Welcome to 2016 – the Year of Inclusive Community at St Pius X College.

Inclusive Community is one of four Touchstones of the Charter for Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition. It calls on all of us at the College – staff and students – to build a community that has at its heart genuine care and responsibility for others, is accepting and welcoming, fosters right relationships and is committed to the common good.

At St Pius X College our vision is for our students to make a positive difference in our world. We aspire to each one of them, in their own way, becoming leaders, young men who are there for each other, who reach out to others and have a strong sense of support and belonging. We ask every student and every year group: how can you contribute to our Inclusive Community? In doing so, we foster awareness and provide opportunity for everyone in our College community to build a better world.

We are very proud of those ex-students who are making a positive difference. Leon Warren (College Captain 2014) was named Willoughby Young Citizen of the Year and Liam Knight (2013) was nominated for Young Australian of the Year for his work with The White Knight Foundation. Their achievements are detailed on pages 7 and 16.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Pius in Profile and appreciate the many aspects of College life and achievements of our students and staff.

John Couani • PRINCIPAL

2015 HSC RESULTS

The College congratulates the Class of 2015 on their HSC results and acknowledges with gratitude our dedicated and professional teaching staff and the families of the students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St Pius X College Merit List HSC 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Places in State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-round Achiever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Courses above State average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Band 6 results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Band 5 results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Achievers mentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top right: College Vice-Captain Nicholas Parker lights the 2016 College Candle.
Above: Mass was celebrated by Father Tom Stevens, an ex-student of St Pius X, assisted by Parish Priest Father Paul Finucane.
Below: Our Eucharistic Ministers

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Respect for all
Congratulations to the Class of 2015

“In 2015, the College’s theme was Liberating Education which called on each of us to strive for excellence in everything we do – in the classroom, on the playground, on the sporting fields, on the stage and in the community. The Class of 2015 certainly did strive for excellence and will be remembered for their lasting contribution to the life of the College.”

John Couani, PRINCIPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ATAR 99.15</th>
<th>College Dux – Ben John</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All-round Achiever</td>
<td>Matthew Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Places in NSW</td>
<td>Ben John 20th in Ancient History Matthew Harris 6th in Legal Studies Matthew Buskariol 18th in English (Advanced)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Achievers</td>
<td>95 mentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATAR over 90</td>
<td>26 students attained ATARs over 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100% St Pius X students attained Top 2 bands</td>
<td>English Extension 1, English Extension 2, History Extension, Music 2, Music Extension</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOLARSHIPS CONGRATULATIONS

- Ben Kinchington, Matthew Buskariol and Deven Solanki were all successful in attaining the highly competitive and valuable University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Bachelor of Accounting Scholarships.
- Tyran Collins attained a cadetship with EY (Ernst & Young) and is studying Commerce at UNSW.
- Liam Carroll was accepted into Macquarie University’s Global Leadership Program, undertaking a Bachelor of Business Leadership and Commerce.

“Liberating Education
Striving for Excellence

"The guidance and learning from my teachers was excellent. Having the structure and support of the College and staff around me, including that of a great Year 12 group, was critical...

My foremost message (to younger students) is that you should do what you really enjoy as subjects and what you have a passion for ... Everyone studies in different ways so the earlier you find out your most productive manner the better...

I was lucky as one of my chosen subjects was Drama which, while involving a lot of work, gave me a creative outlet. Another was Music and playing guitar, which helped me relax and take my mind off things for a while. I played football for the College 1st X1 Football team and I cannot stress enough the importance of exercise and sport towards a healthy mind and body.”

Ben John, College Dux

“The dedication of my individual teachers throughout the entirety of Year 11 and 12 to ensuring we were well prepared was probably the most significant contribution the school made to my success.”

Ben Kinchington

“Going into the exams I especially felt that the school had done everything that it could have done to prepare not only myself, but the whole cohort for the HSC ... I am proud to say that I don’t think I could have done as well as I did without Pius.”

Matthew Harris

“The exceptional teachers played a significant role in helping me achieve my results … also the administration staff and the entire community at Pius helped me do well by making everyday school life great.”

Matthew Buskariol

John Couani, PRINCIPAL

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Matthew Buskariol
The College has a number of scholarships available to existing students and now there is an expanded offering not only on the basis of a student’s academic performance, but also on the grounds of equity or enrichment of the life of the College.

