Dear Families and Friends of the St Pius X Community,

**Farewell to Tony Worner**
As many in our community would already know, Mr Tony Worner, our Ministry Coordinator, has been on Leave for the last few weeks. During that time Tony saw a position in another Diocese that interested him. He applied and was successful at gaining that position. Tony’s official last day with St Pius was last Friday.

Tony has been a very professional teacher and Ministry Coordinator in his two years at St Pius. In this short time he has made a real difference in the lives of students, staff and parents. Tony is a man of very strong faith and has been an excellent role model for all of us. Tony was responsible for re-establishing weekly student Masses here at Pius, among many other things.

I am sure you will join with me in wishing Tony and his family all the best as they move to and re-establish themselves in Toowoomba, Queensland. Tony will be responsible for the spiritual and faith formation of staff in the schools of the Diocese, a ministry for which he has great passion and ability.

**Celebrations at St Pius**
On Wednesday 4 March we celebrated the Commissioning of our School Leaders for 2015 and presented Diocesan RoSA Awards to five students from last year’s Year 10. The Commissioning Liturgy was joyous and uplifting. I congratulate all of our leaders for 2015 and challenge them to perform their roles in a kind, uplifting and life-giving manner.

In 2014, St Pius had five students, who gained sufficiently outstanding results to be awarded a Diocesan RoSA Award. Those students are: Tayla Cannon, Eliza Cook, Alex Delbridge, Sam Harrison & Elizabeth Redpath. To win one of these awards students must attain Grade A in six or seven core subjects in Year 10. Out of over 1500 students in Year 10 in 2014, only 36 gained such high results and five of those students came from St Pius. We are very proud of them and proud of our teaching staff as well. Mr Gerard Mowbray, Assistant Director of Schools, was on hand to present these awards. Well done to our very talented award winners.

On Tuesday 10 March we celebrated the opening of our new Stage 2 Facilities and the Sr Marie Centre. Many special guests attended this opening ceremony, with Bishop Bill, Bishop of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, doing the official opening and blessing of the new facilities. Again the Liturgy was beautiful. During the Liturgy Bishop Bill re-dedicated the Sr Marie Centre to Sr Marie Therese Fahey. For those unfamiliar with the influence of Sr Marie on St Pius, please follow the link below and page-down to gain some insight into her importance to the St Pius community.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Mrs Pam Wynn, our Acting Ministry Coordinator, who has produced two wonderful liturgical celebrations in two weeks and has overseen the organisation and successful running of these two extremely important events in our school calendar. Pam has done a top class job. Thanks also to everyone who was involved in any way with these celebrations. A special thanks must go to the Music Staff and their wonderful musicians and vocalists. The music and singing was absolutely delightful.

**Quality Teaching Framework**
Continuing with the explanation of educational jargon contained in our School Improvement Plan 2015, this week I shall look at the nature and importance of the Quality Teaching Framework.

The Quality Teaching Framework (QTF) identifies eighteen elements that are indicators of quality teaching practice. These elements are things like “Deep Knowledge”, “Engagement” and “Cultural Knowledge” and so on. Each of these eighteen elements has been shown through educational research to make a significant difference to the learning of students when present in lessons on a regular basis over an extended period of time.

The QTF provides teachers with a common vocabulary to use to talk about teaching and learning. It guides teachers in the planning and development of lessons, activities, units of work and assessments. It provides teachers with a tool they can use to reflect upon their own teaching practice and improve upon it.

At St Pius over the last three years staff have been involved in professional learning programs to assist them to become familiar and comfortable with QTF. Our Studies Coordinators Team has worked with Professor Jenny Gore from the University of Newcastle, one of the founders of QTF, to enhance their knowledge and skill in using the framework. Last year, several small groups of teachers worked together observing one another’s lessons, videoing the lessons and then analysing the classroom practices in order to understand how those practices might subsequently be improved. As you can imagine this requires a great deal of professional trust among staff. The ultimate benefits of this collaboration are improvements in student learning.

Next week I shall explain the concept of a Professional Learning Community (PLC).

**School Dance**
There will be a School Dance on Friday 20 March from 7.00 to 9.30pm at St Therese’s Primary School, New Lambton. Thank you to Mr Rufo, Principal, of St Therese’s for allowing us to hold the Dance in the school hall.

Details of the theme and arrangements have been provided to students, along with very clear expectations about behaviour and the wearing of safe footwear. All students are expected to take great care to ensure that the facilities we have hired are treated with the utmost respect.

The school has booked a DJ and security for the evening. A portable breathalysing unit may also be used on the night. We will need parental support – for extra security and for jobs such as Canteen and Cloakroom. Parents do not do supervision inside the dance area. These Dances are a major fundraiser for the school, so parental support is greatly appreciated. If you can help even for a small amount of time, please contact the school and leave your name and contact details. We will get back to you. Thank you very much in anticipation.
Visitors Policy Main points:
The following are the main points contained in the school’s Visitors Policy.

- Whilst we actively encourage an inviting and open school, the safety of our students, staff and resources remains our highest priority.
- Visitors are defined as all people other than staff members, students, and parents/carers involved in the task of delivering or collecting children at the start or end of the school day.
- All visitors will be required to report to the Administration Office prior to undertaking any activity within the school. They will be signed in as a “Visitor” and given a “Visitor” badge which they must wear at all times within the school. Similarly, visitors will be required to report to the Administration Office at the end of their visit to sign out.

