Dear Families and Friends of the St Pius X Community,

SEVDEV Panel Visit
The SEVDEV Panel will be at St Pius all this week. SEVDEV stands for School Evaluation & Development and is a process schools go through every five years to ensure that they continue to perform at the highest possible levels of effectiveness and efficiency in all aspects of their operation. All parents and staff and a random selection of students were asked to complete a survey as part of SEVDEV earlier this year. The results of that survey have already been reported to staff and to parents at last week’s P&F Meeting. The results are available to any member of the school community. Just phone the main office if you would like a copy.

The SEVDEV process has been ongoing throughout this term as all KLAs underwent a very rigorous, curriculum specific, process. During this week, the SEVDEV Panel turn their attention to all other aspects of school operation from its leadership, organization & management, to its classroom teaching, to its WHS system, to policies & procedures especially Child Protection, to school finances and so on. The panel will conduct interviews with staff, with parents & with students. Every aspect of school operation will be examined.

Sometime in Term 4 we will receive a report from the SEVDEV Panel that will identify those things we are doing really well and those areas we need to improve in. SEVDEV is a vital process for schools to engage in. It provides a snapshot taken by an external panel which includes curriculum experts from our Diocese as well as from outside. This snapshot helps us to strategically plan for continuous improvement. I take this opportunity to thank all members of the St Pius community who have been or will be involved in the SEVDEV process. I also extend the school community’s thanks and appreciation to all members of the SEVDEV Panel and to all the Validators who have taken part. Your professionalism and expertise are greatly appreciated.

1:1 Computer Access post-DER
As you are aware, we are currently discussing and planning 1:1 computer access for students for 2014 onwards. Just by way of update, I present below a dot point summary of where we are so far:
- The survey data was summarised in last Lion
- Management Team has met to discuss possibilities
- Staff are having input
- Trial of Latitude 10 Tablets was held with a “test” class all day on Thursday 5 September – overall students had very favourable response to the tablets & connection & performance of the tablets were very good.
- I am committed to only asking parents to pay for a device once per child at Pius. There was some talk of introducing tablets at the start of Yr7 & 9 simultaneously. I see this as too expensive for parents.
• Some schools have looked at cheaper tablets and even cheaper laptops. This is false economy as far as we are concerned. The cheaper devices will not provide all that is required and will probably not last the required duration.
• The school has developed a costing model for the 1:1 program – details will be published after further staff discussion.
• Lifetime of tablet devices is 3 years maximum.
• We could implement tablets in Yr7 or Yr8 and then students have them for the following 3 years.
•Informal discussion with SFX suggests that they are looking at starting their own program in Yr11. **Please do not quote me on that.** I do not and cannot speak for SFX. However, getting devices in Yr10 so our students can take them into Yr11 is probably not an option.
• We are seriously looking at tablets starting in Yr8, so our students will have them in Yrs8-10.
• **No decision has yet been made** – if you have further suggestions please email me.

**End of Term**
Thank you to all staff and students for your great efforts and enthusiasm this term. Thanks also to the many parents who have volunteered their time and energy this term in many different ways. It has been a very testing and busy term but also a very productive one. Do have a safe, enjoyable and refreshing holiday. Term 4 starts for all students and staff on **Tuesday 8 October**.

I should also inform you that I will be on leave for the first week of Term 4. Mr Stephen Dunn will be Acting Principal during this time.

Have a lovely week.

Robert Emery
Principal

**SAFETY WARNING**
Parents are reminded that the Car Park off Fletcher Street is not to be used as a drop-off and pick-up area. This car park is only for Staff & Visitor use as a parking area. This is for very obvious safety reasons. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>21 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHILD PROTECTION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Catholic Schools Office promotes an absolute commitment to the safety, welfare and well being of all children, particularly those attending the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

“Protecting children is one of our most sacred trusts.”
(Bishop Bill Wright, 2012)

Diocesan schools comply with a range of state legislation designed to protect children, including:

- The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998
- The Ombudsman Act 1974 (Part 3A)

There are also key Church guidelines that promote the protection of children, including:

- Towards Healing: Principles and procedures in responding to complaints of abuse against personnel of the Catholic Church in Australia (2010)
- Integrity in the Service of the Church: A Resource Document of Principles and Standards for Lay Workers in the Catholic Church in Australia (2011)

The Catholic Schools Office has specific policies and standards to heighten the protection of children, including:

- The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Reporting Child Protection Concerns Policy
- Child Protection Code of Professional Standards for Catholic School Employees

In 2005 the Diocese established a centralised, expert child protection team, now known as the Diocesan Child Protection Unit, which oversees child protection practices in all Catholic schools in the Diocese, as well as providing a range of preventative services and responding to allegations of abuse.

