Dear Families and Friends of the St Pius X Community,

**St Pius X Feast Day**
On Monday 22 August we celebrated St Pius X Feast Day with liturgies for each Year. The liturgies called us as individuals and as a community to live out St Pius X’s motto of “Renewing all things in Christ”. The focus was on our responsibility to be good stewards of creation by taking care of our precious world. Students and staff were reminded that our journey towards environmental sustainability is grounded in our faith, in the scriptures and in the traditions of our Church. The link was made very clearly between responsible stewardship of creation and our preferential option for the poor.

“The preferential option for the poor is …… enshrined in Catholic Social Teaching and challenges individuals and societies to examine ethical and economic choices from the point of view of how it will affect poor people, not just in their locality, but globally. Will these choices enhance the life of the poor or further impoverish them. Global warming will have a devastating impact on the poor …… One of the abiding tragedies and ironies in reflecting on global warming is that the poor, who have contributed least to it, will suffer most.” Fr Sean McDonagh ssc (quote from “Climate Change, The Response of Catholics”, delivered at the Canberra Conference on Climate Change)

Very soon the Sustainability Development Plan (SDP) for St Pius will be published. This plan sets sustainability goals for the next three years. The plan has been devised by a team of staff and students and will help us to do our part in creating a better world.

**Pastoral Care PD Day**
An excellent professional development day was held on Wednesday 24 August. The day was devoted to mental health aspects of pastoral care. Two world-class professional speakers addressed the staff in the morning: Michael McQueen on “Decoding the Adolescent Mind” and Dannielle Miller on “Girls Body Issues”. In the afternoon Alex Potter, an ex-student of St Pius, now a Psychologist gave an extremely good presentation on “Bullying” and Mr David Muxlow from Zimmerman House presented an update for staff on child protection legislation and procedures. All-in-all it was a very productive day.

I would certainly recommend to parents and carers that both “The ‘New’ Rules of Engagement” by Michael McQueen and “The Butterfly Effect” by Dannielle Miller are very interesting and thought provoking books if you are looking for something good to read.

**Creative & Performing Arts**
Well done to all students and teachers involved in the Drama Department production of “Malice in Wonderland” last Friday and the Music Department production of “You’re the Voice” on Monday of this week. Both productions were very entertaining. Well done also to the VET Entertainment students who managed the behind the scenes and technical sides of the productions. It is always great to see our students showcasing their talents.

Have a great week!

*Robert Emery  
Principal*
Year 7 and Year 8 Technology
Our Year 7 and Year 8 technology students finished off their projects for Unit 2 of their course last week and once again we have a wide range of well made projects. Wood projects such as breakfast trays, jewellery boxes, DVD racks, book shelves, bird nests, spice racks, a hockey stick rack etc. Other groups have been designing and producing a wonderful range of candle holders and copper name plates.

Those students completing the Textile Unit have produced a fantastic range of custom made cloth bags – all individually decorated.

The students who did the Food Unit have learnt how to cook/make wraps, hawaiian hamburgers, spaghetti bolognese, pizzas, BLT sandwiches, choc chip cookies, anzac biscuits, fried rice and tacos. Students love this unit as they get to eat their produce. Mums/Dads, why not ask your son/daughter to cook the family a meal.

The students who redesigned their “personal space” have been very busy producing a 3-D model of their preferred design. Most have gone about their work with great enthusiasm and care and have made some terrific models.

What is clearly evident is that our students have thoroughly enjoyed their work in Technology and they are looking forward to the challenges of their next unit.

Gary Atherton
TAS Coordinator

Year 9 Marine
Year 9 Marine will be going to the Shark and Ray Centre at Nelson Bay during week 9. Notes and money should be in by week 7.

Michael Lee
Teacher

Year 10 Marine
Year 10 Marine students should have indicated to Mr Lee or Mr Gabrysiak if they are taking their fish tanks home. Year 9 will be making their own tanks and taking over the space during term 4.

Michael Lee
Teacher

Year 9/10 Representative Soccer
The Year 9/10 representative soccer team has won each game quite convincingly. The full squad, including able assistants Rhys Higgs and Matthew Nadalin, is:- Holly Harrison, Shania Nugent-Hedley, Clare Cummings, Airlie Davis, Chelsea Slater, Sophie Draganic, Bianca Smith, Jessica Smith, Madison McLachlan, Isabella Gray, Gabrielle Kelly, Torrie Boyd, Olivia Kelly, Josie Rae, Tayla Cannon.

Michael Lee
Coach

Dio Golf Championships
On Friday 26 August, the Maitland/Newcastle Diocesan Golf Championships were held at Maitland Golf Course. Congratulations to Michael Sheridan who won the 7/8 division of the competition and Benjamin Balcomb who won the 9/10 division of the competition.

