From the Principal

**PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND SOLIDARITY**

The College has adopted the Touchstone *Justice and Solidarity* as the central focus and theme for the 2014 College year. We pray for all those in need in our community and continue to work in solidarity.

Almighty and loving God, you who created ALL people in your image,
Lead us to seek your compassion as we listen to the stories of our past.
You gave your only Son, Jesus, who died and rose again so that sins will be forgiven.
We place before you the pain and anguish that so many people experience.
May we embrace the charism of Edmund Rice and “give to the poor in handfuls”.
Let us work for justice and peace and maintain as our desire,
to take a preferential option for the poor.
We live in faith that all people will rise from the depths of despair and hopelessness.
Touch the hearts of the broken, homeless and inflicted, and heal their spirits.
In your mercy and compassion, walk with us, as we continue our journey of healing
to create a future that is just and equitable.
Lord, you are our hope.
Amen.

**WELCOME TO THE 2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

On behalf of the College, I extend a warm welcome to the school community for the commencement of the 2014 school year.

We especially welcome all new students and staff. The school year began today with all students from Years 5-12 commencing work immediately and lessons are underway.

The new students joining us in Years 5, 6 and 7 have begun very well and are making friends quickly and settling into their studies and school routine well. All boys need to make sure that their uniform is all in order with haircut and correct attire as per Mr Olson’s outline in this edition of Woodchatta. I thank all parents for their support in ensuring the boys have a good start in this aspect of starting school with a real attitude of being ready for hard work.

**WELCOME NEW STAFF**

We welcome the following new staff to the College.

(Back Row): Mr Shane Byrne (TAS), Mr Greg Bell (Curriculum Coordinator), Mr David Webster (English Coordinator), Mr Scott Steinman (Mathematics), Mr Joshua Combes (Performing Arts), Mr Kane Oostendorp (ICT Technical Support Officer).

(Front Row): Ms Min Wang (Languages), Ms Anne Gritton (HSIE Coordinator), Ms Robyn Withford (Year 6), Ms Suzanne Pence (Mathematics), Mr Liam Cahill (ICT Helpdesk) and Mr Alex Damo (Head of Teaching Learning & Curriculum).

(Inset): Ms Julie Ingram (Marketing and Community Relations Officer) and Mr Joe Lynch (PDHPE).

Ms Kim Proctor-Messham has also joined the staff as a Teachers’ Aide.
OPENING SCHOOL MASS – TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY - OUR LADY OF DOLOURS PARISH CHURCH 10.00AM

The College will hold the opening school Mass on Monday 11 February. As we have 1140 students this year, it will be an extremely full church. Parents are welcome but there is very limited seating.

ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY (Years 8-12) FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY
THE CONCOURSE, CHATSWOOD - 11AM -1PM

To mark the academic achievements of the Year 12 2013 HSC group and the achievements of the students from Year 7-12 2013, year’s presentation of Academic Awards will again be held in the Chatswood Concourse on Friday 21 February from 11am to 1pm. At this Ceremony we will be presenting the high achievers of 2013 from Years 7-12. The students in Years 5 and 6 were presented with their awards at the end of last year and are not attending this assembly as we don’t all fit together in this venue.

We will be acknowledging our many HSC high achievers at this Ceremony. Parents of students are welcome and we will have limited seating available. More details will be available in next week’s Woodchatta.

ST PIUS X COLLEGE CONTINUES ROLLOUT OF NEW TECHNOLOGY

The College continues to roll out new technology according to its eLearning Plan. Over the holidays, the IT Department configured new Windows 8 ultrabooks for teaching staff, reconfigured computers in our labs to run Windows 8, installed new wireless access points and installed new docking equipment for our projectors in every learning space in the College.

Our Year 7 students will be issued with their new PLDs on Thursday afternoon and will undertake a “boot camp” in Periods 4 to 6. New students in Yrs 8-11 have also been issued with their PLDs, Year 5 will be issued with their PLDs later in Term 1. Year 12 students will be permitted to bring their own device for 2014, and a letter has been sent home with students advising details of the arrangement.

Our teachers will also be rolling out a range of new eTexts and other resources that accompany our new titles in book hire over the next week.

It is certainly all systems go on the eLearning front! A reminder that the ICT Help Desk is open from 8am to 4pm school days for assistance with any issues with your son’s PLD.

HSC RESULTS

Congratulations to our HSC class of 2013. Together they have endeavoured to achieve results they and the entire St Pius X College community can be proud of. Thirty six percent were recognised in the Distinguished Achievers List that represented twenty two courses of study.

They have set a new standard that provides a wonderful incentive for our 2014 HSC cohort. Further details can be found in Woodchatta Extras.

ACHEIVEMENTS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

- College Vice Captain, Elijah Rayner (Year 12) represented the College at the Edmund Rice National Student Leaders Forum in Melbourne.
- Kanishk Purohit and Scott Watts from Year 12, 2014 participated in the elite National Youth Science Forum held in Canberra in January.
- The First Grade Cricket Team represented the College in the Christian Brothers Cricket carnival held at Nudgee College Brisbane where we won the Cup and remained unbeaten after 6 matches. Congratulations to Mr Reay and the team. A huge achievement.
- The First V Basketball team represented the College in the Trinity challenge last week. We had two wins and three loses. Boys played well against some very good teams.