You can contact the Diocesan Child Protection Unit on (Ph. 4979 1390), or find out about it at: [http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/bishop/dcppo.htm](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/bishop/dcppo.htm)

PREVENTION IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

Screening
Catholic Schools Office is working with the Office of the Children’s Guardian to implement the new Working with Children Check (‘Check’). Before anybody is employed in ‘child-related work’ (as either a paid employee, self-employed or volunteer), they must have a valid Check. Catholic Schools Office verifies the person’s status through an online service provided by the Children’s Guardian before they are allowed to commence work.

Any person who is considered too great a risk to remain in child-related work, will be barred. Barred persons will not be allowed to work in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

There is a staged roll out of the new Check for existing employees, that is due to be completed by 31 December 2017.

Training
The Catholic Schools Office requires that all permanently employed staff complete a full day of child protection training presented by the Diocesan Child Protection Unit. Casual staff are required to complete a half-day training
Further, principals and assistant principals provide regular child protection updates and reminders as part of the schools in-service training and professional development.

In terms one and two of 2012 the Catholic Schools Office and the Diocesan Child Protection Unit provided a full day refresher in child protection for all Diocesan schools.

RESPONSE IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

Reporting
Staff in Diocesan schools are mandatory reporters. This means they are lawfully required to report to the Community Services Helpline if they have reasonable grounds to suspect a child is at risk of significant harm from abuse or neglect and those grounds are identified in the course of, or from the person’s work. Also the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Reporting Child Protection Concerns Policy obliges all members of the Diocese to report any child protection concerns to their supervisor or Principal to be assessed as possible risk of significant harm reports to the Helpline.

The Diocesan Child Protection Unit and School Principals will contact NSW Police if they believe a criminal act has occurred.

As parents of children attending a Diocesan school you are encouraged to discuss any child protection concerns you have with your school’s principal. If you believe the matter is not being addressed appropriately, you have the right to contact the Diocesan Child Protection Unit to discuss your concerns.

As parents you also have the right to report your concerns to the Community Services Helpline or NSW Police at any time you believe it necessary.

Investigating
All allegations of child abuse or neglect are taken seriously by the Diocese.

Where the alleged conduct involves a person associated with Catholic Schools Office or a Diocesan school, including employees and volunteers, then the allegations are investigated at a level commensurate with the seriousness of the allegations.

Where an alleged conduct is minor, the Principal of the school, oversighted by the Diocesan Child Protection Unit, may undertake a local investigation. Where the alleged conduct is more serious, a trained investigator from the Diocesan Child Protection Unit will conduct the investigation. This may involve oversight by the NSW Ombudsman.

When there is an allegation made a thorough risk assessment is conducted and appropriate safety measures are put in place.

If your child is a witness or otherwise involved in such an investigation, the Diocesan Child Protection Unit will contact you as the parent, explain what is happening and request your permission to interview your child. The Diocesan Child Protection Unit prefers to interview your child at home with you present.

Child protection investigations are confidential. As parents you will only be advised of an investigation or the outcome of an investigation if there is a legitimate need to know.

Prepared by the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle / Zimmerman Services (c. August 201
**Curriculum**
**Delay in the NAPLAN results for Years 7 and 9**
The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has advised of a delay in the national distribution of NAPLAN student reports to schools. ACARA identified an error in the placement of the national average marker in the Year 5 and 7 NAPLAN student reports for Language Conventions. ACARA is devising a strategy to address the issue, which will delay the distribution of student reports to schools.

It is anticipated that the 2013 NAPLAN student reports will be delivered to schools across Australia from 8–11 October 2013, with distribution of the reports to parents to occur in the week Monday 14 October to Friday 18 October 2013.

*Stephen Dunn*
Dean of Studies

**Ministry**
**Reflection**
The following is the introduction to our Care Group Prayer for Thursday:

Today we remember Karl Kulper, a homeless man who died in Sydney in 2002 after living for 25 years in a bus shelter outside St Vincent’s Hospital. Even though Karl was offered other accommodation, he chose to stay in his makeshift home and became well known to many people. Each night, Karl would meet the nurses at the door of St Vincent’s as they came off late-night shifts and escort them to their buses or cars. Karl showed kindness to everyone and no one questioned or judged him. Today, on the wall of the bus stop are the words: “A resident of St Vincent’s bus stop for 25 years. Karl, in your bus stop in heaven, may you rest in peace.”

Karl Kulpher isn’t a recognised saint celebrated in the official Church calendar. However, the people of Darlinghurst do remember him as their saint. We need to be aware of the goodness of others especially in people whom we are less likely to look for it.

**Upcoming Dates**
**Year 9 Leadership Day**
Thursday 24 October
St James’ Primary School Hall, Kotara

**Year 10 Graduation Ceremony**
Monday 9 December
7.00 pm Panthers Newcastle

Have a safe and restful holiday.

*Tony Worner*
Ministry Coordinator

**Pastoral Care**
A young couple getting married recently, asked me what I thought was the secret to having a successful marriage. They have both experienced divorce in families and were taking their impending marriage vows very seriously, doing some “market research.” They were trying to ensure that divorce wasn’t going to happen to them. I think that the answer has to have two parts to be understood.