In this way we are now providing access to families who would not ordinarily seek enrolment and, in so doing, allowing each student who receives a scholarship the opportunity of a Catholic education in our Edmund Rice tradition. This is consistent with the Charter and the Inclusive Community Touchstone which states:

“A Catholic school in the Edmund Rice Tradition ... strives to provide access to those who otherwise would not seek enrolment.”

The College also seeks to assist students to participate in College co-curricular tours (when selected) or representation of the College at State, National or International levels where their participation may otherwise not be possible due to financial circumstances.

Equity Scholarships

There are two types of scholarships awarded annually on the basis of financial hardship. The Curtin Family Scholarships are for attending students and the Edmund Rice Scholarships are for prospective students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Number of Scholarships</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Determined by</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curtin Family</td>
<td>All Years</td>
<td>Up to 3</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Scholarship Committee</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmund Rice</td>
<td>Prospective students</td>
<td>Up to 3 for each year</td>
<td>Full or partial remission of fees</td>
<td>Scholarship Committee</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrichment Scholarships

There are three types of scholarships awarded annually on the basis of enrichment of the College. The Philip Riley and Old Boy Scholarships are awarded to existing Year 11 students who make noted contributions to the life of the College, but whose family is experiencing financial hardship that may otherwise prevent them completing their time at the College. The Indigenous Education Scholarship is open to students enrolling in the College who show a commitment to learning and an ability to contribute to the life of the College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Number of Scholarships</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Determined by</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Riley Memorial</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Boys Association</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Full tuition fees</td>
<td>Old Boys Association</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Education</td>
<td>Prospective students</td>
<td>Determined annually</td>
<td>Full tuition fees</td>
<td>Scholarship Committee</td>
<td>Annual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information or an application form please refer to the Enrolment Information tab on the College website www.spx.nsw.edu.au

“ST PIUS REALLY ENCOURAGES ACADEMIC SUCCESS, ESPECIALLY IN THE SENIOR YEARS. THE BROTHER KERR SCHOLARSHIP I RECEIVED IN YEAR 10 REALLY SET ME UP FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS AS I WAS MOTIVATED TO DO MY VERY BEST.”

Tyran Collins, Class of 2015, achieved an ATAR of 97.90 and received an accounting cadetship working full time with Ernst & Young (EY) and studying Commerce at UNSW.

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENTS

Your Building Fund in Action

“The College appreciates our families’ ongoing contributions to the Building Fund which make important works affordable for the College community.”
Mr John Couani, Principal

The following extensive works will be completed in Term 1, 2016.

Science and Library Block
- New roof, removal of concrete cancer, major rust removal from steel poles, repairs to windows and cladding, and a full repaint of the exterior of the building. Cost $400,000.

Band Room
- New roof and repairs. Cost $100,000.

Anderson Street Frontage and Garden
- Restoration and landscaping. Cost $40,000.

Extensive works have been completed at the Science and Library Block

The new scoreboard at Oxford Falls. Thanks to Mr Martin Carroll for bringing to reality this joint project of the Cricket Club, Rugby Club and Old Boys Association and to the SPX Maintenance Department for installation.
2016 Student Leaders pledge Inclusive College Community

“The Class of 2016 will lead St Pius X in becoming a more inclusive, more accepting, more positive and more liberating school … We want to encourage community within each year group, the school and the wider world. This means social activities amongst year groups, recognising and celebrating every student’s individual talent, sport and academic achievements alike, facilitating conversation and creating an environment of colour, positivity and acceptance.”

Liam Houlihan, College Captain

College Captain Liam Houlihan and Vice-Captains lead Year 12 in the Leadership Pledge at their Investiture.

Mayor of Willoughby Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney (pictured above) quoted 6th US President Quincy Adams in her address at the Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony at the Concourse.

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

Mayor of Willoughby Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney (pictured above) quoted 6th US President Quincy Adams in her address at the Student Leaders Investiture Ceremony at the Concourse.

College Captain Liam Houlihan

College welcomes new Deputy and Assistant Principal – Mission and Identity

Mr Mark Casey, Deputy Principal

Mr Mark Casey takes up the role of Deputy Principal having served as Assistant Principal – Mission and Identity at the College since 2011. Mr Casey has held leadership and teaching positions in EREA and other schools and is passionate about the education and faith formation of our young men in the 21st century. He holds a Masters in Educational Administration (UNSW).