Have a great week!

Robert Emery
Principal
Capital Funding – Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How many Catholic schools and students are there in NSW?**
   At the end of 2014, there were 584 Catholic schools in NSW, educating almost 254,000 students. Catholic schools educate one in every five NSW students (21%).

2. **How are NSW Catholic school buildings and facilities funded?**
   Capital funding - which is used to build, expand or upgrade NSW’s Catholic schools - comes from parents, governments (Federal and State) and the parish community.
   The majority of capital funding comes from parents repaying loans.

3. **How much capital funding does the NSW Government provide to all schools each year?**
   On a per student basis, the NSW Government allocates $524 per government school student in capital funding for new projects while Catholic schools are allocated $30 per student.
   In the 2014-15 Budget, the NSW Government provided:
   - $399.1 million for capital projects in the state’s 2,196 government schools, and
   - $54.6 million for the state’s 974 non-government schools.
   Of the $54.6 million allocated to non-government schools, $43 million is needed to subsidise interest payments on loans taken out for projects commenced before 2006-07 under the now-closed Interest Subsidy Scheme (ISS).
   This leaves just $11.6 million to fund new capital projects in Catholic ($7.6 million) and independent ($4 million) school sectors.

4. **What happened to the Interest Subsidy Scheme?**
   The ISS was introduced in 1968 to help non-government schools borrow to finance capital projects. By 2006/07, it was costing the NSW Government $67 million per annum.
   It was closed to new loans that year and a new program - the Building Grants Assistance Scheme (BGAS) - was introduced to provide cash grants to non-government schools.

5. **How is the BGAS funded?**
   As schools loans expire and interest subsidies are no longer required, the money that becomes available is redirected into the BGAS to ensure that $67 million continues to be available to non-government schools each year (either as interest subsidies or grants).
   However, since 2012, that is no longer the case and only $54.6 million is now available (2014-15).
6. What happened to the BGAS in 2012?

In the 2012-13 Budget, the NSW Government capped capital funding to non-government schools by stopping any further money being redirected into the BGAS.

This has meant that the amount available as grants to Catholic and independent schools each year remains at around $11 million, despite enrolments growing each year in both sectors.

Catholic school enrolments have grown by 10,000 in that time – the equivalent of 12 new secondary schools or 400 classrooms.

7. Where will the fastest growth in enrolments occur by 2031?

In terms of the number of students, the local government areas predicted to have the fastest enrolment growth are Blacktown, Liverpool and Camden. These are geographically large council areas with space to expand.

The real pressure is in established areas such as Parramatta, the City of Sydney and Canada Bay where a boom in apartment living has increased the number of families living in areas where there are geographic limits to the number and size of schools.

8. Why do NSW Catholic schools need capital funding support from the NSW Government?

By 2031, all NSW school sectors will need to accommodate an additional 267,000 students (according to the Government’s figures).

NSW Catholic schools will need to create an additional 58,000 places to accommodate their share of this growth - the equivalent of more than 2300 new classrooms.

Most of this expansion will be funded by Catholic school parents, as has been the case for decades.

But the increasing cost of land, construction and education technology means parents will not be able to meet the costs of supporting enrolment growth to the same degree.

The next NSW Government must lift its capital funding support to Catholic schools to help them accommodate this additional growth – otherwise, the Government will be forced to build and staff more new government schools than it has currently planned for.

9. How does financial support to Catholic schools save NSW taxpayers money?

It is financially more sensible for the NSW Government to help Catholic schools accommodate their share of enrolment growth.

This is because Catholic school parents meet most of the capital costs, thus easing the pressure on state taxpayers.

If Catholic schools do not have enough places to accommodate their current proportion of this growth in students, the Government will be forced to spend more taxpayer funds to build and staff more new government schools than currently planned.
LABOR PLEDGES $1.3 BILLION AND SMOOTHER PLANNING FOR SCHOOLS & TAFES

Opposition Leader Luke Foley officially launched Labor’s election campaign on Sunday 1 March, promising to cut planning red tape for schools and allocate $1.3 billion in additional capital funding for schools and TAFE Colleges over the next decade.

It is hoped some of the additional capital funding will be intended for Catholic and other non-government schools.

Mr Foley said a Labor Government would introduce a uniform planning code for schools and a cross-sectoral schools growth task force. Both initiatives have been advocated by CECNSW to both the Government and Opposition (the Liberal-National government is yet to officially launch its campaign).

A uniform planning code would give non-government schools authorities greater certainty because it would ensure new schools or major construction projects could not be rejected or distorted by the red tape requirement of individual councils; if a school met the requirements of the new code, it would have to be approved.

“Our children’s education must not be hostage for years to local red tape,” Mr Foley said. “We’ll use the new planning code to ensure that new schools have better facilities that works for parents and communities.”

Mr Foley also said a Labor government would ensure every new school built would include childcare or before and after school care facilities on site so that parents could avoid the ‘double drop-off’ of childcare and school. He said new schools would be modern multi-purpose education precincts that made the best use of use of scarce land and enabled the wider community to also use school infrastructure.