VALE PAT REILLY

It was a sad day on Tuesday 28 January when Mayor Pat Reilly was laid to rest. His funeral was held at Our Lady of Dolours and the church was full to overflowing with the grief of our City of Willoughby, and joined by Parliamentary representative and dignitaries to honour the enormous contribution that Mayor Reilly made to the City of Willoughby. The outpouring of emotion in warmth, love and friendship bespeaks the affection for our beloved Mayor and Old Boy of St Pius X College.

The College was in significant attendance through the Old Boys, Christian Brothers, members of staff and a Guard of Honour from our students. The Willoughby City Council held a tribute concert on Tuesday afternoon to Mayor Reilly acknowledging his particular love for the Arts and the wonderful legacy that The Concourse is to our City.

We pray for the repose of Mayor Reilly and will continue to keep the Mayoress, Beth, and their daughter Sophie in our prayers. Woodchatta Extras carries a tribute from the College to the wonderful character and school supporter that Mayor Reilly was.

Vale Pat Reilly.
The Christmas holiday break provided the opportunity for the Resources and Facilities team to conduct some significant works in improving the College environment. This upgrade is part of your Building Fund contribution in action. A full list of the improvements may be found in Woodchatta Extras. I thank Mr Brannan (Resources Coordinator), Mr Ballesty (Business Manager) Mr Pat Knox (Head of Maintenance) and the ICT Helpdesk for their hard work during the holidays.

From the Deputy Principal

UNIFORM - Boys return to school in Term 1 in Summer Uniform
Parents are expected to support the College in all aspects of College uniform/grooming standards. All students are to wear full uniform, presenting a neat and clean appearance. Hair should always be neat, clean, gel-less, of a natural colour and of a style which is neither outlandish nor likely to cause comment. Heavy undercuts, dyed hair etc. are therefore inappropriate. Students not meeting these standards will be sent home and parents contacted.

The Summer Uniform is worn in Term 1 and Term 4 and consists of a regulation grey or white short sleeve shirt (that does up at the collar), shorts or trousers (Years 7-12 only- worn at the waist) and if wearing shorts, College socks with garters, grey socks, black belt and black leather lace-up shoes that take a shine. Regulation tie.

Basic Sports Uniform – regulation blue polo shirt and school tracksuit over blue shorts, white sports socks (without logos, names etc.), one regulation House polo shirt and SPX cap.

The SPX Backpack is compulsory for all school students.

From the Assistant Principal - Mission and Identity

Our School year began in Prayer with our Student Leaders: Leon Warren, College Captain and Vice Captains, Elijah Rayner and Harry Morton, leading our College in Prayer. Prayer life is a very natural and important part of College life. Whether at our College or Sport Assemblies, Staff Meeting, Parent Information Nights or at the start of class, every time we gather as a community, we pray.

Leon opened our prayer with the comment that our new school year can provide us with many new opportunities and experiences. He invited all as they begin to bring a fresh and positive vision and a clearer set of goals in all aspects of our College life. Leon also reflected on the holidays, being thankful for the good times we have shared over the past weeks with our families and friends.

In 2014 we will embrace the Touchstone of Justice and Solidarity as our theme. We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the Earth itself. May each of us embrace the opportunity to really make a difference in everything we do.

Elijah Rayner then prayed the following intentions: We pray for one another at St Pius that we are enlivened by the spirit of Christ and Edmund Rice in all our actions with each other.

For those who are new to the College this year, that they may enjoy the spirit of welcome and support as they adapt to their new surroundings.

We pray for all those in need of our prayers who have loved ones who are suffering due to sickness or the sadness of death. We particular remember esteemed Old Boy and our Mayor, Pat Reilly who was buried yesterday. That God will strengthen and comfort all in this time of need. Lord, hear us.

Harry Morton concluded with the following Prayer as our hope for the new year.

Lord, Our God,
You are our protector and guide.
Be with us all as we begin this new school year.
Watch over us and guide us,
So that what we learn and do
May enable us to bring your goodness
To all with whom we share our lives.
Help us to embrace our touchstone of Justice and Solidarity,
To enable each of the opportunity to make a difference
As we put our faith into action.
We ask this though Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessed Edmund Rice Pray for Us
St Pius X Pray for Us
Live Jesus in our Hearts Forever
Your P&F in Action!
A very warm welcome to our weekly **YOUR P&F IN ACTION** for all new and returning parents and carers. Any information you read in this section is also available along with other events and sports fixtures on the P&F Website here [http://pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au/](http://pandf.spx.nsw.edu.au/)

**FAMILY COMMENCEMENT MASS**
Please put aside Saturday 15 February 5.30pm for the College’s Commencement Mass. The Mass takes place at Our Lady of Dolours Church, right next to the College on the corner of Archer and Kirk Sts, Chatswood.

