make all the difference to your performance, and always be prepared to talk to your coach afterwards - he will always offer constructive advice. Remember also that the position you play now may not be your final position. Be prepared to play in different positions. You may be a good winger now but a great full back in two years’ time!

Trials are also to be enjoyed, so turn up full of enthusiasm and ready to Go!

Mike Penistone – Rugby Development Officer

---

**SENIOR SWIMMING**

Last Wednesday the Senior Swimming Squad competed at the ISA Championships. St Pius X College came 5th in the Junior Shield, 7th in the Intermediate Shield and 4th in the Senior Shield. This gave us a 5th overall in the Aggregate Shield out of nine schools. A fantastic effort by all the students.

The ISA team will be announced over the coming days. I will notify the representatives as soon as the team is handed out.

Miss L Proc - 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.

**NSTA Tennis**

**Newsletter #4 - Round 5: 12/3**

The five rounds of the summer NSTA competition ended last weekend. We enjoyed five weeks of glorious sunshine with no tennis lost to bad weather. This assisted players in keeping-up their momentum and focus on the competition.

While a number of our teams top the leader board, the tables shows many closely ranked teams indicative of the tight competition, players and spectators enjoyed this season.

For players whose points tally doesn’t place them in the Finals Round, thank you for all your efforts on court, your punctuality and for your great sportsmanship. Staff and parents feel very proud of the way you conducted yourselves and represented our school.

Special thanks to the Senior boys for their umpiring of junior teams. This mentoring experience was enjoyed by all. It was incredibly successful in teaching our younger players how-to score and in building friendships and community.

Congratulations to St Pius 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 22 and 24 who have made it into the Finals next Saturday 19th. I’m looking forward to seeing you there to cheer on our finalists and praying for just one more sunny Saturday.

The Round 5 Round-up:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 17</td>
<td>Riverview 8</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 18</td>
<td>Barker 18</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 19</td>
<td>Redlands 17</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 20</td>
<td>Redlands 16</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 21</td>
<td>PLC 1</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 23</td>
<td>Reddam 8</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 24</td>
<td>Riverview 12</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 25</td>
<td>Barker Jnr 1</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 26</td>
<td>SACS 3</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**8:00 to 10:00 am**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 1</td>
<td>NSBHS 1</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 2</td>
<td>Reddam 1</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 3</td>
<td>Barker 1</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 4</td>
<td>Online Tennis 1</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 5</td>
<td>Barker 2</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 6</td>
<td>Redlands 4</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 7</td>
<td>Barker 4</td>
<td>Redlands forfeited</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 8</td>
<td>Redlands 5</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 9</td>
<td>Riverview 2</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 10</td>
<td>Barker Girls 2</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 11</td>
<td>Barker Girls 3</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 12</td>
<td>Redlands 10</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 13</td>
<td>Riverview 4</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 14</td>
<td>Redlands 9</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 15</td>
<td>Matchpoint 4</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Pius 16</td>
<td>Redlands 12</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs K Keighery - Coach
Junior School Sport

Thursday Sport: We now move onto winter sport trials for AFL, Football and Rugby until the end of term. Boys will require a full change of clothes and all protective gear for their sport each Thursday. This does not need to be SPX issue clothing but must be suitable to the activity they are training for.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Saturday Sport Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17th March</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Oxford Falls</td>
<td>Winter Trials / Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Oxford Falls</td>
<td>Winter Trials / Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>31st March</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Oxford Falls</td>
<td>Winter Trials / Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>7th April</td>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Oxford Falls</td>
<td>Winter Trials / Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Football (Soccer) Tour: Preparations are underway for the inaugural Prep 1st XI Football Squad tour to the National Primary Games in Tamworth, NSW. This tour departs on 8th April and returns on 10th April. Two selection trials have taken place. The last trial for the final squad positions will occur tomorrow at Oxford Falls under the guidance of our professional external coaches. All Year 6 Footballers playing for St Pius this year are permitted to trial. Boys require suitable clothing, boots and shin guards.

