Dear Families and Friends of the St Pius X Community,

I was told this story a few years ago. It happened in a Catholic Primary School in our Diocese. A little girl, recently arrived in Australia from a refugee camp in Africa, was listening to a talk given by a visitor to her school. The talk was on conditions in the Solomon Islands and what was being done to help the people there. One slide that was shown was of a pathetic little tin shed that served as the community school. It was of course shown to highlight the terrible plight of the people. On seeing the shed however, the little girl was heard to say, “O isn’t that lovely.” And she meant it!

“It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.” Antoine de Saint-Exupery in Le Petit Prince

The profound truth expressed above is one that is often forgotten in our modern, frantic, materialistic society. Thanks to self-interested big business and the often morally challenged media, people have been spun a wonderful myth. Happiness is out there! All we have to do is find it. How do we find it? Well, if we spend enough money on ourselves we are sure to find it. We can even make the people we love happy by buying things for them. There are clothes and jewellery, smart phones and big screen TV’s, IPads and laptops, coffee machines and breadmakers, food and wine, boat or car, a new home or a holiday house and the list could go on!

It’s not that there is anything inherently wrong in buying any of these things. The danger is simply that people, especially young people, can be brainwashed into believing that they actually do need these things to be happy. Worse, they can become depressed or angry that others have more or better things than they do.

The Christian belief is that happiness comes from knowing God and ourselves as well as we possibly can and in serving others first rather than in serving ourselves. In getting to know God, we enter into and strengthen a relationship with our creator, a relationship that can nurture and sustain us through good times and bad. By getting to know ourselves well, we come to know our gifts, abilities and talents as well as our weaknesses, which in turn allow us to decide a meaningful direction in life. In serving others first we actively share the love of God wherever we are in the world. Happiness is an internal sense of self-worth and of connectedness with our loving creator and with our fellow human beings. What is essential is invisible to the eye.

We are very fortunate to have such committed Staff here at St Pius and indeed in all the Catholic schools of our Diocese. Our Catholic schools make a real difference to the lives of thousands of young people every day. Our Catholic schools work in partnership with parents, parish and the wider community to provide our young people with the time, teaching and example necessary to get to know themselves and to get to know God. In this way our young men and women come to know that it is only with the heart that one can see rightly.
National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program

It is my pleasure to formally welcome, Jacqui Hindmarsh into our school community. Jacqui took up her position as our Pastoral Care Worker late last term and has been very busy ever since. Jacqui has excellent skills and much experience in the pastoral care area and has already proven herself to be an invaluable member of the Student Welfare Team at St Pius.

While the exact role the Pastoral Care Worker is still being developed it includes the following aspects:

* Working closely with the Student Welfare Team to plan for and deliver student resilience and wellbeing services.
* Providing students, their families and staff with support and or appropriate referrals, in difficult situations such as during times of loss and grief or when students are facing personal or emotional challenges.
* Supporting students in the development of their spirituality. This may include providing guidance about spirituality, values and ethical matters and/or appropriate referral of questions of faith/spirituality.
* Mentoring students finding school difficult for various reasons.
* Facilitating activities connecting students with other members of the community.

I see this program as an excellent addition to the services provided by the school to students, parents/carers and staff. I am sure the whole community joins with me in welcoming Jacqui and wishing her all the best for her time and work at St Pius.

Have a peaceful week.

Robert Emery
Principal

Curriculum News

Saturday School of Community Languages

The Saturday School of Community Languages was established in 1978. It is a government secondary school which operates on Saturdays in 16 high schools in Sydney, Wollongong and Newcastle.

The Saturday School gives students the opportunity to study their background language when that language is not available at their own school.

In Newcastle, the Saturday School operates out of Merewether High School. Information about languages courses offered, including application forms, is provided in the 2013 Enrolment Information at: www.sscl.schools.nsw.edu.au

Each year several students from St Pius X take up this opportunity to study their background language.

Year 8 Electives

By now everyone has been informed of the two elective subjects they will begin studying next year.

Unfortunately, not everyone was able to get everything they asked for. The reason is usually because:

- The class will not run because too few students wanted to do it (Entertainment Pathway, Fashion and Textiles, Dance, French, and Japanese.)
- There were too many students for the number of classes we could offer (Hospitality Pathway.)
- One of the requested subjects is only running at the same time as another choice so it is impossible to study both.

I understand that some students may now wish to change electives and, as explained in the handbook and at the
Information Night, this may or may not be possible. If a student wishes to request a change they will need a signed letter from home stating the requested change.

The process I follow is to do nothing about these requests until later in the term by which time I have several requests and this often creates spaces for changes to be made. I will follow the same process in the first five weeks of term where there may be an opportunity to make a few changes. However, please be aware that not all changes are possible and changes after Week 6 Term 1 are rare.