After Mass, you can mix with other SPX families and enjoy the refreshments and finger food on offer in the College grounds. Follow the link below to RSVP (it is a free event!) and for more details.

RSVP [www.trybooking.com/70038](http://www.trybooking.com/70038) DETAILS Commencement Mass

**MindMatters for Families**
The **ONLINE STUDY SKILLS HANDBOOK** is a great online resource for parents and students to address all their study skills issues and concerns, and enable students to learn new ways to improve their results at school. Please see the flyer in [Woodchatta Extras](#) for details on accessing the Handbook.

Please also see the information on **PARENTING COURSES** in [Woodchatta Extras](#).

**Performing Arts News**
Welcome back to all students and parents. The Performing Arts Staff, Ensemble Directors and Instrumental Tutors look forward to working with you this year. I would particularly like to welcome Mr Joshua Combes and Ms Natalie Rocca to our Department. Mr Combes will be teaching Drama in Years 5, 6, 7, 9 and 11. Ms Rocca will be teaching Music in Years 7 and 8.

**INSTRUMENTAL TUITION**
**Boys Who Would Like To Learn An Instrument:** If you would like to learn an instrument, voice or music production, please pick up a form from the Student Office. The form should be filled in and returned to Ms Bates in the Performing Arts Department as soon as possible. Please be aware that there are limited places available for some instruments. Students will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis and then placed on waiting lists.

**New Students - Instrumental Tuition:** All boys new to the College who requested to learn an instrument have been placed with a tutor. The tutor has been given your details and should be in touch shortly. If you have not heard from a tutor by the end of Week 2, please contact Ms Bates in the Performing Arts Staffroom.

**Continuing Students - Instrumental Tuition:** Unless you requested a change of tutor you have been placed with the same person you had in 2013. Your tutor should be in touch shortly. If you have not heard from your tutor by the end of Week 2, please contact Ms Bates.

**ENSEMBLES**
A full list of Ensembles and their rehearsal times is in [Woodchatta Extras](#). There have been changes to days and times from 2013, so please read the schedule carefully.

**New Students:** New students to the College who expressed an interest in joining an Ensemble have been placed (with the exception of Guitar and Percussion Ensembles). Boys should check the lists on the windows of the EMR and CMR. If there is a problem, or your name does not appear, please speak with Ms Bates.

**Guitar and Percussion Ensembles:** Auditions will take place in Week 2 and 3 for these groups. Boys need to listen to the daily notices for further information.

**Rehearsals:** Senior Percussion Ensemble will commence rehearsing tomorrow at lunchtime. All other ensembles will commence rehearsals in Week 2.

**SYDNEY WIND ORCHESTRA:** Congratulations to John Morabito (Year 11) who successfully auditioned on French horn for this group. We wish him well for future performances.

Ms T Bates – Performing Arts Co-ordinator

**Attention Year 7 Parents**
Dear Year 7 Parents,
You are warmly invited to the Year 7 2014 Parent Information evening on Monday 3rd of February in the College Gym. The evening will commence at 7:30pm sharp. Please note that there is very limited parking available in the College grounds.

Mr S Yue - Year 7 Coordinator

**Homework Help**
**HOMEWORK HELP BEGINS ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY**
Homework Help is held every Monday to Thursday inclusive after school from 3.15pm - 4.30pm in the Leary Learning Centre. All ages and levels of ability are welcome to attend, so come along and take advantage of the service.

Mrs K Martin
Attention Year 10 Parents

Information concerning Year 10 will be emailed to Year 10 Parents tomorrow.

Mr M Pawlak - Year 10 Coordinator

Attention Year 12 Parents

The first Year 11 Newsletter will be emailed to parents tomorrow.

Mr B Batchelor – Year 11 Year Coordinator

Debating and Public Speaking

DEBATERS AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS WATCH THIS SPACE!

Information on the Macquarie Schools’ Cup Senior Competition and the CSDA Public Speaking Competition will be in next week’s Woodchatta.

Please be aware that Debating, is a two term extracurricular activity. We commence towards the end of Term 1 and compete until the middle of Term 3. If you are interested in trying out for a spot on a team then watch this space.

Mrs M Waterson

Handwriting Course

Ms K Martin

St Pius X College Kokoda Track Expedition – June 2014

Preparations continued over the January break with Expedition participants taking advantage of the summer heat and humidity to train over the Brooklyn to Mt Kuring gai Sections of the Great North Walk. We have now hiked approximately one half of the Oxfam Trail walk and Kokoda Track distances. However I suspect the topography, climate and conditions on the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea will present some challenges for which Sydney cannot prepare us. We can only defer to those who faced this, an enemy, an uncertain future, and more in 1942!

Some of the SPX Kokoda 2014 Expedition Party training on the hill climbs of The Great North Walk above Berowra Waters, January 2014

We are currently at the point there where we will be collecting half payment in mid-February and the balance in mid-March when Charter and International flights will be confirmed. Training will resume after the school commencement festivities settle. We will also integrate some of our study of this important landscape in Australia’s history and the Social Justice opportunities presented by Papua New Guinea across the school curriculum.