Kerrie Sellers
Teacher
Visit from Our Sister School – Uminohoshi Hamamatsu Japan

From the 10 until 24 August, St Pius hosted 13 girls from our sister school in Japan. As usual the students and families of our great community provided the students from Japan some memorable experiences during their stay. By the amount of tears that flowed at their farewell assembly and their words of thanks, it was quite obvious that the girls had a fabulous time experiencing Australian school and family life. Apart from taking part in some classes with their host sister or brother, the girls also joined in PE dance classes, showed their skills in calligraphy and origami to the Japanese class and learnt to make sausage rolls and lamingtons. It has been another very successful visit and this has been made possible by the wonderful hospitality and generosity of the students and the families of St Pius. I would like to personally thank the following students for taking part in the program: Tayla Baines, Annalise and Patrick Simpson, Jasmine Ross, Henry and Amelia Burke, Nicholas and Christopher Hendry, Joseph, Sean and Asha Ryan, Hattie and Otis Ryan, Sara Farragher-Hoey, Alyssa and Bryce Hiscox, Kristen Orrett and Jessica Smith.

Gabriella Smith
LOTE & Creative Arts Coordinator

Mother’s Dinner

We've had an overwhelming response so far for tickets to the Mother’s Dinner which will be held on Saturday 17 September from 7.00pm till 11.30pm at Kotara Bowling Club. Tickets are $40.00 and there are limited numbers still available. Included is a 2 course meal, guest speaker Cassie Mowbray, 2 bottles of wine on the table (tables are of 10) and a special gift for Year 10 Mothers. The closing date is this Friday 9 September, all you need to do is place in an envelope your $40.00 along with a piece of paper with your name, phone number, any dietary requirements and state whether you are a Year 10 mum and place it in the P&F Box at Reception. You’re welcome to organise a table, just include the above information and $40.00 for each person. For any further information please call Deanne March on 0414830918.
**IMPORTANT DATES for your Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7 September to Friday 9 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Retreat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 September</td>
<td>Year 9 Marine Excursion Shark and Ray Centre (MTEA1/B1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 September</td>
<td>Year 9 Marine Excursion Shark and Ray Centre (MTEA2/B2)</td>
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<td>Thursday 15 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Dance Assessment</td>
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<td>Monday 19 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Trial School Certificate Exam</td>
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<td>Tuesday 20 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Trial School Certificate Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Trial School Certificate Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 23 September</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3</td>
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**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 4957 1032.*

**EFFICIENT READING WORKSHOP Year 10**

*The Efficient Reading Workshop will be conducted at St Pius X High School over 4 afternoons between 3.30pm and 4.30pm during term 4.*

This workshop is designed to equip students with the reading skills necessary for HSC studies. They will:
- read faster
- improve comprehension
- retain information better
- improve concentration
- save reading time in exams
National eConference

Following Jesus - Matthew

Keynote Educators
Fr Chris Monaghan CP and Rev Dorothy Lee
with Fr Nicholas King SJ

TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2011
Venue: St Laurence Centre, Broadmeadow
Morning Tea: 10.00am
Please bring your own lunch
eConference: 10.30am-2.50pm
Facilitator: Tony Womer P: 4979 1215
Education Officer RE & Spirituality CSO Maitland Newcastle
RSVP: 5 September to Jennie Nolan P: 4979 1382
or jennie.nolan@mn.catholic.edu.au

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Pink Diamond Charity Ball

The 4th annual Pink Diamond Ball will raise funds for Catholic Care's Youth Refuges.

Catholic Care's Youth Accommodation and Support Services provides numerous services for youth and young adults who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Catholic Care partners with young people who may be single, partnered, pregnant and/or parenting to work with them to secure one of a variety of accommodation options, and to help them towards independent living and developing and achieving life goals.

The Pink Diamond Ball organising committee are aiming to assist this important work via proceeds from this year's Ball. They are seeking sponsorship in the form of cash donations, as well as prizes for raffles and auction items. If you feel that you or your business can help in any way please contact Josh O'Bryan on 0434 559 147 or Michael Taylor on 0431 602 630 or email pinkdiamondball@gmail.com. Tickets are now on sale from the website www.pinkdiamondball.com.
4TH ANNUAL
PINK DIAMOND
CHARITY BALL

FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2011
WEST LEAGUES CLUB

MONEY BEING RAISED WILL GO TO
CATHOLIC CARE’S YOUTH REFUGES

TICKETS: $120 PER HEAD
($1100 FOR A TABLE OF 10, IF BOOKED BEFORE 23RD SEPTEMBER. TABLE BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE IN A SINGLE TRANSACTION)

FOR INFORMATION OR TICKET BOOKINGS, CALL 0421 957 378
OR BUY ONLINE
WWW.PINKDIAMONDBALL.COM
Meet

Olivia Gollan
Olympic cyclist

Rick McCosker
Test batsman

Gerry Collins
ABC Commentator

The Sporting Spirit

Join a Conversation
Enjoy a good meal

Explore the links
between sport & faith

Sport in Australia is more than just a pastime. It plays a major role in shaping the country’s identity and culture, so much so that sport is often referred to as ‘Australia’s national religion.’


WHEN: 21st October 2011
TIME: 6.30 for 7.00pm
WHERE: Kahibah Bowling Club,
63 Kenibea Ave, Kahibah
COST: $40.00 (Drinks extra)
DRESS: Smart casual
RSVP: 14th October to Colleen or Margaret
P 4930 9601; E twec@ssjil.org.au

An Initiative of the Tenison Woods Education Centre

Disciples under the Southern Cross