The first is that everyone feels the pinch at sometime and when we do there needs to be a level of understanding that we are all human, and we make mistakes. Learning that little word sorry is the most important word, and forgiveness is as easy as saying, ‘I am willing to forgive, even if I don’t feel like it’.

The second part is that God can and will help, in all our troubles. There is nothing so insurmountable, no mountain so unmovable that He cannot move it or change it, into whatever He wants it to be. In Romans 11: 33-36, it tells us that “God is rich” and that He is all knowing, understanding, and that we can give Him nothing. In fact it is He who gives us something, He gives us what we need. God loves us more than anyone can ever love us. So He wants what is best for us always.
So when something, no matter what it is, or how terrible or difficult it seems, causes us to think that there is no way out, the challenge for us is to simply let God in.

We will never have all the answers, life will be difficult, but if we trust and say Help me God, in whatever we are facing, then it will be alright. Have a relaxing holiday and take some time to breathe and smile!

*Bronwyn Melville  
Pastoral Care Worker*

**Sport News**

**International Representatives**

Congratulations to Daniel Eisenhauer (10.3) and Lee Panteleos (9.1) who have been chosen in the Australian Under 15 Futsal team to tour Brazil in November and December. Well done!

**National Cross Country**

Congratulations to Rose Davies (8.6) who recently finished 4th in the National Cross Country championships held at Symonds Plains, Launceston Tasmania. Rose competed in the 16 years age group and will be able to compete in this category again next year. Well done Rose.

**Handball Championships**

Thanks goes to Lings Tropies for donating a trophy to St Pius for the Handball Championship.

**St Pius X Mothers’ Dinner**

Hopefully you all received your invitation to the Annual Mothers’ Dinner last week. 20 tickets are still available – remember that a table is not secured until the $65.00 per head has been paid. If paying by cheque, please make them payable to ‘St Pius X P&F.’

To raise funds, we will be holding a raffle and having prize balloons on the night. If you are able to donate something or have a friend or family member who may be able to help us out, it would be very much appreciated. Everyone who assists will be thanked formally in the Lion Newsletter after the event. For any enquiries please contact Deanne March on 0414 830 918.
## 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</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 October</td>
<td>8 October</td>
<td>9 October</td>
<td>10 October</td>
<td>11 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC</strong></td>
<td>Anne Marie Sheridan</td>
<td>Ala Marks</td>
<td>Clare Howlett</td>
<td>Rhonda Dockril</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOLIDAY</td>
<td>Jane Lynch</td>
<td>Janice Vandenberg</td>
<td>Kelly Brands</td>
<td>Amanda Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fran Stanbridge</td>
<td>Linda Curk</td>
<td>Sandy Mantach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 October</td>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>16 October</td>
<td>17 October</td>
<td>18 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Gordon</td>
<td>Kathy Adam</td>
<td>Angie Moylan</td>
<td>Leane Haberl</td>
<td>Sue Morrissey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gai Lovell</td>
<td>Susanna Smart</td>
<td>Kerry Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lara Mitchell</td>
<td>Donna McMahon</td>
<td>Karen Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Melanie Fityus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASPIRE
MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA
PRESENTS
MASTER CLASS
HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS
23RD SEPTEMBER - 26TH SEPTEMBER 2013
Workshops have been designed to provide another opportunity for students in our diocesan schools to have access to creative and performing arts education. As well as being a fun way to spend a day or more in the school holidays, the Master Class series provides students with another avenue to build skills musically and with like-minded peers.

Students from Years 5 – 12 are invited to register their interest in these one day workshops regardless of whether or not you have had any prior experience with the ASPIRE program.

1. **MUSICAL THEATRE 23RD SEPT**
   Working with a vocal and dance director performers will learn vocals and choreography for two musical theatre songs as well as developing skills in movement, singing and performance through acting. This is a fun workshop designed to help aspiring performers realise their potential on stage!

2. **SELECTION OF SCRIPTS 24TH SEPT**
   This workshop focuses on approaches to working with scripts. Using a variety of text from Shakespeare to Beckett this workshop will help participants make decisions about character, blocking, movement and vocal delivery.

3. **SINGING A SONG REALLY WELL 25TH SEPT**
   Most people can sing. But what does it take to really make an audience sit up and take notice of what you’re singing? This workshop will help young performers, regardless of singing ability, in performing a song in an engaging and entertaining way.

4. **DANCE POWER 25TH SEPT**
   This workshop looks at taking choreography to an emotional level. Using both classical and popular music you’ll spend the workshop looking at how your movement can affect an audience and how the simplest dance routine can make the most compelling performance piece.
Correction for phone number for Alinta: 4957 7651
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:........................................................................................................................
<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>Zora</td>
<td>0416 167 831</td>
<td>Jumper</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Shirt</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Shorts</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boys Shirt</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boys Shirt</td>
<td>14 (x2)</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(all in excellent condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– hardly worn)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>