Mrs Donna Dempsey, Assistant Principal – Mission and Identity

Mrs Dempsey brings to St Pius X College vast experience in Religious Education and Mission and Identity. She holds a Masters of Educational Leadership and a Masters of Religious Education and is currently undertaking a Masters of Theology. Mrs Dempsey has taught and led in a range of education settings, most recently at Mount St Benedict College Pennant Hills.

We are pleased that Mr Jim Olson, our immediate past Deputy Principal, is remaining at the College in the role of Resources Coordinator.
TEACHING AND LEARNING

ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS
OPPORTUNITIES TO “LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE”

“Throughout a student’s learning journey at St Pius X College, from Years 5 to 10 he will participate in a regular schedule of academic competitions in English, Science and Mathematics. In Year 10 there will also be a competition for Geography. These competitions are a very important component of our overall assessment program as they provide valuable diagnostic information for each student. Of course we celebrate the high achievers but we also carefully analyse each student’s results and compare this to his standard of achievement at the College. When competition results align with a student’s school achievement, it affirms our assessment processes. When there are anomalies, this generates discussion at various levels for those particular students. Other benefits include identifying potentially gifted students or those that may require further attention. They are also very useful for identifying areas of weakness in a group of students and therefore assist in school planning and resource allocation. When attempting these competitions, we encourage all students to participate to the best of their ability and to not simply view these assessments as competitions but rather as opportunities for them to let their light shine.”

Mr Alex Damo,
Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning

6 in a million
High Distinctions for St Pius X English students

ICAS is an independent skills-based assessment with a competition element. Over one million entries are accepted annually from students in over 6,300 schools in Australia and New Zealand as well as students from over 20 other countries including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and the USA. Out of those million participants, six St Pius X College students were awarded High Distinction In English. Congratulations to Nicholas Parker and Declan Warn (2015 Year 11), Ewan Cranston (2015 Year 10), Phillip Cullen (2015 Year 9), and Jacob Hassan and Cameron Lorking (2015 Year 8).

COMPETITIONS & AWARDS

Nicholas, Adrian, Michael and Samuel enter Pius Book of Records

Congratulations to Nicholas Parker, Adrian Currington, Michael Currington and Samuel Massey for achieving the highest level in the Premier’s Reading Challenge by completing the Challenge every year from Year 3 to Year 9 – the first St Pius X students to do so. Between them they read more than 560 books.

Angus, Braith, Alex and Ethan – our latest published authors and illustrators

Angus Stewart, Braith Boccanfuso, Alex Vaccher and Ethan Griffin (Year 6) have had their short stories or artwork published in the “Magic Corridors” book organised by Willoughby Council. They said, “It was a massive honour to be chosen to be published in the book which is entitled Magic Corridors and is going to be available in all libraries throughout Willoughby.”

“Magic Corridors” is now available in the Junior School Resource Centre.

Congratulations to the 459 St Pius X mathematicians who participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition.

★ 18 were awarded Distinctions (top 15% in Australia). Special mention to Max Leo who was the only Junior School student to achieve a Distinction.
★ 104 were awarded a Credit (top 50%)
★ 243 were awarded Proficient students

SWAPPING BOOKS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

The Great Book Swap raises funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF). They deliver new books to over 230 communities nationally, run an early literacy project, and publish and fund specific community literacy projects, some of which are in Indigenous languages. Junior School students donated their favourite books, which were then purchased by other students.
**NEW CALEDONIA LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TOUR 2016**

Sixteen French students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 and 3 staff will be travelling to New Caledonia in the June holidays. This is the third time the College has offered this Tour in recent years. The Tour gives students an authentic French experience only three hours from home.

**Leon shares his passion for Chinese and is named Willoughby Young Citizen of the Year**

Leon Warren (SPX College Captain 2014) placed 1st in the State in HSC Chinese and highly valued the 2013 China Language and Culture Tour. Leon has recently been named Willoughby Young Citizen of the Year for voluntarily teaching Mandarin at a local community centre and creating a language teaching manual for a “survival Chinese course”. Congratulations Leon.

Above: Leon pictured with Willoughby Mayor Councillor Gail Giles-Gidney and Tracey Spicer

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**FROM CHATSWOOD TO CHINA**

In the September holidays, 23 Year 9 and 10 Chinese Language students, accompanied by 3 staff, embarked on the biannual 3 week, 3 city Language and Culture Tour of China.