Mr Sean Brannan - SPX Kokoda 2014 Expedition Coordinator
Senior School Sport

WELCOME BACK!
The ISA Competition resumes this Saturday and the relevant draws can be found below. I wish everyone the best of luck with the conclusion of the summer season and ask parents to ensure that their sons are correctly equipped and attired as we move toward the finals of each competition. Senior Swimming Carnival is next Tuesday 4 February. All must attend.

SPORT UPDATES VIA TWITTER
In 2014 we are implementing a new and easy way of disseminating key sports information to the St Pius X College Chatswood community. Follow us on Twitter to receive last minute updates regarding fixtures (ground changes, wet weather updates, cancellations etc).

We would highly recommend that you set up a Twitter account and follow us. Messages can be sent directly to your phone, allowing for instant updates as to your son’s sporting commitments. This could also mean that you avoid unnecessary travel in the event of cancellations and that you are aware of your son’s whereabouts with regards sport. Please see Woodchatta Extras more information on how to set up your Twitter account.

BASKETBALL - Round 7 games are this Saturday 1st Feb. Please note game times and venues below. B team players will need to organise their own transport to Moss Vale. There will be NO training next Tuesday due to the swimming carnival. Training times will remain the same as last year except for the 15E team; they will be training on Monday afternoons at Oxford Falls.

Coach’s notes: After the long break, I’ll tell teams to keep it simple, use the basics and not to get frustrated because we might be a bit rusty. Players need to support and encourage each other rather than get upset at simple mistakes. All I’ll ask is for players to concentrate on playing the game well, with commitment and with enthusiasm.

Venues:
St Patrick’s College; On the corner of Merley St and Francis St, Strathfield.
St Spyridon’s; 1130 Anzac Parade, Maroubra
Moss Vale Basketball Stadium; Parkes Road Moss Vale
Sydney Uni; Noel Martin Sports Centre Syd Uni, Butlin Ave, Off City Road

Round 7: Saturday 1st February

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Mr N Gibson - Convenor

FOOTBALL - Dear Parents and Players, Welcome back to the school year and an early start to the Football season. Please note that there is compulsory grading sessions for all Year 7 to 10 students wanting to play football for the College on the 9th and 16th of February. Both days are compulsory and more details can be found in Woodchatta Extras. I look forward to working with you all in another successful SPX football season.

Mr Simon Yue - Senior Football Convenor

TENNIS – The competition will commence on Saturday 15th February and will continue for 7 rounds (last round 29th March) with finals on 5th April. All students who were enrolled last term will be placed in teams for this competition. There may be some changes to teams from last term. Students will be notified of their teams for the 2014 competition in Week 2.

Looking forward to a brilliant and exciting term of tennis.

Ms J Collings
CRICKET - Christian Brothers Cricket Week 2014
A combined 1st and 2nd XI participated in the 2014 CBCW in Brisbane during January. In its 37th iteration the CBCW saw 20 EREA schools from across Australia and New Zealand participate in some hard fought cricket; playing six matches in seven day in Queensland’s January temperatures. Winning five matches straight through some outstanding individual and team performances, SPX progressed to the Cup Final against Liston College, Auckland. In defeating Liston, SPX won the Cup Final and are now well placed to transition the lessons learned on tour back into theISA competition.

Congratulations to Danisha Ediriwira on his selection in the 2014 Christian Brothers Australasian combined team, an outstanding performance scoring 198 runs at 49.5 in five opportunities.

Special thanks to: Mr David Kennedy (SPX Cricket Club President), Br David Curtin, Mr Sean Brannan and Mr John Couani for their assistance during CBCW 2014.

Round 1 – SPX 9/245 defeated St Patrick’s College Shorncliff 10/106 (S Fone 59, D Ediriwira 47, L Mann 44, M Jordan 2/9, S Reidy 2/10 and L Humphrey 2/14)
Round 3 – SPX 10/320 defeated St Joseph’s College Nudgee White 10/103 (D Ediriwira 81, S King 54, S Fone 45, L Humphrey 4/27, T Slack 2/7 and M Loughland 2/16)
Round 4 – SPX 10/144 defeated St Edmund’s College Ipswich 10/94 (J Brislan 54, L Humphrey 34, T Diggins 5/12 and S Fone 3/10)
Cup Final – Liston College Auckland 10/127 defeated by SPX 4/131 (T Slack 4/25, S King 3/32, N McCamley 52 and S Reidy 30*)

Mr D Reay - Convenor

BOXERCISE FOR FITNESS & FUN is available for all students every Thursday and Friday morning at 7.30am in the Blue Room. Please contact Mr Russo if you have any queries.

Junior School Sport
Welcome to all those new to the College and, to those returning, we are primed for another huge year of sport at St Pius in 2014. We hit the ground running with two full days of summer sports trials and a Swimming Carnival in the first 6 days of School! A reminder that all pertinent information can be found on the College website (http://www.spx.nsw.edu.au/co-curricular/junior-school-activities/general-info).