Rugby: Trials begin this Saturday 19th March for all players. We host Cranbrook, Redfield College and St Aloysius in a round-robin format of short trial matches. These take place at Oxford Falls between 7.45-10.30am. Boys will be assigned either an ‘A’ or ‘B’ timeslot at internal trials on Thursday.

Basketball: Well done to all players on the manner in which they approached the first half of the summer season. The boys have come a long way in 7 weeks, both as individuals and as part of a team. Basketball resumes with re-trials in Term 3 in preparation for the Term 4 half of the season.

Junior Softball

Round 6 Softball Report: vs Knox Result: Won 21-11

After a busy and tiring three days at camp the team looked a little shell shocked in the first innings against a very fast Knox pitcher. But when the ball connected with the bat there were some good hits to the outfield. A change of pitcher saw St Pius take control and a third innings nine run haul and three quick outs for Knox saw us score a convincing win.

Congratulations to all players on a most successful Term 1 season. The improvement by all players was extremely pleasing and showed their commitment to their chosen sport.

Many thanks to our regular supporters for encouraging the boys each week. Special thanks to Mrs Vaccher, our efficient scorer who ensured the boys were ready and eager to bat and field each innings, and Zoe, our reliable bat girl!

Outstanding players (3, 2, 1) – Frank Houlihan, Cody Choi, Andrew Bradford.

Ms D Cummins - Convenor
Uniform Shop

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

***Boys return to school in Term 2 in full winter uniform.***

Please be reminded that there are only three weeks left of Term 1 to purchase winter uniform items.

Blazer Orders: Payment can made over the phone via credit card, or by cheque or cash at the Uniform Shop. Any enquires please contact the Uniform Shop direct on 9414 4339. Blazers are due approximately Week 9.

Price List: A full price list is available on the College website.

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

Blazer Buttons are available from shop $2.00 each.

Second-Hand Uniforms: Parents are reminded that the Uniform Shop also sells second-hand uniforms.

Mrs D Muirhead – Coordinator

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21/3 – 25/3</th>
<th>28/3 – 1/4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mon</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-M Corcoran, J North, J Lynch, K Saddington, S Hayes</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tues</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Shahady, R Habib, S Baird, N Bacic, J Moait, A Wright, J Baynie</td>
<td>C Hughson, F Roberts, K Onslow, M Calamos, C Zantiotis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Bradford, J Connors, S Dimitriou</td>
<td>I Janssen, M Miles, A Herrera-Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thurs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Ryan, S Richardson</td>
<td>D Speedy, L Princi, R Baldock, A Wesley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fri</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fri</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
<td>M Currington, A Simpson, R Nolan, C Sweeney, R Carrall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CAREERS NEWSLETTER: Please go to:

1. COLLEGE OPEN DAY FLYER
2. CHATSWOOD CHRISTIAN BROTHERS – APPRECIATION MASS & DINNER INVITATION
3. LETTER TO PARENTS RE NAPLAN 2016
4. P&F COCKTAIL PARTY INVITATION
5. CRICKET MATCH REPORTS
6. ELITE RUGBY COACHING CLINIC FLYER
7. FOOTBALL NEWS
ST PIUS X COLLEGE
Open Day
SATURDAY 19 MARCH • 10AM – 2PM

Principal’s Welcome 12 noon
Enrolling now for 2018 for Years 5, 6 and 7

Chatswood Campus
35 Anderson Street Chatswood NSW 2067
PH 9411 4733 Email: admin@spx.nsw.edu.au
Our sporting fields at the Treacy Complex,
Dreadnought Road, Oxford Falls
will be open 8am – 12noon.