CECNSW also welcomes Mr Foley’s plan to create a cross-sectoral Schools Growth Task Force to bring the key players from the Catholic, government and independent sectors together to plan for growth by identifying the priority areas.

DID YOU KNOW?

47 The number of seats needed to form majority government
14 The net number of seats the Liberal-National coalition must drop to lose government
24 The number of seats Labor must gain to win government
CECNSW SAYS NEXT NSW GOVERNMENT MUST LIFT CAPITAL FUNDING TO ALL SCHOOLS

On 27 February, Catholic Education Commission NSW Executive Director Brian Croce called on the next NSW Government to increase capital funding to all school sectors to accommodate the forecast 267,000 increase in NSW school enrolments by 2031.

CECNSW’s media campaign started with a story on p7 of the Daily Telegraph and reports on breakfast radio bulletins. It was followed up by a media release, fact sheet and FAQs to metropolitan, regional and suburban media and also to Catholic media and stakeholders.

The key messages we highlighted are worth repeating here:

- The NSW birth rate is now 10,000 per year higher than it was in 2010. That means 500 more kindergarten classes than in 2010 are needed each year - which must then become 500 additional Year 1 classes the following year, then 500 Year 2 classes the year after that, and so on.
- The NSW Government predicts there will be 267,000 more school students in 2031 than there were in 2014. If the proportion of Catholic school students remains the same, Catholic schools will have to accommodate 58,000 additional students. This will require the construction of more than 2,300 extra classrooms, including perhaps 20 new schools.
- Catholic schools educate 21% of the state’s students, but receive just 2% of the capital funding allocated by the NSW Government to all schools.
- Last year, Catholic schools received just $7.6 million in capital funding from the NSW Government. NSW government schools receive $399.1 million for capital works in 2014-15.
- Expressed another way - government schools are allocated the equivalent of $524 per student and Catholic schools just $30 per student.

CECNSW applauds the NSW Government and Opposition for announcing several new government schools during this election campaign. But both sides know that the government sector alone cannot meet the forecast growth in enrolments.

The next NSW Government needs to help non-government schools grow so that they can continue to enrol their proportion of students into the future - otherwise, taxpayers will be forced to foot the bill for far more classrooms and teachers than they have currently envisaged.

The state of the parties in the NSW Parliament:

- Liberal-National - 60 seats
- Labor - 23 seats
- Independents - 9 seats
- Greens - 1 seat

SCHOOLS AND PLANNING - THREE KEY ISSUES

Over the next three weeks, CECNSW will highlight a significant schools-related issue that needs to be addressed by the NSW planning system. This week, it’s long-term strategic planning for Sydney.

It has been NSW Government policy for some time to encourage more apartment living in existing suburbs and slow the release of land on Sydney’s outskirts.

There are good reasons to encourage this trend - it slows urban sprawl and reduces commuting distances, apartments are more affordable than houses, people can stay closer to their family and friends, etc.

But successive governments have overlooked the impact this is having on existing schools. Apartments increase the number of people living in the same suburb (‘population density’ in planning speak) and this puts pressure on local schools - many built in the days when families lived in single storey homes on separate blocks.

The challenge now is to build new schools or expand existing ones in new apartment areas like Parramatta, Canada Bay and the inner city to cater for the new families who want their children to have a Catholic education. The City of Sydney local government area, for example, will need to create enough school places for virtually double its existing school population by 2031.

Suitable school sites are scarce, and that makes acquiring land for new schools difficult and expensive - for both the government and non-government sectors.

The NSW Government needs to identify and protect suitable sites for future school growth and accompanying infrastructure needs (e.g. playing fields, transport links) in established, as well as new, areas. It also needs to work more closely with non-government schools authorities to better plan new and expanded schools.

And it needs to ensure all planning and infrastructure agencies, local councils, government and non-government schools authorities share consistent data, such as official residential growth projections, to make future planning and capital spending decisions.
Cyberbullying Talk
All years had the opportunity on Friday 13 March to listen to guest speakers from the Hunter Community Legal Centre regarding the criminal law implications of sexting and cyber bullying using mobile phones and social media. The presentation was very informative for students.
Parents and students can access this site for more information www.cybersmart.gov.au

Beyond Bullying Program
St Pius X has registered for the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 20 March.
The House Coordinators will work with Year 7 theory classes during this week regarding the topic of bullying. There will be strategies for dealing with bullying on student notices each day.
St Pius X has an anti-bullying policy and this can be found on our school website. I ask that parents have a discussion at home with their child and if there are concerns regarding school bullying to please contact your child's house coordinator.
Further information on this topic can be found at www.bullynoway.gov.au
The week will end with Harmony Day on Saturday 21 March where we celebrate Australia’s diversity and recognise that everyone has the right to live in peace.