SPORT UPDATES VIA TWITTER
In 2014 we are implementing a new and easy way of disseminating key sports information to the St Pius X College Chatswood community. Follow us on Twitter to receive last minute updates regarding fixtures (ground changes, wet weather updates, cancellations etc).

We would highly recommend that you set up a Twitter account and follow us. Messages can be sent directly to your phone, allowing for instant updates as to your son’s sporting commitments. This could also mean that you avoid unnecessary travel in the event of cancellations and that you are aware of your son’s whereabouts with regards sport.

Please see Woodchatta Extras more information on how to set up your Twitter account.

Thursday Sport: will be all day at Oxford Falls for the next two weeks. Sports uniform and full packed recess/lunch are required. Trials/Training takes place for respective summer sports (see below for further details). Parents are invited to join us from 1.30pm this Thursday for afternoon tea. Boys can generally be collected at 2.20pm from the car-park at the conclusion of Sport on a Thursday.

Swimming Carnival: Our annual House Carnival takes place on Wed 5th Feb at Macquarie University Pool. Whilst a fun, participation carnival, this also forms the basis for squad selection. Parents are of course most welcome to attend. A detailed information letter will be emailed shortly and will also be available on the school website.

Basketball: The first game of the 6 week, Term 1 season is on Saturday 8th Feb. Grading takes place as part of Sport for the next two Thursdays. A detailed information letter, team lists and a season draw will be posted on the school website.

Softball: The first game of the 6 week, Term 1 season is on Saturday 8th Feb. Grading takes place as part of Sport for the next two Thursdays. A detailed information letter, team lists and a season draw will be posted on the school website.
**NSTA Tennis:** The NSTA season commences on Saturday 15th February and will continue for 7 rounds (last round 29th March) with finals on 5th April. Grading takes place as part of Sport for the next two Thursdays. A detailed information letter and season draw will be distributed to all successful trialists. (All students who were enrolled last term will be placed in teams for this competition. There may be some changes to teams from last term. Students will be notified of their teams for the 2014 competition in Week 2.)

Looking forward to a brilliant and exciting term of tennis.

*Mr G Virgona – Junior School Sportsmaster*

**Travel Passes for 2014**

Travel passes will be received and distributed to students in the coming week. To allow sufficient time for the distribution of passes, **free travel** to and from school on school days will be granted to students using Sydney Train services, State Transit Bus services, Transdev (Shorelink) and Forest Coachlines. Free travel will be allowed on Hillsbus services until 12 February.

*Ms R Gaston*

**Uniform Shop**

**TRADING HOURS – MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 8.00am–1.30pm.**

***The Uniform Shop is open an extra day this week on Friday 31 January from 8am to 1.30pm***

Orders can also be placed either by phoning the shop or sending an email to uniformshop@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au. Parents are reminded that the Uniform Shop also sells second-hand school uniforms. Enquiries 9414 4339.

An **updated price list** is now available on the College website.

**BLAZER FITTINGS FOR NEW BLAZERS:** Please remind your son if he needs to come when his year is a called.

- Junior school Tuesday 4 February
- Senior school Wednesday 5 February.

I would like to thank my helpers who came after school finished in 2013 and before this year commenced - I couldn’t have managed without your extra help.

*Mrs D Muirhead – Co-ordinator*

**Canteen Roster**

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**St Pius X College**

35 Anderson Street
CHATSWOOD NSW 2067
Phone: 9411 4733 Fax: 9413 1860
Email: admin@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.spx.nsw.edu.au
The following information is contained within this week’s Woodchatta Extras.

Click on the link below to take you straight to that section:

1. VALE PAT RILEY
2. 2013 HSC - MEDIA RELEASE
3. 2013 HSC – HIGH ACHIEVERS
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Vale Pat Riley

The College was greatly saddened to hear of the death of long serving Mayor of Willoughby and great friend of the St Pius X College community, Mr Pat Reilly.

Pat graduated from St Pius X College, Chatswood in 1970 and always enjoyed reminiscing about his time here. He was especially fond of such fine leaders as Brother Pat White and the legendary character, Brother Rupert Killian. Pat's 'Killian Impressions' were just one of a great repertoire of entertaining aspects of his ebullient life.

Pat was a fine, enthusiastic musician and a born politician. He was a much valued guest at many College functions and presentations. He was enthusiastic in his interest in all aspects of life - whether it was an elementary recital of a group of junior musicians or a fully blown orchestra on stage in the new precinct.

Pat was keen on all local initiatives. He hosted the launch of the College's book on its war veterans and was a welcome attendee and supporter of Old Boys' functions.

There were no pretentions with Pat. He happily exchanged his Mayoral robes for his famous Elvis costume and would belt out the old tunes with gusto.

Pat Reilly was a valued member of the College community - good company, a genuine character and a good friend. His passing was a sad day for the College community. The College extends its condolences to his family and many friends.