Stephen Dunn
Assistant Principal
Dean of Studies

Ministry Update

Catholic Mission Week
St Pius students gave generously for Catholic Mission Week with a gold coin donation for our out of uniform day. Student representatives also attended a mass to celebrate the great work Catholic Mission does. Thanks to: Samantha Miller, Lachlan Deverell, Jethro Pinney-Elkington, Matthew Delbridge, Eulalia Angeli, Phoebe Cousins, Georgia O’Brian, Grace Dever, Grace Lancaster and Stephanie Mantach.

St Pius Youth Mass
Please join staff and students at Mass this Saturday, 3 November, at St Philip’s Kotara at 5.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a community and to reflect on the year that is passing us by so quickly.

All Saints Feast Day
On Thursday 1 November we will celebrate All Saints Day with a group of Year 10 students attending a picnic day with Years 5 and 6 students from St Columba’s, St James’ and St Kevin’s. An update will follow.

Amanda Mohr
Acting Ministry Coordinator
amanda.mohr@mn.catholic.edu.au

Religious Studies Update

Year of Grace – Being People of Presence
During the first week of term the Religion Coordinators and Ministry Coordinators of the Diocesan Primary and High Schools gathered at the Marist Brothers Retreat in Mittagong to reflect and explore Being People of Presence.

During this Year of Grace the Australian Catholic Bishops have called us to refocus our lives on Jesus Christ, so we know Jesus, not just know about him. Being People of Presence is a twofold call to be more aware of God’s presence in our lives and physically being God’s presence in our world through our compassionate actions.

Experiencing God’s presence in our daily lives requires awareness, listening, relationships, reflection, being receptive and communicative. As Catholic people we need to stop at the end of our busy day and ask ourselves, “Where did I meet God today?” Was it in the kindness of others, the beauty of nature, words spoken or read, family sadness, or simply meeting the challenges of the day?

To be Catholic requires stillness and silence to enable us to reflect on the Grace of our day and our efforts to live compassionately. So find time to reflect, even if it’s just while you enjoy your afternoon cuppa. Remember, “Action without reflection is living busy pointlessly.”
Jesus was always about people, community and compassionate action. This too is our apostolic call. Jesus became human to show us God’s love and show us how to be fully human. When we live out of God’s Spirit we become the Good News – we are the fifth gospel.

Our vocation is to be fully human – and we are gifted with a whole lifetime to bring this about.

Brother Bill Tarrant asked us all to loudly pledge as Catholic people that, “I will never leave another human being where I met them.” This promise reminds us that all our interactions with fellow human beings should be positive and life giving.

Let us Be People of Presence.

Author: Stephen Brown, SFX Belmont

Simone Kelly
Religious Studies Coordinator

Important Dates for Year 10

Dinner Dance
Tuesday 11 December 6.30pm
Newcastle City Hall

Graduation Ceremony
Thursday 13 December 6.30pm
Griffith Duncan Theatre

Last Day
Friday 14 December 9.00am
St Pius X High School

“ThinkUKnow”

St Pius will be hosting an information night for parents presented by the Australian Federal Police in the new Theatre starting at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14 November. This presentation is aimed at parents, carers and teachers. The topics that will be covered include: cyber safety, security, Facebook, mobile phone use and how to keep your children safe. Please RSVP by 7 November to the school via email on: admin@adamstownsp.catholic.edu.au

St Pius X High School
Second Hand Uniforms

With the end of the year fast approaching and Year 10 students leaving, now is the time to advertise your child’s uniform in the Lion. Whether you are wanting to sell or buy second hand uniforms this is the place to do it.

For instructions, see the last page of this Newsletter.

St Francis Xavier’s College
Second Hand Uniforms

We offer a parent to parent contact through our website www.hmltn.mn.catholic.edu.au

Step 1
Click on the ‘Product Catalogue’ link on the website (bottom left).

Step 2
To view items, login. Click on ‘Login Here’ (blue after the 3rd paragraph)
Username: hml.homeshare
Password: hml3032

Step 3
Click on the second hand clothing icon (left under Categories).

Step 4
Phone or email the parent from the list.

If you have any problems please contact the College on phone number 4961 2863.
This is not a school managed initiative!
**Game Training Roadshow**  
On Wednesday 31 October, the school is offering a wonderful opportunity to all students to learn to create their own video games.

By the time students arrive home after the event, they will be able to create their own commercial grade 3D World with hills, ocean, sky and trees which blow in the wind. They will also learn how to import vehicles to make a fun driving game, write simple artificial intelligence code, character animation code as well as learn the 12 most important coding concepts needed to create games for all major platforms, mobile devices and games consoles.

All students would benefit enormously from this experience.

Every student receives links to the Free Commercial Grade Development Software, access to a library of game development resources and video tutorials to use at home valued at over $3500 - these resources include vehicle packs, 3D models, scripts, terrain tools, an amazing weather simulator and a fully scripted 10 level physics game.