Carmel Wright
Assistant Principal – Dean of Students
carmel.wright@mn.catholic.edu.au

Important Dates

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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>Term 1 concludes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20 April</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>22 April</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – Staff Spirituality Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>24 April</td>
<td>Year 7 (2016) Enrolments conclude</td>
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Science Competitions
All students are invited to take part in both (or either) of the two Science competitions being offered this year. Both competitions challenge students to think critically and solve scientific problems and are held during school time in Term 2. Students need to pay their money to the Bursar by the last day of term (Thursday 2 April).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>BIG SCIENCE</td>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSW ICAS</td>
<td>3 June</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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Mandy Willis
Fahey House Coordinator
Pastoral Care News

Vinnies News:
The St Vincent de Paul social justice group have several things planned for the end of this term.
See the notice boards in the entrance to the factory wing and in student services for information about what’s happening.
Visits to the nursing home will continue and next week there will be preparations for Easter going on.
We visit the nursing home on Wed Week B Period 6. See Mrs Melville in 421 (Tues, Wed) if you would like to join.
The Vinnies Leaders.
Taylah De Rienzo, Lachlan Galli, Nicole Greaves and Zac Jarrott.

Project Compassion
We are half way through Lent and our Project Compassion box in Student Services is not half full. Please donate so we can give to those less fortunate at this time of giving.

We are all faced with change and loss in our lives and sometimes this can be difficult. The Seasons for Growth Program assists by teaching tools for participants to grow and be able to handle difficulties as they arise. It can benefit students as they grow and impact their learning positively.
We are beginning seasons next term for Years 7 and 8.
How will your son or daughter benefit from the skills learned in this program?
It helps them to deal with past feelings over events of loss and grief and learn ways to help themselves using new skills for life. These can be changes like losing a loved one, separation or divorce, loss of health or someone in the family’s health or moving school or homes.
There is no cost as it is covered by the school, and we do it in school time and all our staff are supportive.
If you would like your son or daughter to be a part of the program please call or email me at the school on bronwyn.melville@mn.catholic.edu.au

“Go gently and smile a lot”.
Bronwyn Melville
Pastoral Care
Attenzione! Italian Club Launch! Encouraged by the interest demonstrated by students who have studied Italian in Year 7 and are keen to improve their skills, cultural awareness and appreciation, the LOTE department is pleased to be launching an ITALIAN CLUB which will meet regularly at lunchtime on Thursdays. All students are welcome to check us out in the u-pod (room 326), with a special invitation extended to Year 8 students who showed great interest in Italian language study in Year 7 and would like to maintain their proficiency for future learning.

The Italian Club will be offering supplementary language study, games, cultural and culinary experiences (Yes, pizza) and will look towards facilitating fundraising initiatives and participation in language and short filmmaking competitions.

Grazie e ci vediamo all’u-pod! – Thanks and see you in the u-pod!

Isabella Soto/ Gabriella Smith

Host a Student from France
Host a student from France for 4 weeks in July. This is a unique experience. Welcome a young French student as a friend or as another child in the family for an enriching family experience. From all parts of France, the students wish to experience an Australian family lifestyle, to make friends ‘from the other side of the world’ and to improve their English. The students will attend school with your child/children and are expected to take part in all school activities.

The dates are:
5 July 2015 to 1 August 2015.

Enquiries to:
Laure de La Condamine/TDL Newcastle
Mobile: 0419 242 419
Email: lauredelacondamine@yahoo.fr

School contact: Gabriella Smith
Email: gabriella.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au

Uminohoshi High School Visit to St Pius X
It is time for St Pius X High School to host the students from our sister school Umino Hoshi Girls High School Hamamatsu Japan. This association with our schools has continued since 1990 with our students visiting the Japanese school every second year.

Approximately 10 girls accompanied by a teacher will arrive in August for approximately 10 days. During their stay at St Pius X, the Japanese students will take part in various activities and excursions as well as attending classes with their host brother or sister.

I guarantee all your family members will benefit immensely and enjoy this hosting experience. Please do not worry if you have no background in the Japanese language or culture as the students will be able to communicate with you. It is the perfect opportunity for you and your family to learn a little about Japan and the Japanese language.

If you are interested in hosting one (or two) of these students, please email me to express your interest or if you have any questions. gabriella.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au

Gabriella Smith
Creative and Performing Arts Coordinator
We Love English!

The Year 7 ENG Unit for Term 1 is “Changing Minds, Changing Behaviours” 7.8 recently wrote a persuasive email to Barack Obama (aka Ms Hart) detailing their concerns about the future of our planet. Below is an example of the work completed. Ms Hart is very proud of the efforts of 7.8.

“Wednesday 18 February 2015
Dear Mr President

We are sending you this email as we are EXTREMELY concerned about the overconsumption of ‘stuff’ and exploitation of our world’s resources—particularly by the United States of America.

Our English class recently watched the video ‘The Story of Stuff’ and we were absolutely disgusted and shocked by the information provided by Annie Leonard. This has prompted us to forward this email to you in the hope that you will address the problems raised in the video.

Firstly, we would like to bring to your attention the amount of natural resources the world—and particularly the United States of America—are using. The United States of America has just 5% of the world’s population but is using a massive and unnecessary 30% of the world’s waste. Frankly, you and your government are hardly doing anything to reduce your country’s consumption and you really need to do something about it otherwise the world will be overrun by rubbish.

