Dear Families and Friends of the St Pius X Community,

The Price of Pollution

What a brilliant cartoon!

One of the big questions on the path to a sustainable world is what to do about greenhouse gas emission. Regardless of which side of politics we support, it should be obvious that we must do something and we must do it now. To stick our collective heads in the sand and do nothing is neither a moral nor a sensible option. To do so is to doom future generations to much more severe and painful ramifications than current generations will need to endure. To do so will effectively doom some future generation to a complete breakdown of society and much worse.

People shrug off the problem and assume that someone else will solve it. When crises like bush fires, floods or storms reap havoc, Australians are quick to get in and lend a hand. When World Wars reared their ugly heads in the 20th Century, people around the nation rallied to do their bit, whatever that was, in defence of the nation and the world. Although the war against pollution, global warming and rampant human wastefulness of resources may not appear to need our immediate response, Australians must rally now to avoid consequences far more devastating than natural disasters or even World Wars.

As Australians, we need to make our voices heard. We need to put aside politically motivated views. We need to work together.

Big Business and Industry are not going to invest in the use of clean energy alternatives unless they are forced to do so. They are in business to make money. We must make clean energy cheaper.
Governments, economists and business leaders around the globe agree that levelling the economic playing field by placing a price tag on pollution is one of the best ways to reduce pollution, and, as a bonus, it will create thousands of jobs within new industries.

Whether it’s a carbon tax, an ETS or CPRS, the aim is the same – make clean energy cheaper by putting a price tag on pollution.

Regardless of the politics, the Federal Government is showing leadership in attempting to place a price on carbon. They could have chosen several other ways to make clean energy cheaper. A carbon tax is their choice. The Opposition is opposing a carbon tax on purely political grounds. They have offered nothing of substance as an alternative. We cannot debate for ever. We cannot vacillate for the next three or four terms of Government while we try to find a painless way to reduce our carbon pollution. Such a thing does not exist.

This is a time of crisis. Australians need to act. As we always do in times of national crisis, let’s get behind the Government, regardless of our own political views and start saving our planet. Let us also make it blatantly clear to the Government by writing to our local members that we expect them to set a price on pollution that will actually make a difference rather than being a mere token gesture.

Bibliography:


Note: The Australian Conservation Foundation website is an excellent location to visit for a wealth of information on achieving a healthy environment for Australia – [http://www.acfonline.org.au](http://www.acfonline.org.au)

Have a fun week!

Robert Emery
Principal

Uniform Infringements
Congratulations and thanks to the vast majority of parents and students who follow the school’s guidelines regarding the wearing of the uniform correctly.

For those who decide not to adhere to our uniform policy there is a procedure which will be followed and which may ultimately lead to a student being suspended or worse.

1. Students who are out of uniform without a satisfactory explanation will receive lunch detention
2. A student who receives THREE lunch detentions will come to the notice of their House Co-ordinator.
3. A fourth infringement will result in a Red Slip (afternoon detention) which will bring the problem to the attention of parent/s. The House Co-ordinator will also attempt to contact home to find out if there is a problem that the school can assist with.
4. A fifth infringement will also result in an afternoon detention and a letter warning of SUSPENSION will be sent home.
5. A sixth infringement will result in a referral to the Dean of Students who, in consultation with the Principal, will determine if a suspension is deemed necessary. The suspension period would be as long as it takes to rectify the problem.
6. If the student is permitted to return to school they will be placed on a “monitoring card” for ten school days and during this period a student will be excluded from participation in school activities such as:

- representative sport
- extra curricula excursions
- school dances
- cultural performances and events
- sport including representative sport

We hope that such steps are never necessary but for students who choose not to co-operate, there are opportunities to remedy the situation and there are consequences for those who do not.

Stuart Roff  
Assistant Principal

**CANTEEN CLOSURE** -
The Canteen will be closed on **Friday 17 June** – please make sure your child/children bring morning tea/lunch on that day.

Schools Battery Recycling Challenge 2011
St Pius has been chosen as one of twenty five Newcastle Schools to participate in an initiative of Newcastle City Council to reduce the number of single use batteries sent to land fill.

A battery recycling box will be available in Student Services for students to access and deposit their used batteries.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6 June to Friday 10 June</td>
<td>Year 10 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13 June</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Thursday 16 June</td>
<td>Entertainment Excursion</td>
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<td>Wednesday 24 August</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – Staff Pastoral Care Professional Development</td>
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P & F News

**NEXT MEETING – 14 June 2011**

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

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<td>9 August 2011</td>
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<td>13 September 2011</td>
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<td>11 October 2011</td>
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<td>8 November 2011</td>
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<td>13 December 2011</td>
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Careers
What a wonderful day Year 10 had last Thursday at the Careers Expo. The students were able to find out lots of information about many different careers, University courses, positions vacant, private college courses, TAFE courses etc. One student came up to me at the Expo and said “This is so great – now I feel like I can be anything I want”. It is wonderful that events like the Careers Expo can inspire students and I thank the organisers of the event - Career Links and the many exhibitors who came and spoke with the students on the day.

A reminder to all the students undertaking work experience in Week 10 of this term. Your paperwork is due in NO LATER than Monday of Week 8. If you are having trouble finding a placement please contact me for assistance.