The Tour took in three main cities: Beijing, China’s capital city, where students visited the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven and Forbidden City; Xian to visit the tomb of China’s first emperor, Qin Shihuangdi, where they experienced history first hand, visiting the Terracotta Warriors and riding bikes on the old Xian city walls; and Shanghai, where they studied Mandarin at Eastern China Normal University and developed the College’s connection and friendship with students at the Tianshan Middle School, where they attended English classes, played basketball, learnt calligraphy and participated in the school’s performing arts program.

“The China Trip of 2015 was an amazing experience. Being able to travel to a country and experience the culture and language through actually being there was an opportunity I was so grateful of. One of my favourite things was how relaxed the whole culture was – on the side of the street you would see people selling baskets of pomegranates, dancing to music, playing Chinese checkers or cards, and there was something so cool about that. My favourite thing was going to all these famous landmarks, from Summer Palace and the Great Wall to Terracotta Warriors to the bottle openers and being able to get around on our own in Chinese. Markets were also a fun experience, in which we had some wins and some losses (meaning we got hit and yelled at sometimes). The whole atmosphere was so lively and it’s strange to see how different it was to Sydney. I think everyone got to know each other a lot better too, and everyone got on really well with each other, and that only made the trip better than it already was. I think I can say on behalf of everyone it was a fantastic experience and I was so happy to have gone on the trip!”

Ronan Apcar, Year 9 (2015)

Ready for a long day, we travelled to visit the Great Wall of China. We caught the chairlift to one of the Guard Tower Keeps on the wall, to begin the long walk. The view was absolutely spectacular. Walking the Wall is definitely one memory I will keep forever.

Willem Ma, Year 10 (2015)
When the Call of Duty Sounds …

Social Justice Statement launched at Founder’s Day Festival

The College celebrated everything we believe in – our Touchstones and social justice – at the Founder’s Day Festival in November. It was a day to grow in awareness of issues facing the world today and raise funds for our partner schools in Australia and overseas. It was also a day of entertainment, showcasing the many talents of College students – musicians, singers, comedians and dancers.

At the conclusion of the day the College’s Social Justice Statement was launched following extensive input by Student Leaders, the Edmund Rice Society and staff.

Social Justice Statement

As a faith community in the Edmund Rice tradition:

We believe that we are all created in the image and likeness of God.

We believe in a Gospel spirituality that is the foundation for all our relationships with others.

We believe in the principles of Catholic social justice: equity, access, dignity, participation and human rights.

We believe in Liberating Education and its power to provide awareness and opportunity for all members of society to build a better world.

We believe in an Inclusive Community which is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationships and committed to the common good.

We believe we are called to action by the Church and by following the example set by Edmund Rice to “Give to the poor in handfuls”.

We believe in stewardship of the environment, as we owe a duty of care to live in a safe, clean and healthy environment for present and future generations.

We believe in Indigenous Reconciliation and work for unity and solidarity with Indigenous people.

We believe in Justice and Solidarity and that we are called to work for peace, stand against injustice, support the poor and fight for a more just society.

We believe in the power of the whole College community – students, staff and families – to work as advocates for justice in society, and the responsibility on all to help those in need.

The College’s Social Justice brochure is now on the College website. It details the many ways social justice is embedded at the College in ongoing and mutually rewarding service, partnerships and reconciliation programs as well as fundraising activities. Contact the College if you would like a copy.

Zaki, a refugee from Afghanistan, told his moving personal story to the assembled College. Zaki has recently been awarded International Student of the Year.

Our fabulous hosts

When the Call of Duty Sounds … Old Boy Sean Loughland (2009) debunked myths about asylum seekers and refugees.

Student Leaders led workshops which challenged students about the actions they can take.

World Youth Day 2016: a “life-giving journey”

St Pius X College pilgrims will be travelling on the Italy with the Saints route on their way to Krakow for World Youth Day (WYD) in July. They will travel from the Vatican in Rome to Assisi, Siena, Florence, Padua and Venice. From there they will travel onto Warsaw in Poland, from which they will travel to Krakow (with a side trip to Auschwitz) for the week-long celebrations of WYD culminating in Mass with Pope Francis.