Secondly, we are dismayed by the fact that using third world country’s resources is bad enough, but polluting their environment with your toxic waste from factories is outrageous. The people living there are already dealing with problems like poverty and diseases and they DO NOT need to add polluted air to their growing list of problems. Likewise most of these people have no other choice but to work in these filthy, dirty factories. They do not have clean air to breathe and are not eligible for health care. Many people are even dying because their already frail bodies cannot deal with toxic pollution. Ask yourself, how do you feel knowing that the person who made your everyday items is probably dead or will be dead in the next few weeks. It is like you do not even care what happens to people outside your own country.

Finally, we would like to tell you about the amount of deforestation happening in the present day. In United States of America just 4% of the original forests are left. Those trees cut down have probably been made into the paper you use every day without thinking where it came from. And besides we are cutting down the very things that might help us reduce this pollution. Trees breathe in Carbon Dioxide which comes out of the dirty factories you have and the trees breathe out fresh oxygen. Therefore if we (or more importantly you) continue cutting down these trees, there will be less oxygen and a whole lot more carbon dioxide. In the Amazon Rainforest, 200 trees are being cut down every minute. This is just unacceptable, Mr President.

We all need to work together to reduce our pollution and consumption, but we are specifically asking you because you have the power to stop this.

We thank you for your time and we hope you really think about the problems we have raised in this letter and that you take the time to solve them.
Yours Sincerely

Luca Jones, Colby Norton and Sam O’Dell.”
Careers Exploration – Year 10 Students
As part of Careers Education at St Pius X we have recently purchased a subscription to a Careers based website called Job Jump.

Job Jump is a great resource that provides students with interactive information on Careers from career development, job descriptors and earnings, HSC and the ATAR, subject selection, degree and university listings as well as apprenticeship and gap year information.

You and your child can login to the website http://www.jobjump.com.au/ by using our password - roosters

1. Type the first couple of letters of your school's name in the first white box on the left hand side the name of our school appears on your screen, click on it and it will enter into the first box
2. Go to the paragraph of type on the left hand side and it will ask you if you wish to login using your school password then, 'Click Here'
3. Enter the password roosters and then click Login.

You can also register to receive the latest Careers News. You just need to enter your email address on the front page of the website.

Please feel free to contact me, should you have any questions.

Lisa McCarthy
Careers
Drama

Congratulations to Year 9 Drama students who won their division of the annual Diocesan Theatresports competition (Tom Rodgers, Harrison Wallace, Joachim Angeli, Alexis D’amico, Rose Lancaster, Hayley Hadlow). The students had to perform in small groups doing improvisational theatre. Scores were awarded to each performance and the judges were senior students from St Francis Xavier’s College, along with some Drama teachers. Our Year 9 students are to be commended for not only winning their division, but for achieving the highest score overall for the day across all year groups. Year 10 Drama students also performed very well in a highly competitive field that resulted in a very tight bunch of scores – with just an extra couple of points here and there, they too could have been winners. Once again, CONGRATULATIONS to ALL students!

Technology News

On Tuesday my technology class did the egg drop task. We had so much fun and there was a great range of designs that everyone had created at home. We started at level 1 and we threw them down off the balcony one at a time. Then we had to go down to the basketball courts and see whether our eggs have broken or not! If the egg did not break you would go to the next level etc. In the end egg drop task. We had so much fun and only a few people made it through without the egg breaking! The egg drop was a fun and creative idea everyone in my class enjoyed! By Isla Hartigan.

Sarah Watson
Performing Arts
During sport time each Friday afternoon, around 40 students from our school meet to work on various musical projects. We offer three groups for students to participate in:

1) **Vocal Group**
   Students who like to sing and dance can join our vibrant group of talented singers. Two weeks ago the students recorded a song “Budapest” (photo attached). As you can see from the photos, we have lots of fun!
   Thank you to Damien Cotton (Music Tech Support) who conducted a recording workshop with I.T students; Elijah Mills and Heath Baldwin. The song sounds fantastic and will be available on the SPX CD, to be launched later this year!

2) **Rockestra** Our school Concert Band has been designed to incorporate the sounds of a rock band meets orchestra. This group is a combination of instruments ranging from a rock band, brass instruments, wood-wind instruments through to violins and the string family. We accept all instruments; our motto is ‘the more the merrier’.

3) **Recording Studio Team**
   Our school is very fortunate to have a Recording Studio with top quality sound equipment. We often use the Recording Studio to lay tracks of student’s solo work, instrumental ensembles, band and choral pieces. We would like to specially acknowledge Elijah Mills, Emma Hopkins, Heath Baldwin, Daniel Bisegna, Roman Anderson and Nicholas Gunn for their involvement with recording and sound.

We would like to invite students to join our team!
If you are interested in learning about how to setup sound systems and recording gear, See Mrs Lunarzewski for more details.
Once a week in an allocated Performing Arts period we also offer: **School Choir – Every Monday Period 2**
Any student who likes to sing, are welcome to join the SPX Choir. We rehearse once a week in the Theatre. The SPX Choir performs at school liturgies, assemblies, Dio Sounds and Music Concerts etc. The Choir is directed by Mrs Lunarzewski. We always love meeting new members so please come along for a sing a-long!
School Band “ROCKESTRA” – Every Monday Period 4
Students who play a musical instrument are given the opportunity to come and join “Rockestra”. We cater for a large variety of students offering positions to Brass, Woodwind, Percussion, Strings and Rock Band instruments. Anyone is welcome to join. Please come and see the Band Director Mrs Elgar-Roberts.