Vale Pat Reilly.
2013 HSC Results St Pius X College Chatswood

Congratulations to the Year 12 Class for 2013 on their great results. A snapshot of the results shows that the Top ATAR was 99.7 from an outstanding student, Alex Gan, an extremely hard working person who has had a history of academic success. Alex was one of three boys the prestigious Premier’s List of All Rounders’. The others were; Tom Murphy and Edward Dizmeddijan. Also of great note was Brian Lam who gained equal 3rd place in New South Wales for 2 Unit Mathematics as an accelerant student, continuing a tradition of high results in that subject for the College. Also, Harrison Witseya’s major artwork, ‘Now Stopping’ was selected for the top works exhibition ‘ARTEXPRESS.’

The results were particularly strong at the top end of the range with the College achieving 15% of its student body with ATARs above 95 and 25% in total over 90. College Principal, John Couani, said “I am particularly proud of these boys as there were a number of difficult issues over the course of the year which made life very hard for all concerned. They approached their studies very professionally and gained excellent results in a range of subjects, covering the humanities and the sciences.

“Of course not all students aspire to the top bands, and the College was pleased to see so many solid results in the middle range. Overall, 50% of the boys gained ATARs above 80 - a wonderful achievement for a non-selective boys school”.

In addition, the College had 142 mentions in the Honours Lists – a fine outcome for a school such as ours, in which students can achieve at the highest level while being in a normal environment. Well done to all involved. Parents should have confidence in the College as a place where boys can achieve at the highest level if they wish to put in the effort. Overall the College was ranked 73 in the prestigious ‘Top 100 Schools’ in the state.

Principal Mr John Couani also said; ‘I want to acknowledge the great efforts of teachers in helping these boys to perform at their very best, while still working with other students of differing abilities and interests. The HSC is a very demanding course to teach and administer and places great strain on students, parents and teachers. Congratulations to all concerned. I was also particularly pleased to note that so many of the boys balanced their academic achievements with a high level of involvement in the College’s extra-curricular program, or were active as student leaders. The College Captain, Billy Johnston was an inspirational leader in many areas of school life.’
Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2013
on your excellent HSC results.

- College Dux - Alex Gan ATAR 99.7
- 3 “All-round Achievers” - Alex Gan, Tom Murphy
  and Edward Djizmedjian
- 6 Students achieved an ATAR over 99.0
- 142 mentions in the “Distinguished Achievers” list
- Ranked 73 in “Top 100 Schools”*
- 15% of the cohort achieved an ATAR over 95,
  25% over 90 and 50% over 80
- 3rd in Mathematics - Brian Lam, Year 11 Accelerant
- ARTEXPRESS selection - Harrison Witsey

*SMH 19/12/13

“The Year 12 Graduating Class of 2013 has rewritten many
parts of our record books for their academic, artistic,
cultural and sporting achievements. They have also shown
themselves to be young men of tremendous courage and
compassion. They will make a difference in our world.
Congratulations to the Class of 2013 and the professional
and dedicated staff at St Pius X College, Chatswood.”
JOHN COUANI, PRINCIPAL

fide et labore
THROUGH FAITH AND HARD WORK

St Pius X College 35 Anderson Street, Chatswood NSW 2067 Ph: (02) 9411 4733 Email: admin@spx.nsw.edu.au www.spx.nsw.edu.au
In addition to regular maintenance cycles, the following works were undertaken during the Christmas vacation:

- Refitting and refurbishment of the student reception and service desk areas.
- Reflooring and refitting of the Student Sick Bay, Assistant Principal and AP Teaching and Learning offices, meeting and interview rooms
- Repairs and repainting of the College entrance foyer areas.
- Sheeting of the staff room entrance hallways
- Replacement of 500 student desks (completing the 2013 replacement of all student desks and chairs)
- Repainting of line markings in the Junior School playground
- Surface painting of the Administration veranda and D and A wing entrance ways
- Refitting and repainting of the Art Theory room to include a “Green Screen” AV filming wall surface
- Replacement of the weatherproof awning ceiling at the Junior school Canteen and Gym entranceway
- Fitting of electric security and darkening shutters to Student Reception, S Wing and Art Theory rooms.
- Installation of synthetic grass to the Year 7 Area and carpet in lower Year 9 Corridor.
- Installation of Air Conditioning to the Music Staff and Core Music Rooms
- Refit, refloor and repainting of the Gym Change rooms with vinyl slip resistant flooring. Resealing and polishing of the gym basketball timber flooring
- Installation of quieter and instantaneous start up Eco Friendly LED lighting to the Gym
- Paving of the Administration – Principal’s Court Yard Reception Areas

All these works, and more, have been conducted with great care to ensure a healthy, happy learning and living environment for all members of the St Pius X College community.

Unfortunately there are some factors outside our control and we are currently awaiting the imminent replacement of Year 9 Lockers to be installed over the coming weeks. The College expects that students will do their utmost to show care and respect for our working environment, to ensure that resources are expended on improvements and educational opportunities rather than remedial work. Any issues to this end should be reported as soon as possible through staff or to the College office.