The session will be run by the team from Game Training and there will be teacher supervision at all times.

The cost is $45.00 for a 2 hour session. Money is to be paid to the Bursar by Monday 29 October. The Roadshow will be held at St Pius X High School on Wednesday 31 October 2012, at 9.00am.

*Richard Southwell*  
**LT Coordinator**

**Waratah Girls’ Choir**  
Congratulations and good luck to Charlotte Gapps in Year 7, who next month, is travelling to Rome and Prague as a member of the Australian Waratah Girls’ Choir. The highlight of the European tour will be the chance to sing with several other choirs in a Mass at the Vatican. Well done!

*Mandy Willis*  
**Student Coordinator**

---

The Music Department would like to invite you to:  
**Music Night**  
Friday 30 November 2012  
The Factory – St Pius X High School  
7.00pm

**Representative Cheerleading: National Championships**  
On Sunday the 28 October our Cheerleaders competed in the National Cheerleading Championships at Homebush Park Sydney. Ready to bring it, the Junior Girls performed brilliantly receiving 5th place. The senior girls could not be faulted receiving 1st place.  

**Junior Girls Years 7/8:** Phoebe Smith, Emily Dwyer, Leela Harland, Ruby Girvan, Olivia Dominish, Erin Greenwood, Laura Phelan, Tyla Manderson, Capri Archer, Sophie Bartlett, Tayla Cannon, Paris Shields, Sophie Jordan, Elizabeth Redpath, Madelyn Young, Samara Walker and Ruby Rose Vial.  

**Senior Girls Years 9/10:** Madison McLachlan, Gemma Furuhashi, Miranda Griffin, Eden Whitaker, Sarah Charlton, Olivia Power, Alyssa Hiscox, Lara Fuller, Grace Gibson, Elouisa Rae, Rachel Di Rienzo, Julia Davis, Caitlin Wilson, Chelsey Girvan, Abbey Dockrill, Abby Clipperton, Julia Dintino, Kathryn Steyn, Sarah Willoughby, Kate Sutherland, Nova Carias-Cox.  

A huge congratulations to the girls for their efforts. A big thank you to Mrs Tranchini for accompanying the girls to the event. Thank you to all of the parents who assisted on the day with travel and spectating.

*Laura Gallagher and Justine Quarello*  
**Cheerleading Teachers**
**Important Dates for your Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 30 November</td>
<td><strong>Music Night 7.00pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Factory, St Pius X High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 December</td>
<td><strong>Year 10 Dinner Dance 6.30pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Newcastle City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 13 December</td>
<td><strong>Year 10 Graduation Ceremony 6.30pm</strong>&lt;br&gt;Griffith Duncan Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14 December</td>
<td><strong>Year 10 Last Day</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 December</td>
<td><strong>Last day for Years 7, 8 and 9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canteen Roster**

If you are unable to attend your allotted day, please contact Janelle Oliver or Sharon Hart at the Main Office on 4957 1032 or the Canteen directly on 4013 2629.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 5 November</th>
<th>Tuesday 6 November</th>
<th>Wednesday 7 November</th>
<th>Thursday 8 November</th>
<th>Friday 9 November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Francine Webber</td>
<td>Leane Cramer</td>
<td>Catherine Ryan</td>
<td>Clare Howlett</td>
<td>Zelka Batkovic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise Gow</td>
<td>Tomasella Consani</td>
<td>Louise Standing</td>
<td>Kelly Brands</td>
<td>Melinda Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Smith</td>
<td>Louise Moonen</td>
<td>Janice Vandenberg</td>
<td>Sandy Mantach</td>
<td>Alison Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Catherine Whelan</td>
<td>Leanne O'Leary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 12 November</td>
<td>Tuesday 13 November</td>
<td>Wednesday 14 November</td>
<td>Thursday 15 November</td>
<td>Friday 16 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Davis</td>
<td>Anne Marie Sheridan</td>
<td>Linda Curk</td>
<td>Louise Ptolemy</td>
<td>Sue Morrissey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deanne March</td>
<td>Vicki Scuilli</td>
<td>Ala Marks</td>
<td>Patsy Maher</td>
<td>Kerry Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leanne de Groot</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leanne Haberl</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sporting News

NSW All Schools Athletics
The NSWCCC Athletics Championships were held recently at Homebush Athletic Centre. Rose Davies (Year 7) continued on her winning ways in the 13yrs 1500m event. With a time of 4.42 she yet again broke another record. Rose now has the St Pius X, Maitland/Newcastle, NSWCCC and NSW Allschools record for the 1500m. Madison McLachlan (Year 10) won the 16yrs pole vault and Emily Whelan (Year 7) finished 19th in the 13yrs High Jump.