Full details at www.spx.nsw.edu.au
CHATSWOOD CHRISTIAN BROTHERS APPRECIATION MASS & DINNER

Tuesday 3 May 2016

MASS AT 5.00 PM
OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHURCH, CHATSWOOD
Cnr Archer and Kirk Street Chatswood

Followed by

DINNER AT 6.30 PM
CHATSWOOD CONCOURSE
409 Victoria Avenue Chatswood

Booking information
Book through our trybooking site. Tickets $70 per head
Trybooking: https://www.trybooking.com/189679 closes Friday 15 April
Enquiries: Ann Brady: abrady@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or 9414 4312

Parking available in the College grounds
LETTER TO PARENTS RE NAPLAN 2016

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2016

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 10-12 May 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 10 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 11 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 12 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 13 May** – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html)
P&F COCKTAIL PARTY

You are invited
to the Annual St Pius X College P & F Cocktail Party

FRI, APR 1
7.30 - 10.30PM
COCKTAIL FOOD, BEER, WINE, SPARKLING AND SOFT DRINKS
CARNIVAL THEME $40PP
DRESS - COCKTAIL WITH THE OPTION OF WEARING A MASK
TREACY CENTRE, DREADNOUGHT RD, OXFORD FALLS

TICKETS ON www.trybooking.com/122476
RSVP by 25th March  Enquiries Braelen.Zwart@petbarn.com.au

NEW IN 2016
BUS TRANSPORT AVAILABLE FROM CHATSWOOD
$10 RETURN - MUST BE BOOKED
**CRICKET MATCH REPORTS**

**SPX U13 Blue – 13/02/16, Round 15**

SPX Blue 9/156 (J Sheather 30*) defeated St Ives Warner 155 (B Hoolahan 2/5, W Staber 2/8)

Saturday was a special day for SPX U12 blue team. For half of this team, 2015/16 was their first season playing cricket. As we all know, cricket can be a hard game for new starters and after 14 rounds, SPX Blue were yet to have their first win.

The boys had bowled well all year and had taken plenty of wickets to restrict teams, but had not been able to score runs quickly enough to win. They had come close a few times, but never quite got there. They never lost spirit, but everyone knows it is hard.

On Saturday, St Ives won the toss and elected to bat. In the field, everything seemed to come together at once for the boys and Pius bowled out St Ives with five overs (out of 32) to spare. Blake Hoolahan took 2/5. Key wickets to Ben Purcell, Simon Magner and Andrew Guerrera and tight bowling (0/3) from Will Harper restricted the St Ives batsmen to 155.

Even at that score, it would take their highest score for the season to win the game. A solid opening stand from Manav Purohit and Jack Thornton saw off the St Ives opening bowlers. Then a solid partnership between Josh Sheather and Jaiden Speter had St Pius at 3/107 in the 20th, and they were on course. However, as often happens in cricket, the boys lost wickets and found themselves at 8/118 in the 24th. Will Thomson and Will Staber steadied the ship and took the boys to 138 in the 28th when the ninth wicket fell (Will Staber). The boys needed 18 runs off 21 balls with one wicket in hand. Will managed a defensive shot to square leg. Tom bolted for the run, and before Will or the St Ives batsmen realized, had made it home to the danger end. Will realized what had happened and headed for his run. The St Ives boys realized what was happening too and went to throw down the stumps at the bowlers end but fumbled, Will was home and the game was won.

When you win a game on the last ball with one wicket in hand, you know the contribution from every team member counted and this was definitely the case on Saturday.

For all these boys, this game was their first win for the season. For most of them, their first win for St Pius. For half of them, it was the first time they had won a game of cricket. I know these boys will go on to enjoy winning many games of cricket over the years, but I believe none more so than this one.

**SPX U13 Gold – 06/02/16 & 13/02/16, Round 9**

SPX Gold 9/140 defeated Collaroy Plateau Gigawatts 9/139

A good old fashion thriller that came right down to the final over at Melwood Number One ground and I’m glad to say St Pius X Gold came out on top.