In next week’s Woodchatta I hope to have some photos of our new facilities in action and service with the students of the College.

Mr Sean Brannan - Resources Coordinator
29th January, 2014

Re: Sport updates via Twitter

Dear Parents/Friends,

We have implemented a new and easy way of disseminating key sports information to the St Pius Chatswood community. Follow us on Twitter to receive last minute updates regarding fixtures (ground changes, wet weather updates, cancellations etc).

We would highly recommend that you set up a Twitter account and follow us. Messages can be sent directly to your phone, allowing for instant updates as to your son’s sporting commitments. This could also mean that you avoid unnecessary travel in the event of cancellations and that you are aware of your son’s whereabouts with regards sport.

NB. These updates will be one-way transactions that are designed purely as an information dissemination tool. We will not ‘follow’ you on Twitter and you will not be able to respond or communicate with us.

How do I set-up an account?

Set-up takes 2 minutes and is free. You are not obliged to send any ‘tweets’ or follow anyone else.

Go to: https://twitter.com/ Search for the relevant account holder and click follow.

Matt Stearn @SPXSeniorSport
Senior School Sportsmaster - St Pius X College

Greg Virgona @SPXJuniorSport
Junior School Sportsmaster - St Pius X College

To receive updates to your mobile phone:

1. Download the Twitter App to your phone (this is available from the App Store on iOS devices, the Google Play store on Android devices and the Windows Store on all Windows Phones and Tablets).
2. Then, to enable your phone to be notified when we send an alert, go to Twitter.com on your desktop or laptop computer and once you are logged in, choose settings.

COLLEGE • 35 Anderson Street, Chatswood NSW 2067 P(02) 9411 4733 F(02) 9413 1860
TREACY COMPLEX • Drednought Road, Oxford Falls NSW 2100 P(02) 9451 7375
E admin@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au www.spx.nsw.edu.au

A CATHOLIC BOYS’ COLLEGE IN THE EDMUND RICE TRADITION

Continues over the page
3. Go to the ‘Mobile’ tab and follow the prompts (You must text ‘GO’ to the number provided)

4. From the Twitter home page, click ‘Following’ Tab on the left menu bar. Click the person icon next to the relevant Sportsmaster and select, ‘Turn on Mobile Notifications’

Not a Twitter person?

Twitter feeds will also be updated to the school website as per the previous wet weather system. This does however require you to access the wet weather page on the website and you may miss late changes due to unforeseen cancellations: [http://www.spx.nsw.edu.au/co-curricular/wet-weather](http://www.spx.nsw.edu.au/co-curricular/wet-weather)

Kind Regards
Greg Virgona & Matthew Stearn
St Pius College Sportsmasters
# MUSIC ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL DAYS & TIMES – 2014

## MONDAY
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Intermediate Concert Band  
  (BMR)
- 8.00 – 8.30 am  Senior String Trio  
  (EMR)
- Lunchtime  Senior Guitar Ensemble  
  (EMR)
- Lunchtime  Junior Percussion Ensemble  
  (BMR)
- Lunchtime  Junior String Ensemble  
  (CMR)
- 3.15 – 4.00 pm  Chamber Choir  
  (CMR)

## TUESDAY
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Senior Jazz Band  
  (BMR)
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Junior Jazz Band  
  (CMR)
- 8.00 – 8.30 am  Intermediate String Quartet  
  (EMR)
- Lunchtime  Junior Guitar Ensemble  
  (EMR)

## WEDNESDAY
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Senior Choir  
  (CMR)
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Junior Concert Band  
  (BMR)
- Lunchtime  Intermediate Guitar Ensemble  
  (EMR)

## THURSDAY
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Senior Concert Band  
  (BMR)
- 7.45 – 8.30 am  Junior Choir  
  (CMR)
- Lunchtime  Senior Percussion Ensemble  
  (BMR)

## FRIDAY
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Intermediate Jazz Band  
  (CMR)
- 7.30 – 8.30 am  Senior String Ensemble/Orchestra  
  (BMR)
- Lunchtime  Intermediate Percussion Ensemble  
  (BMR)
Information for Parents and Students:

**Great news!**

Our school has subscribed to the ELES Online Study Skills Handbook.

The ELES Online Study Skills Handbook provides a comprehensive and interactive online guide for the school community (students, parents and teachers) as to the study skills needed for success in high school studies. This approach taps into students’ affinity with technology to create a new and effective way to improve students’ study skills.

This is a great online resource for parents and students to address all their study skills issues and concerns and enable students to learn new ways to improve their results at school. The handbook has a huge amount of information for both students and parents as well as a large number of interactive activities.

To access the handbook, go to www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and login as a subscriber with these details:

Username: spx
Password: 25success

We encourage all parents and students to take advantage of this opportunity to further develop their students’ study skills abilities through this online resource.