Bishop Peter Comensoli, who will be in Krakow with the pilgrims, of which 20 will be from St Pius X, says that this will be a “life giving journey”.

Benjamin Di Tommaso (Year 10) and Liam Zucconi (Year 11) explain what is motivating them to join the WYD pilgrimage, what they are looking forward to, and what they expect it will mean to them.

“Over the past year I had been speaking to people that had ventured on previous WYDs and their description of the journey sounded amazing, not only the travelling aspect of the trip but their ability to deepen their faith among the youth of the world.

I personally cannot put my finger on what I’m looking forward to the most, but I’ve heard stories about the final Mass and the buzzing feeling you have inside after the event and I expect these and many more parts of the journey to be a once in a lifetime experience for me.

While it will be a very personal experience it will be a privilege to celebrate the faith and share it on such a huge scale, and I am so glad I can share this adventure with a great bunch of Pius boys and hopefully come back with a deeper understanding of the faith and a stronger connection with God.” Benjamin Di Tommaso

“I’m really excited to have been offered this amazing opportunity to travel with my peers to Europe on this World Youth Day adventure! I believe this cultural immersion will be an opportunity to strengthen my faith along with the many other Catholic pilgrims around the world who are all coming to celebrate the Good News of Jesus in Poland.” Liam Zucconi

Above: Benjamin Di Tommaso (pictured far right) and Liam Zucconi (third from right) with some of their fellow WYD pilgrims
MISSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The College continues to consolidate its commitment to the global network of Edmund Rice education and services.

CONNECTING EDMUND RICE STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD

St Pius X College is a lead school in an exciting initiative – Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders.

Mr Sean Brannan, Head of Student Services, was one of 82 delegates representing 54 Edmund Rice schools and colleges from 19 countries worldwide who met in South Africa to share ideas, initiatives and best practice in bringing the network of Edmund Rice schools together to the mutual benefit of our students, schools and wider communities.

“Over the coming years our students and staff will make meaningful contact with Edmund Rice students and educators in South America, Ireland, North America, Papua New Guinea, India, New Zealand, and East, West and South Africa. This will widen our perspective and enrich our lived experience of what it can mean to follow in the Christian traditions of Edmund Rice education in a diverse variety of cultural contexts,” Mr Brannan said.

Brother Kevin Ryan, PNG Callan Services Director visits College

The College was honoured to host Brother Kevin Ryan, Director of Callan Services in Papua New Guinea. St Pius X has developed a solid partnership with Callan Services which runs 19 centres across PNG, with proceeds from our social justice fundraisers being donated to improve the lives of young people living with disabilities and their families. This year, we plan to complete an immersion program where an advance party of our Kokoda Expedition Team will spend time working at Callan Services and other Edmund Rice programs in Port Moresby.

R U OK? Day and White Ribbon Day were days to promote awareness, understanding and action.

R U OK? Day raising awareness of mental health. The day to ask friends, family and colleagues “Are you okay?” – to start “a conversation that could change a life”.

WHITE RIBBON DAY

Students and staff proudly wore white ribbons in support of White Ribbon Day, to support the Australia-wide campaign to stop violence against women.

Jonathan Williams (Year 12) raised, on his own, $950 for Christ the King Parish School in Loei, North Thailand. His family visited this very poor mountain village and they asked if they could do anything to help. The Parish School was trying to build some simple shelter for their students. Father Paolo wrote to Jonathan saying: “Thank you for your support. Your donations are very precious in helping us complete the building for our youth. You are an instrument of divine providence for us. May God bless you.”

Legacy

AMISSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

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SUMMER OF SPORT

Sport at Pius got off to an excellent start in 2016 with both Senior and Junior School Swimming Carnivals held in the first week of school. Spirited competition saw records smashed and Purton winning both Carnivals.

1ST XI CRICKET PLAYER NUMBERS

Cricket Player Numbers have become a reality at St Pius X thanks to the hard work of Mr Garry White (#267). SPX Cricket has numbered each player who has represented the College in 1st XI Cricket in a competition match (for current and future players the criterion is one ISA match). Additionally, all players who have captained the 1st XI have been numbered. This is outstanding recognition of the effort required to play at 1st XI level and excellent motivation for younger players to strive extra hard.