Commissioning of the School Captains
Wednesday 4 March 2015
The Music Department would like to acknowledge and thank the Choir and Rockestra for performing at the Commissioning of School Captains liturgy on Wednesday 4 March 2015. Rockestra and the Vocal grouped performed ‘Thy Word’ at the beginning of the liturgy and the Vocal Group sang an A Capella African Gospel ‘Gumama’. We received many compliments about the musical talent that filled the stage, as well as the professionalism of how students conducted themselves. Congratulations!

The Opening of Sister Marie Centre and Stage 2 Development
Wednesday 10 March 2015
The Music Department would like to further congratulate and thank the students who sang at the Opening of the Sister Marie Centre and Stage 2 Development. The Vocal Group opened the liturgy with an A Capella three part harmony Gospel ‘Gather Us O God’. We also sang Australian iconic piece, ‘I am Australian. We would like to specially acknowledge: Thomas Rogers, Zoe Walker, Hannah Reed, Georgia Mercer, Helayna McCloy, Ella Mustard, Anna Varnum, Charlotte Gapps, Harrison Wallace, Isabella Odorico and Levi Kealy for performing and Heath Baldwin, Roman Anderson and Nicholas Gunn for doing the sound.

What is happening this term?
Year 7 Music students have been given the exciting opportunity to have a workshop with Professional Drummer, Josh Holiday in the last week of Term 1. The workshop will be held during a normal music lesson on Friday 27 March (Week 9) and Tuesday 31 March (week 10). The cost of the workshop is $3.00.

Students will watch Josh perform and learn about what it’s like to be in the Music Industry
- They will learn how to read a drum score
- Students will perform their percussion piece as a whole class ensemble in the Theatre
**Anzac Day Ceremony**

Our school is organising a ceremony to commemorate the 100 Year anniversary of Gallipoli- will be held some time in Week 1 or 2 of Term 2. We are asking if any parents or friends of SPX have any contacts from the Armed Services who would perhaps be willing to come to the ceremony as representatives. If anyone also knows a competent trumpet player who could play the last post????
If anyone can help, please contact Miss Felicity Doyle or Ms Elisa Hart via email.

**WE NEED YOU!**

elisa.hart@mn.catholic.edu.au
felicity.doyle@mn.catholic.edu.au

**Library News**

**Library catalogue**

Students can now access the library catalogue to search for books and resources that we have in our library. Students have been emailed a link to the “Oliver Library Catalogue”. The link is also here: http://mncatholic.softlinkhosting.com.au/oliver/libraryHome.do

- Save the link to your favourites toolbar.
- To do a basic search simply enter search words and click the green play button.
- In a basic search you can type in authors, titles, or genres.
- Once you have selected a book, you can find a brief outline of the book, a Google preview of the beginning of the book, the book’s cover, and of course the books availability.
- You do not have to login to Oliver to search, however, by logging in, extra functions will be available, such as the ability to view the details of your own loans and place reservations on items.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

We have recently added over 150 new novels into the library, and many are on the Premier’s Reading Challenge list of approved books for 2015. To enter the challenge you must log on to the website: https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Log-in using your previous user name and password, or come in to the library if you have not previously entered. We are glad to help you find a book and of course you can also find books at other libraries.

*Brad Trost*

*Acting Librarian*
### Accounts Office

**Hours of operation:**
- **Monday to Thursday:** 8.30am to 3.00pm
- **Friday:** 8.30am to 2.30pm

Accounts can be paid weekly, fortnightly, monthly, per term via Bpay (Tuition fees only), direct debit, cash, credit card or cheque.

Please ensure all accounts due are finalised promptly.

### Canteen Roster

If you are unable to attend on 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>23 March</td>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>27 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Orrett</td>
<td>Anne Maree Sheridan</td>
<td>Leanne Hill</td>
<td>Clare Howlett</td>
<td>Ruth Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narelle Aston</td>
<td>Jane Lynch</td>
<td>Kay Laws</td>
<td>Kelly Brands</td>
<td>Amanda Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Dockrill</td>
<td>Fran Stanbridge</td>
<td>Victoria Munro</td>
<td>Sandy Mantach</td>
<td>Jessica Cocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Biatta Najjar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Larissa Francisci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 March</td>
<td>31 March</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Gordon</td>
<td>Carla Hodgetts</td>
<td>Vicki Faul</td>
<td>Karen Duggan</td>
<td>Louise Gow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonya Hawes</td>
<td>Marisa Grob</td>
<td>Janice Vandenber</td>
<td>Karen Campbell/</td>
<td>Francine Webber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Bailey</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Mlikovic</td>
<td>Angela Jeffs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shelagh Zincke</td>
<td>Jacqueline Brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**School Contact Details**

St Pius X High School  
Park Avenue Adamstown  
2289  
**Reception:** 02 4957 1032  
**Student Office:** 4013 2634  
**Fax:** 02 4957 5088  
**Email:** admin@adamstownsp.catholic.edu.au  
**Web site:** http://www.adamstownsp.catholic.edu.au  
**P & F Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday each month at 7.00pm

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**Student Services**

*Phone: 40 132 606*

If you are collecting your child early from school, please be aware of the following procedure:
- Please supply your child with a note explaining the early leave.
- The student then hands the note in at Student Services.
- Student Services issues a “Leave Early from Class” note.
- The student presents the note to the class teacher and makes their way to Student Services for collection.