Fernleigh 15
Over 950 athletes assembled on St Pius top oval on Sunday 21 October for the Inaugural Fernleigh 15. This 15km event starting at Adamstown, traversing through Kahibah, Whitebridge, Redhead and Jewels before finishing at the old Belmont station included a running, walking and wheelchair category. 28 students from St Pius volunteered their Sunday morning acting as ushers, ground attendants, check in crew, caterers and even DJ’s to assist with the smooth running of this event.

David Pitfield
Representative Sport

Catholic Women’s League of Adamstown
The Catholic Women’s League of Adamstown is holding their Annual Diocese Mass. They are a great group of ladies who do so much good in the community. They would like to ask ‘the younger generation’ of Catholic women to their Mass so their gifts will be known to the ‘women church leaders of the future’. No need to RSVP, simply turn up. I know Bishop Bill would also be heartened by your presence.

Catholic Women’s League Australia, New South Wales Inc
Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving

Friday 16 November 2012

11.00am

St Columba’s Church
153 Lockyer Street
Adamstown

Presider: Bishop Bill Wright.

‘All are welcome in this place’
Alinta will be opening their shop from Monday 5 November to Friday 9 November 2012, for uniform fittings for Year 7, 2013. For any enquiries please logon to Alinta Uniform Shop website: alintaapparel.com.au and book a fitting time. The shop will also be open on Monday 21 January 2013 and Wednesday 23 January 2013 for Layby pick-ups or last minute items that need to be purchased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS UNIFORM : 7 - 10</th>
<th>GIRLS UNIFORM : 7 - 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sizes</td>
<td>Price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/S Formal Shirt All Sizes</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal Shorts All Sizes</td>
<td>$46.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal Trousers All Sizes</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WINTER UNIFORM</th>
<th>SPORTS UNIFORM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sizes</td>
<td>Prices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knitted Jumper</td>
<td>10 - 16 $75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 - 28 $85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polar Fleece Top All Sizes</td>
<td>$46.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESSORIES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sizes</td>
<td>Prices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Socks - white anklet (1pk) All Sizes</td>
<td>$5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Socks - long blue All Sizes</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfibre Tights - grey All Sizes</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather Belt All Sizes</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SALE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCESSORIES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sizes</td>
<td>Prices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Fitted Pants</td>
<td>was $59.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SHOES**

School Shoes – to be black lace-up, able to be polished leather school shoes which do not extend over the ankle or have a platform. The leather should cover the whole upper foot for safety. Boots, joggers and sneakers are not permitted.

Sports Shoes/PE Practical – to be predominantly white, and should have laces or velcro straps, and be supportive of the feet during exercise.

**PLEASE NOTE**

- Sizes not carried are available by order, however, production time (usually 90 days) must be allowed, and a 50% non-refundable deposit must be made upon order.
- For sizes 4XL and L22 and over, a $10 surcharge will apply

Payments can be made with Cash, Credit Card or Debit Credit Cards only.

*Please contact your bank regarding individual access and availability of these facilities.*

3/09/2012 2:33 PM

Prices subject to change without notice.
**Second Hand Uniforms**

A large number of parents have expressed the need to have second hand uniforms available. St Pius X High School will be running a new service which will enable all parents to buy/sell second hand uniform items. The service will work in the following way:

1. Parent/s will fill out a form with the details of the item/s required to buy/sell and supply a contact number. This form will be available from reception, or alternatively you may email your details to admin@adamstownsp.catholic.edu.au.

2. These details will then be advertised in a special “Second Hand Uniform” section which will be on the back page of each newsletter, which commences with this Newsletter.

3. The advertisement will run for a month or two editions of the newsletter.

4. Parent/s will simply contact the number supplied and deal direct with the person buying/selling.

Please note that no second hand uniform items will be kept by St Pius X High School. For any further information regarding Second Hand Uniforms please contact reception.

---

**Second Hand Uniforms**

Name (optional):………………………………………………………………………………………………

☐ Buy    ☐ Sell (please tick)

Item:………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Contact Number:……………………………………………………………………………………………………
## Second Hand Uniforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Buy/Sell</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anita</td>
<td>4952 5957</td>
<td>Boys Grey Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts Jumper, Blue Shirt, Blue Shirt, Sports Jacket</td>
<td>Small, Medium, Large</td>
<td>Sell, Sell, Sell</td>
<td>$15.00, $25.00, $20.00, $35.00, $10.00, $10.00, $30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zelka</td>
<td>0412 068 698</td>
<td>Sports Shorts, Sports Shorts, Sports Shorts, Sports Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts, Boys Grey Shorts, Long Boys Trousers</td>
<td>Medium, Small, Medium</td>
<td>Sell, Sell, Sell, Sell, Sell</td>
<td>$20.00, $20.00, $15.00, $15.00, $25.00, $25.00, $25.00, $25.00, $25.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>