Upcoming Events organised through the school: Permission notes can be collected from the Office
1. Any Year 10 student who may be considering enrolling into a TAFE course as part of their HSC (called TVET) in Year 11/12 can collect an Expression of Interest Form from the Careers Room. Due to funding constraints these courses are competitive and students must get approval from the school before enrolling with TAFE. Please remember that TVET courses offered at SFX generally do not count to University ATAR calculation so students hoping to continue study into University after 11/12 should reconsider applying.

2. Students interested in the aviation industry may wish to come on the careers excursion to the Airport. Tours of the Airport, BAE Systems, Newcastle Helicopters, Aeropelican and Jetstar provide students with the opportunity to discuss different career paths within aviation such as pilot, flight attendant and aircraft maintenance eg avionics, mechanical or structural apprenticeship etc.

3. Interested in First Aid? A course will run at school in Term3. Sometimes this may allow you to get extra payment in your casual position or help prepare you for work as you apply for apprenticeships. At a cost of only $70.00 the course is a must.

Upcoming Events outside of school
1. Interested in engineering as a career? Engineers Australia is holding an information session for any interested students in Year 9-10 on Tuesday 2 August 5.30-7.00pm at Newcastle Division Office, 122 Parry Street, Newcastle. The evening will provide students with practical first-hand knowledge from engineers from all disciplines - civil, chemical, mechanical, electrical and structural and talk about what it is like to be an engineer and how to get started. Bookings can be made to Jo Papanicilauo on 4926 4440.

2. University of Newcastle Open Days are coming up. Callaghan Campus is on Saturday 27 August. There will be demonstrations, tours, performances, live music, displays and presentations about the many different degrees on offer. Want to go to Uni but not sure what you can study when you get there? Go to the Open Day and become inspired! There will be more information available regarding presentation times and venues etc at a later stage.

Tax File Number Applications
Don’t forget students can apply for a Tax File Number through the school. The process is easier than applying through the Tax Office and students then have their number ready for when they need it - casual job, youth allowance etc. Applications can be collected from Student Services and must be returned to me at school. This number doesn’t ever expire so I encourage all students to complete an application now and store it in their portfolio for when needed.

Thanks
Helen Wilks
Careers Adviser     0409 326 961
helen.wilks@mn.catholic.edu.au
Uminohoshi High School Visit to St Pius X High School 9 – 21 August
As mentioned in our last newsletter, our sister school Uminohoshi High School in Hamamatsu Japan will be sending approximately 13 of their girls to St Pius for their biannual visit. The girls will attend school with our students, taking part in classes as well as going on local excursions. The Japanese students will be with us for twelve days. I am asking for families from our school community to billet the students as we have done in the past. Any families who would like to take part in this wonderful experience are asked to send their son or daughter to Mrs Porter or myself for more information. If you have any more questions please email me at Gabriella.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au or call me at school.

Mrs Smith
Studies Coordinator

Canteen Roster - Mrs Helen Mulligan, Mrs Janelle Oliver
URGENT!!!! Helpers are needed every day except Friday. Anyone who would like to assist one day per month please contact Helen or Janelle. If you are unable to attend your allotted day please contact either Helen or Janelle on 4013 2629.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 6 June</th>
<th>Tues 7 June</th>
<th>Wed 8 June</th>
<th>Thurs 9 June</th>
<th>Fri 10 June</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chrissie Dunn</td>
<td>Adrienne Bice</td>
<td>Megan Evans</td>
<td>Rachael Gapps</td>
<td>Sonya Simpson Leanne</td>
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<td>Mary Jennings</td>
<td>Robyn Donnelly</td>
<td>Donna Houston</td>
<td>Kim Simmons</td>
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<td>Anthea Burke</td>
<td>Tracy Tennant-Baker</td>
<td>Belinda Oke</td>
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<td>Jodie Pfeiffer</td>
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<tr>
<td>QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Kathy Adam</td>
<td>Janee Vandenburg</td>
<td>Louise Ptolemy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tina Rebellato</td>
<td>Leah Horton</td>
<td>Leanne Haberl</td>
<td>Sue Morrissey</td>
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<td>Sharon Hart</td>
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<td>Angela Jeffs</td>
<td>Rebecca Emerton</td>
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<td>Catherine Ryan</td>
<td>Joanne Bogaerts</td>
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<td>Helen Askie</td>
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<td>Jenny/Michael Hurst</td>
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NSW/ACT State Downhill Mountain Bike Series

On the 14 and 15 May two Year 8 students from St Pius X competed in the Junior Male Under 15 category of Round 2 of the NSW/ACT State Downhill Mountain Bike Series. The event was held at the Ourimbah State Forest on the Central Coast. Both boys were cheered on by fellow student Lachlan Hayes. Chris Clark placed 6th with a time of 4:17.72 and Bryan Dunkin placed 14th with a time of 4:32.97 out of 19 riders. This was a very good result for the boys’ first state round in Downhill Mountain Bike Racing.

Bryan Dunkin
Next Life Teen Night:
“What Goes Up”
Wednesday 8 June
6.30pm Food
7.00pm – 8.30pm Life Night
St Philips Parish Hall Kotara

Next Life Teen Youth Mass:
Sunday 5 June at 5.45pm
St Therese’s Church, New Lambton
Followed by Tea and Biscuits served by the youth