2015 Sportsman of the Year – Nick McCamley

Nick McCamley (1st XI Captain and ISA 1st XI Captain) in action

2015 Junior School Sportsman of the Year – Ben Kafer

Ben Kafer (Prep 1sts Rugby Captain, CIS Rugby) receiving his award from College Principal Mr John Couani

2016 CHRISTIAN BROTHERS CRICKET WEEK – QUEENSLAND TOUR

Over the summer holidays a combined 1st and 2nd XI Squad travelled to Brisbane to participate in the 2016 CBCW. A very successful tour was had, with the SPX Cricket team competing in Division 1.

Callum Aiken, Open Age Champion, broke the College’s longstanding record for 50m backstroke with his time of 29.45 seconds.

Current 1st XI Cricketers presented with their Player Number by Mr Couani and Cricket Committee members Mr Garry White (#267) and Mr Danny John

Congratulations to Alex Drake (SPX 2015) now playing football for the Central Coast Mariners
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

SNOWY HIKE

Keeping alive the 30+ year tradition of the annual Snowy Hike, 48 Year 11 students (and 8 staff) hiked 100 km in 6 days through the Kosciuszko National Park at the start of the summer holidays.

Expedition leader Mr Paul de Silva, the College’s Outdoor Education Coordinator, said “this year, conditions were much warmer and sunburn and hydration proved to be the greater challenges”. Previous hiking parties have encountered challenging weather conditions including unseasonal heavy snowfalls, driving rain, thunderstorms and fog.

Since the Snowy Hike started in the 1980s, more than 1200 students from Pius, Mercy and Brigidine Colleges have undertaken this challenging and spectacular hike.

WARRUMBUNGLES EXPEDITION INTEGRATES INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LIGHT

An expedition to the Warrumbungle National Park in North West NSW provided a unique opportunity to integrate outdoor education, the Year 11 Physics Syllabus, the MindMatters program and social justice with a spiritual dimension.

The theme was International Year of Light and over 5 days 15 students and 3 staff experienced an astronomical observation evening at Siding Springs, a 16 km bushwalk, Aboriginal immersion day and scripture-based spiritual reflection.

KOKODA 2016 PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY

Preparations are well underway for the College’s second Kokoda expedition in September. Approximately 20 students, family members and staff are currently practising hikes and learning about the history of the Kokoda Track. The expedition will have special personal significance for Year 9 student Declan Langreiter (pictured), grand nephew of former St Pius X student, Flt Sgt Anthony Gillespie RAAF, killed in action during WWII.

“I am excited to be participating in the College’s 2016 Kokoda and Callan Services Expedition and Immersion with my Dad. It will also give me the opportunity of commemorating my great uncle Anthony Gillespie’s life. Anthony was my mother’s uncle and was the first ex-student of St Pius X College to be killed in action in WWII. His medals and photo are proudly displayed by the school outside Mr Couani’s office.”
LEARNING SUPPORT AND ENRICHMENT – providing inclusive and personalised education

In keeping with the 2016 theme of Inclusive Education, the new-look Learning Support and Enrichment (LSE) team’s aim this year is to collaborate more effectively, to know our students more fully and to address the diverse abilities, needs and interests that make our students so unique. The team, in conjunction with teachers, counsellors and pastoral staff, provides personalised support to students who may struggle academically and those with special needs due to a disability and enrichment programs for gifted and talented students, as well as supporting those for whom English may be an additional language.

Students are supported both in and out of the classroom and after school through:

- in-class and intensive support
- Homework Help program which runs after school from Tuesday to Thursday every week
- joint initiatives with the Counselling Team – such as the Getaway Program which operates weekly in the Junior School
- after-school occupational therapy courses available onsite for our students in The Art of Touch Typing and Handwriting Skills
- management of disability provisions for exams and assessments.

For more information please contact the Learning Support and Enrichment Coordinator at JRahebMol@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

Chess – character building and fun!
Chess develops patience, perseverance, concentration, increased attention spans, memory, logical thinking, self-confidence and the capability to predict and foresee consequences of actions. It promotes imagination and creativity and inspires self-motivation. It also brings together diverse students from different backgrounds and abilities. And it’s fun! Just ask the 60 St Pius X boys who compete in the NSW Junior Chess league.