---

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**Canteen Roster**

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Marine Studies Snorkelling Adventure

This week saw Year 9 students complete their snorkelling unit at Fly Point, Nelson Bay. Unlike last year, conditions were perfect, with all students enjoying a fine day. Most students were able to see Vicki the Sea Turtle complete with tracker on her back, Steve the blue groper, Gary the large octopus, Mandy the stingray, Ron the flathead, Pam the bream and too many Wobbygong sharks to list by name. The area is improving all the time with a large variety of soft corals and other marine creatures present.

As usual Mr Lee and Mr Gab produced a fine BBQ and managed to fight off the kookaburras, so all students were well fed. Instructors from Newcastle Dive Centre were able to give the students an educational as well as enjoyable day out.

Thanks to the students for being particularly respectful of the marine park and its inhabitants.

In other marine news, both Year 9 and 10 have completed their introductory topics and have completed the safety unit and practical activities at Merewether pool. This year, the weather has been kind to most classes and students have had an enjoyable safety swim.

Sport

Girls Soccer News

Term 2 is Year 7-8 rep soccer for Friday sport and a team has been selected, which will be listed in forthcoming newsletters. There is a possibility that a second team may be required.

The girls’ Turner Cup team is also undergoing selection and this team will be also listed soon.

Futsal News

Boys and Girls’ futsal teams have been finalized this week with the area championship in Gosford at the end of May.

Yoga

Last Friday for sport we took part in a Yin style restorative yoga class. In this class we listened to calming music and held postures (Asanas) such as down facing warrior (Adho Mukha Virasana) with a bolster. We found this very relaxing, stress relieving and it helped release tight muscles. After this class we felt very awakened and revitalised.

By Abby Clegg and Claire Plenty
**Dio Swimming**

The Diocesan of Maitland Newcastle Swimming Carnival was held last week at Lambton Pool. A Diocesan team is selected from results on the day and this Maitland/Newcastle team will compete at the NSWCCC championships held at Homebush Aquatic Centre on the 4/5/15.

St Pius X had a very successful day with the following students winning (NB: 2 swimmers progress in the 50m Freestyle event) the listed event and gaining selection for the NSWCCC carnival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holly Reid</strong></td>
<td>12yrs 50m Freestyle</td>
<td>37.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eloise Keegan</strong></td>
<td>13yrs 100m Fly</td>
<td>1.11.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 50m Back</td>
<td>35.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 50m Freestyle</td>
<td>29.56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 50m Fly</td>
<td>32.87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Nicola Owen            | 14yrs 50m Fly        | 33.28                |
| 14yrs 100m Back        | 1.17.37              |
| 14yrs 50m Freestyle (2nd) | 30.97              |

| Roisin Browne          | 14yrs 400m Freestyle | 5.24.00              |
| Kayla Hatcher          | 14yrs 100m Breaststroke | 1.36.89             |

| Ella Cameron           | 15yrs 50m Freestyle  | 30.19                |

| Nicola Owen, Roisin Browne, Eloise Keegan, Grace Murray | Jnr Medley Relay |

| Nicola Owen, Roisin Browne, Eloise Keegan, Kayla Hatcher | Jnr Freestyle Relay |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Claude Castaldi</strong></td>
<td>DIO AGE CHAMPION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 50m Breaststroke</td>
<td>40.84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 100m Back</td>
<td>1.16.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 100m Fly</td>
<td>1.22.19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs 50m Free</td>
<td>29.97</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13ys 100m Back</td>
<td>1.16.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Darcy Castaldi**    |                      |                      |
| Jnr 200m Freestyle    | 2.17.22              |
| 14yrs 100m Fly        | 1.10.28              |
| 14yrs 400m Freestyle  | 4.32.38              |
| 50m Back              | 33.44                |
| Jnr 200m IM           | 2.42.04              |
| 14yrs 50m Freestyle (2nd) | 27.65              |
| 14yrs 50m Fly         | 30.50                |

| **Aden Searant**       |                      |                      |
| 15yrs 50m Breaststroke | 33.00                |
| 15yrs 100m Breaststroke | 1.13.11              |
| Int 200m IM           | 2.29.22              |

| **Lucas Baita**        |                      |                      |
| Int 200m Freestyle     | 2.07.56              |
| 15yrs 100m Fly         | 1.00.51              |
| 15yrs 400m Freestyle   | 4.27.20              |
| 15yrs 50m Back         | 32.44                |
| 15yrs 50m Freestyle    | 27.25                |
| 15yrs 100m Freestyle   | 59.09                |
| 15yrs 50m Fly          | 28.69                |

| Claude Castaldi, Darcy Castaldi, Lachlan Gaudion, Ethan Coates. | Jnr Medley Relay |
Claude Castaldi, Darcy Castaldi, Ethan Coates, Charlie Ross.  Jnr 4 x 50m Relay
Lucas Baita, James Cameron, Harrison Crook, Aden Searant.  Int Medley Relay  2.09.47  NEW RECORD
Lucas Baita, James Cameron, Harrison Crook, Aden Searant.  Int 4 x 50m Relay

APOLOGIES to Ella Cameron (Yr 9). Ella was our 15yrs swimming age champion and her name was left out of the last edition of the Lion. Sorry.