Talk about timing things to perfection, Pius had just 4 balls remaining and one wicket in hand when James Power crafted the winning runs. While the boys were never worried, there were plenty of nervous moments for coach Scott Power, while scorer Anthony Wunsch was meticulous with his pencil, making sure all those number correctly added up to victory.
We can certainly class this as an upset. Collaroy Plateau Gigawatts were actually two places higher on the ladder than Pius and their star batsman Sam Jones had not been dismissed all season. That was before Matt North deceived him on 15 and Pius spirits lifted. In fact, Collaroy slumped to 6 for 57 after 25 overs due to some terrific bowling from North (2 for 14), Brad Power (2 for 3), and Liam Chang (1 for 15). Spinner Liam Kinna bowled superbly and his final figures of (1 for 11) don’t really do him justice.

Collaroy rallied late and did well to bat their 50 overs out making a formidable 9/136.

Day Two and Pius quickly found themselves 2 for 18 and under some pressure. But the boys are learning the value of partnerships. Riley Kennedy [21] and Joe Colgan (36 not out) started the fightback. That was continued with Tom Wunsch making a well-deserved (26). Another handy partnership between Liam Chang (7) and James Power (11 not out) got Pius to the brink of victory.

Chang fell in the second last over, and the unbeaten Colgan returned to the crease to finish the job with James Power “hip, hip, hooray.

For Pius it was their third straight win and they now sit 6th on the table.

The lesson from the match “partnerships win matches”.

* And a special note for Joe Colgan, who along with Liam Kinna, went and filled in for the U14’s team in the afternoon. Joe took 3 wickets (including a caught and bowled), made a direct hit run-out, and then opened the innings with an unbeaten 26 from 21 balls!
RUGBY COACHING CLINIC

Booking form available at: http://goo.gl/forms/mo54FEp17B

Francis Cullimore Elite Performance Rugby Coaching Clinic

Date: 27 March 2016
Time: 9am to 2 pm Sunday

To all up and coming youth players, here is a unique opportunity to get a rare insight into elite training along with being in front of three of the NSW Rugby’s top coaches.

Francis Cullimore, (Current NSW RUGBY 7’s and ARU 2015 7’s Development Head Coach), Nathan McMahon, (Current NSW RUGBY Women’s 7’s and ARU 2015 Asst Women’s Development Head Coach), and Kolose Feuamati, (West Harbour Shute Shield Coach, NSW Men’s 7’s Coach 2015, Samoa 2015 u20’s Assist Coach), will be running a one day training camp focusing on what is required for a youth player, 14 to 18 year old boys, to reach the next level of rugby, e.g. NRC, State 7’s, Aussie 7’s, Youth Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games, Super 15, Wallabies.

Will include covering:
- Sports Nutrition Programs
- Rugby Specific Training Program
- Pre and Post Game Recovery
- Skills and Drills
- Strength and Conditioning (with Monthly Review)

We can also provide access to two elite Sprint coaches along with top physio and strappers provided on the day.

Venue: Lofberg Oval,
Cor Yanko and Lofberg Road,
West Pymble

Cost is $75 for the day
Any Coaches looking to upskill for sevens can also attend, send email to contact and will advise options
Send your EOI to contact above
Will include basic lunch both days
Numbers will be limited

Contact: Dale Winslow
0408 241 589.
dwinslow@bigpond.net.au

Book early as spots limited
FOOTBALL NEWS

The Committee is running the Football Holiday camp again this coming holidays. It has been very successful over the last 2 years and we have kept the price the same. We encourage boys from all ages in the College to attend as the level of skills is tailored to all age groups.

We have fully qualified coaches and it is a great way for the boys to get ready for the season that starts early in term 2.

Transport to and from the College is included.

SPX FOOTBALL CAMP

Oxford Falls Grounds
11th -13th April, 9:30am-1:30pm

Bus transfer from College
(Leaves 9am Lady of Dolours - returns 2pm)

$165 per student

Book here - https://www.trybooking.com/126595

See our webpages for News, Calendars, Photos and Draws
http://pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au/sports/football

Rodger Paino