Scholarship invaluable to understanding and teaching of the Holocaust
History teacher Ms Anne Gripton has returned from her scholarship study tour in Israel. While in Israel, Ms Gripton attended a three-week seminar program on all aspects of the Holocaust, presented by expert historians, which will be invaluable for our students’ learning. While there, she also had the opportunity to meet with Holocaust survivors, from a woman who was friends with Anne Frank as a girl in Holland to one of the Jews saved by Oskar Schindler. Ms Gripton also visited sites of religious significance including Bethlehem, the Mount of the Beatitudes and Nazareth among others. The tour was rigorous, but Ms Gripton said that it has had an enormous impact on her understanding and teaching of the Holocaust, and she looks forward to sharing more with her students and colleagues.
**THE ARTS**

**CHRIS L ANZON**
Chris Lanzon and his band In Stereo made it to the finals of *X Factor* in 2015. Chris is no stranger to Australian television reality music competitions, having been a finalist in *The Voice Kids* in 2014 when he was in Year 8.

**Joe Moore**
The College congratulates College Old Boy Joe Moore on his wonderful performance in the final of *The Voice*. Joe was brilliant and made it to the final two contestants.

**B I K E S F O R L I F E**
Year 12 Visual Arts student Luca Blasonato lent a hand to Bikes for Life, a charitable organisation that sends used bikes to Africa and Cambodia, when he was asked to paint the crate the bikes were transported in.

**NO STOPPING HARRISON**
Harrison Witsey’s artwork *Now Stopping* was selected for ARTEXPRESS in 2014. He returned to the College to talk to the 2016 HSC Visual Arts Class giving advice on researching and making their bodies of work and sharing his experiences since leaving school: Art School (UNSW Art and Design), artist’s residency in Japan and his current and upcoming exhibitions at KUDOS Gallery in Paddington, ALASKA Projects and 107 Projects in Redfern.

**ST PIUS X COLLEGE**
Open Day
SATURDAY 19 MARCH • 10AM - 2PM
Principal’s Welcome 12 noon
Enrolling now for 2018 for Years 5, 6 and 7

Chatswood Campus
35 Anderson Street Chatswood NSW 2067
Phone 9411 4733 Email: admin@spx.nsw.edu.au
Our sporting fields at The Treacy Complex, Dreadnought Road, Oxford Falls will be open from 8am – 12noon.
Full details at www.spx.nsw.edu.au
Vale Brother Brian Jeffers

Brother Jeffers has been an institution at the College for many, many years. He was a teacher and Deputy Principal at St Pius X College from 1983 to 1991.

Brother Jeffers was a member of the Chatswood Brothers Community again from 2003 to 2014 before moving to Strathfield for health reasons. He passed away peacefully in October 2015.

Mr Tony Cunneen wrote an extensive obituary which appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald’s Timelines, 14–15 November 2015. It is available to view online. It chronicles Brother Jeffers’ inspiring life: the many Colleges he taught at and taught in at St Pius; his remarkable scholarly achievements and interests; his travels to China at the age of 70 where he taught English for five years before returning to teach English to Sudanese refugees until his early 80s; his enthusiastic participation in World Youth Day at the age of 78; and his final years here at Chatswood where he taught English to local Chinese parishioners.

Brother Brian Garnier Jeffers cfc is recalled by his many students and friends as an inspirational teacher and a sincere, humble man of God. He combined great intellectual gifts with remarkable eccentricity. His unshakeable faith in the mission of the Catholic Church led him to an open-minded tolerance and compassion towards all humankind. His approach to Catholicity was simple – he saw that he had to help people in a practical sense. While Brian was instrumental in the establishment and conduct of a number of Catholic Schools over the last half century he will be remembered by those who knew him for his many simple acts of humanity, as well as his rather unique approach to life. He was eulogised as a many faceted “jewel of a man” ...

This is what your God asks of you
Only this:
To act justly
To love tenderly
And to walk humbly with your God

Vale “BJ”. We shall not see his like again.

Mr Tony Cunneen

The College was saddened to hear of the passing of Mr Dominic Goffredo, brother of Mrs Anna Coombs; Mr Barry ‘Brute’ Williams (SPX 1948) who is survived by his sons David and Michael, both Old Boys of the College; Father Brian Larkey, an Old Boy priest of the College; and Mr Mark Chrimes, father of Dylan (SPX 2015). They, and their families, remain in our prayers.

May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.
St Pius X P&F Association – an integral part of our Inclusive Community

The St Pius X College Parents & Friends Association consists of a group of volunteer parents who work together and with the wider College community to organise and facilitate events throughout the year.