**www.studyskillshandbook.com.au**
MindMatters for Families: Parenting Courses

Teen Triple P Group
for parents of teenagers
7 week group work program

The Teen Triple P Group is a 7 week parenting program aimed at parents or carers of teenagers aged 12-19 years who have or are at risk of developing behavior problems. Teen Triple P teaches parents how to encourage emotional self-regulation and help their teenager develop the social skills they need to get along well with others and be successful in school and in the wider community. Teenagers who grow up with positive parenting now have the independence to do what they want and achieve their goals. They also have the ability to think about themselves, and are less likely to develop behavior problems.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL, AND PRE-SCREENING REQUIRED.
Please contact Family and Youth Support Services on 4848 9700 or email family@nemenoram.org.au
Please note children are not able to attend and child care is not provided.

www.triplep.net

FREE Triple P Group Work Program
For parents of children aged 2-9

Triple P is a parenting program for all families that provides practical answers to everyday questions. The group program gives you the opportunity to develop skills, gain support from other parents, and share ideas and demonstrations of effective parenting skills. Best of all, the program gives you the chance to practice these skills. The program includes telephone support from the presenters.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL, AND PHONE INTERVIEW REQUIRED.
Please call 4848 9700 or email family@nemenoram.org.au
Please note children are unable to attend, and child care is not provided.

www.triplep.net

Positive Parenting Program

Free seminar, refreshments provided.
This program is a lecture style presentation and does not allow for children to attend that are over 8 months of age. Child care is not provided.

This program consists of 3 seminars held over 3 Weeks designed to introduce the principles of Positive Parenting. Parents learn how to encourage their children to learn skills which promote children’s health, development and wellbeing. This program is aimed at parents of children aged 0-10 yrs.

SEMINAR 1
THE POWER OF POSITIVE PARENTING: Thursday 13th March 10:30am-12:30pm

SEMINAR 2
RAISING CONFIDENT, COMPETENT CHILDREN: Thursday 20th March 10:30am-12:30pm

SEMINAR 3
RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN: Thursday 27th March 10:30am-12:30pm

Tribe P programs address general parenting issues, why children tend to behave in certain ways, under certain influences, and what help it can be to parents of young children in developing strategies for effective and positive parent care.

Contact your local CatholicCare Family Centre or call your local CatholicCare Family Centre to book in to one of our upcoming programs.
Contact your local CatholicCare Family Centre or call your local CatholicCare Family Centre to book in to one of our upcoming programs.
Welcome back to all aspiring footballers and their families for the 2014 season. This year will be another great one for football at the college in many senses.

The first of several trial matches for the 1st XI squad is being played this week on Sunday 2 Feb at Oxford Falls. Any interested boys should contact Mr Quilty, the 1st XI coach, to be considered.

Grading days for years 7-10 will be held on Sunday 9 & 16 Feb at Oxford Falls. Mr Yue, Senior Football Convenor, will provide further details regarding timeslots for individual year levels in the coming days.

The Pius World Cup Football Luncheon will take place on Friday 11 April. This is a major football event for our college community, featuring some of the biggest personalities in football. Stay tuned for more details and save the date!

The next FC committee meeting is on Tuesday 4 Feb at 7pm in the Sarto Centre. All welcome.

Donna Patterson (President)
patt.donna@hotmail.com
Old Boys News

Vale – Pat Reilly ’70

Sadly we lost one of our more charismatic Old Boys last week. Pat Reilly, the long serving mayor of Willoughby passed away.

A fitting send off for Pat was held at Our Lady of Dolours Church Chatswood yesterday followed by a tribute concert in the Concourse. A full report will be following in the coming editions of Woodchatta.

WELCOME

Welcome to the SPX community to all the new boys and parents and welcome back to everyone else. News of SPX Old Boys can be found in this section of the Woodchatta each week.

OLD BOYS NEWS
If you have some news for the old boys that you would like included in this section, please let us know at; info@oldboys.spx.nsw.edu.au

Kind regards

David Bullard (82) – President – SPX Old Boys Association
info@oldboys.spx.nsw.edu.au
0407 864 357

SPX OLD BOYS RUGBY – BROTHERS RUGBY CLUB SYDNEY

BROTHERS RUGBY – SEASON 2014:

Pre Season has started, so check the website for details; www.brothersrugby.com.au

More soon!

David Bullard (‘82) – President SPX OBA
& Brothers Rugby
info@oldboys.spx.nsw.edu.au
0407 864 357
Go 4 active, happy, motivated kids in 2014

Join a FREE local Go4Fun program and help transform your 7 to 13 year old child into an active, happy, motivated kid this year. Go4Fun involves both parents and their children, and focuses on developing healthy eating habits, building self-confidence and getting kids more active. The 10 week Chatswood Go4Fun program is a collaboration between NSW Health and Fix Australia. Commencing on Wednesday 5th February, sessions run after school and include informative games, fun and active exercise activities, tips on healthy food and portion sizes, label reading, a supermarket tour and more.

Families can also register or find out more information, by making a free call to 1800 780 900, visiting www.go4fun.com.au, or contacting the Go4Fun Coordinator on 9976 9532.