TERM 2 REP SPORT
The following Friday Rep Sports will be held next term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7/8 Girls Basketball</th>
<th>Hart</th>
<th>Broadmedow Basketball Stadium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/10 Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Sellers</td>
<td>Broadmedow Basketball Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8 Girls OzTag</td>
<td>Rankin</td>
<td>National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8 Girls Football</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Adamstown Rosebuds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8 Boys Basketball</td>
<td>Reynolds</td>
<td>Broadmedow Basketball Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10 Boys Basketball</td>
<td>Courtney</td>
<td>Broadmedow Basketball Stadium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8 Boys OzTag</td>
<td>Brennan</td>
<td>National Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10 Boys Football</td>
<td>Richards</td>
<td>Adamstown Rosebuds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interested students are to watch student notices or speak directly to coach to find out trial information.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Any qualified sports trainers who could assist with our sporting teams. Please contact Mr John McLoughlin  john.mcloughlin@mn.catholic.edu.au  or on 49571032 during school hours.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Cochrane Cup 14yrs Rugby League</th>
<th>18/3/15</th>
<th>Raymond Terrace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dio 15yrs Rugby League Trials</td>
<td>18/3/15</td>
<td>Raymond Terrace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13yrs Rugby League 7’s</td>
<td>20/3/15</td>
<td>Charlestown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14yrs &amp; 15yrs Rugby League 9’s</td>
<td>20/3/15</td>
<td>Windale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Dio Open Boys Football Trials</td>
<td>19/3/15</td>
<td>SPX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dio Open Girls Football Trials</td>
<td>20/3/15</td>
<td>East Maitland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday Rep Sport Finals</td>
<td>20/3/15</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Friday Rep Sport Finals</td>
<td>27/3/15</td>
<td>Various Venues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Dio Touch</th>
<th>23/4/15</th>
<th>Maitland Touch Fields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Future Tah’s Girls Rugby 7’s</td>
<td>4/5/15</td>
<td>Merewether High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSWCCC Swimming &amp; Diving</td>
<td>4/5/15</td>
<td>Homebush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Future Tah’s 16yrs Rugby 7’s</td>
<td>6/5/15</td>
<td>Merewether High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dio X-Country</td>
<td>7/5/15</td>
<td>Glenbawn Dam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit www.csss.nsw.edu.au for a detailed list of all NSWCCC sports and pathway information.
ARE YOU GOOD AT, OR INTERESTED IN ART?

(...that could mean drawing, painting, printmaking, street art, photography, cartooning or animation, sculpture, design, fashion or video art!)

Art Room 1
open Mondays during lunch

learn new techniques
experiment with materials
catch up on practical work
ask teacher advice
work on individual projects
 colaborate with other students

All Welcome
In commemoration of the 100 year Anniversary of ANZAC DAY a photographic exhibition will be held here at St. Pius X.

All students are invited to enter photographs for the exhibition with a main focus on war memorials around Newcastle.

A 'war memorial' is a commemorative construction dedicated to people who have served and died in war, or because of war.

Memorials can also be: honour rolls; museums and monuments; gates, columns, walls, and arches; Obelisks and cenotaphs.

See Ms Doyle for an entry form.
Uniform Shop Update

Alinta Apparel welcomes all students for 2015.

The Uniform Shop is located on Level 6 next to the Food Technology rooms – the old Book Room.

Please note that all online web orders are processed at the St Pius Uniform Shop and available the following opening day. If items are out of stock they cannot be ordered online, however, are available to backorder by phoning the Uniform Shop during opening times.

Opening Hours for 2015

Monday – 10.30am to 12.30pm
Wednesday – 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Uniform price list, online shopping and fitting appointments are available at:
www.alintaapparel.com.au
Second-Hand Uniforms

A large number of parents/carers have expressed the need to have second-hand uniforms available. St Pius X High School runs a service which enables all parents to buy/sell second-hand uniform items. The service works in the following way:

1. Parents/carers 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 are then advertised in a special “Second-Hand Uniform” section of each newsletter.

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

4. Parents/carers will simply contact the number supplied and deal directly 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:...........................................................................................................................................................
..............................................................................................................................................................
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Contact Number:........................................................................................................................................
## Second Hand Uniforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ph Number</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Buy/Sell</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rori</td>
<td>0429 656 972</td>
<td>Boys' Blue Shirt</td>
<td>XL</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boys Grey Shorts (x3)</td>
<td>XS</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Boys Grey Trousers (x4)</td>
<td>Small 2 only XL</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Polar Fleece Jumper (x3)</td>
<td>10 Medium 3 only XL</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Shirt (x2)</td>
<td>10 Large</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Shorts</td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Jacket</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$10.00 ea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracey</td>
<td>0403 779 463</td>
<td>Hospitality Uniform</td>
<td>Small</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Girls' Blouse (x2)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sell</td>
<td>$20.00 ea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>