All P&F events provide social occasions where parents can meet and catch up. Some of our events raise funds to further enhance students’ learning by providing resources and experiences to the boys and the College.

The P&F President, Paul Hunt, a St Pius X Old Boy himself, believes firmly in our role of supporting the College by providing liaison and occasional counsel on behalf of parents. We also give carefully considered and targeted financial support to appropriate projects.

The P&F Committee believes that a happy group of parents and a strong College will maximise the benefit for our boys.

Please contact our Committee Secretary, Steve Johnson, at spxpandfsecretary@gmail.com if you are interested in getting involved.

Your P&F Funds in Action – Thank you to the P&F

- Annual contribution to Clubs (Basketball, Cricket, Performing Arts, Rugby and Football) $10,000 each $50,000
- Debating $2,500
- First Aid – New Defibrillators $5,200
- Languages $3,200
- Robotics $1,600
- World Youth Day $6,000
- R U OK? Day $3,000
- Gallipoli Camp contribution $2,000
- Robotics $2,000
- Weights Program $12,000

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS PARISH DINNER

The College was pleased to host the Our Lady of Dolours (OLD) Parish Dinner on a very hot November evening. It was an evening to celebrate and strengthen our relationships and common goals with our parish and neighbouring schools, Mercy College and OLD Primary. Three hundred guests enjoyed delicious food served by our Year 10 students, marvellous entertainment by our College Senior Jazz Band and fascinating interviews by Geraldine Doogue. A great evening was had by everyone, with funds being raised for Social Justice and for WYD 2016. Congratulations and thanks to all.

Old Boys Association Annual Dinner
FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

New SPX Old Boys Website!

It’s with great excitement that we unveil our new website to you. Aside from an updated look, the new website features a powerful new way to keep you up to date and involved in the SPX Old Boys community. You’ll be able to keep abreast of the news, look at Old Boys achievements, view photos of events and much more. Visit us at www.spxoldboys.org.au

STOP PRESS

Christian Brothers Chatswood

Appreciation Mass
3 May 2016
at Our Lady of Dolours
5.00 pm
Followed by
Thanksgiving Dinner
6.30 pm
at The Concourse Chatswood
See www.spx.nsw.edu.au for details
From **BLUE & GOLD** to **GREEN & GOLD**

**MICHAEL HOOPER**

Congratulations to Michael Hooper (SPX 2009) on his and the Wallabies’ fantastic Rugby World Cup campaign.

Michael had a wonderful rugby career at St Pius X captaining the 11As, Prep 1st XV, 13As, 14As, 15As, 16As and 1st XV. In 2009 he was SPX Rugby Captain.

In the Junior School his teams were undefeated and he represented NSW. In the four seasons he captained the 13As, 14As, 15As and 16As he scored 42 tries, played 43 games, captained the sides to 36 wins, 3 draws and 4 losses and was named ‘Best and Fairest’ each year.

On the eve of the Rugby World Cup Final, the “Home of Hooper” held a Wallabies Gold assembly. Mr Jim Olson, (then) Deputy Principal, read a message to Michael from the entire College Community. **Michael, you were made for this moment by faith and hard work. We are proud of you – win, lose or draw. All the best to you and the Wallabies for the final. Go you good things!**

**Above:** Michael Hooper in the 14As

**Below:** Wallabies Gold Assembly on the eve of the Rugby World Cup Final

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**LIAM KNIGHT**

Congratulations to St Pius X College Old Boy Liam Knight (2013) on being nominated for Young Australian of the Year in recognition of his work as an anti-violence advocate and the establishment of The White Knight Foundation to support victims of violence. He is a truly inspirational young man.

www.thewhiteknightfoundation.com

The College also extends its congratulations and best wishes to Young Australians of the Year, Nic Marchesi and Lucas Patchett (old boys of fellow EREA school, St Joseph’s College Gregory Terrace in Brisbane), who started Orange Sky Laundry, a mobile laundry service for the homeless www.orangeskylaundry.com.au and to 2016 Australian of the Year, Lieutenant-General David Morrison, who is a former student of fellow EREA school, St Edmund’s in Canberra.

The White Knight Foundation Annual Gala Dinner, 17 June 2016, Novotel Manly Pacific. Contact Mr Rick Russo at the College if you would like to support this great cause by your attendance, sponsorship or product donations.