

PIUS InProfile

Spring 2024



ST PIUS X COLLEGE
CHATSWOOD





Liberating Education



Gospel Spirituality



Inclusive Community



Justice and Solidarity



Pius in Profile, the St Pius X College
biannual magazine

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Front Page Photo

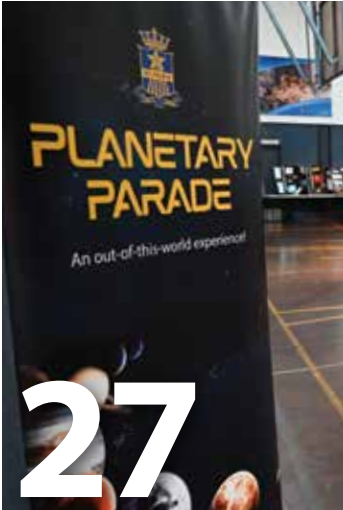
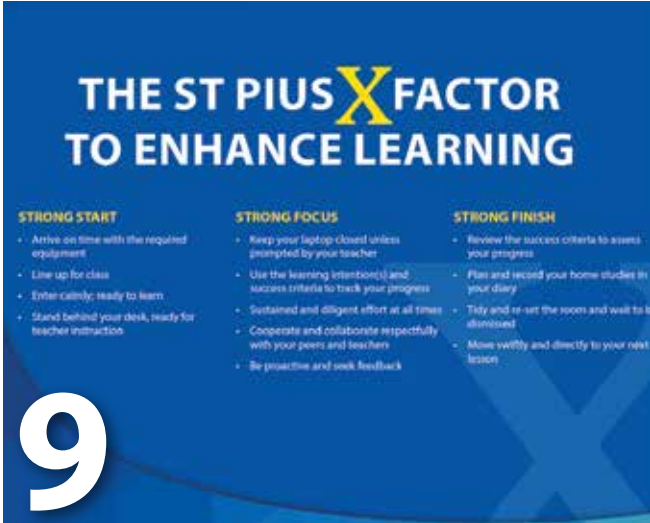
Science Week



Acknowledgement of Country

St Pius X College acknowledges the traditional
inhabitants of the land on which the College stands,
the Cammeraygal people of the Eora nation.

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Principal's Welcome

It has been a very busy year at St Pius X College, living out our 2024 guiding principle: 'Seek to Serve, Stronger Together.' Our Year 12 graduated with great style and dignity in September and are to be commended for their contribution to College life. There are many fine leaders and learners amongst them, and we wish them all the best in the upcoming HSC Examinations which commenced on 15 October. The achievements of our senior class are featured in this edition.

Some highlights include the showcase of HSC major works known as Splinters, Splashes, Sounds, Stage and Stories which featured some outstanding productions in a range of media. Five of our talented HSC students received nominations for their outstanding HSC projects. Congratulations to Michael Krizan and Blake Markulin for their nominations for OnSTAGE as a result of their compelling major works in Drama, and Daniel Formosa, Oscar Kalcher and Andrew May for being nominated for SHAPE which

showcases outstanding projects from students who have completed their HSC in Design and Technology, Industrial Technology, and Textiles and Design. Michael Krizan was also nominated for possible inclusion in the Young Writers' Showcase.

Year 12 were also blessed with some champion sportsmen, many of whom will undoubtedly go on to excel in their fields. Matthew Hunt, Nicholas Gladen, Tiger Hart, Nick Tozer and Reef Farias are just a few names we can expect to hear again.

Performing Arts continues to be a feature of the College, and we now have a new drumline to add to our musical section. Our performance ensembles have achieved outstanding results at the Sydney Eisteddfod and NSW State Band Championships, whilst continuing to entertain us all at key events and concerts. As we farewell and celebrate the Class of 2024 it is with great pride and confidence we introduce



HSC Visual Arts Body of Work, Painting by Fergus Fung – “團圓” (Reunion)

the 2025 College student leaders to you. They will uphold the traditions and values of the College amongst the students.

Our College staff continue to focus and invest in Teaching and Learning with the development of the College Learning Framework, promotion of the Learning X Factor in the classroom and the continuation of the very successful academic annexe in the Senior Library.

Underpinning our work is our continued focus on Faith and Identity, giving life through our weekly liturgies and service programs such as the Red Dirt Immersion, Winter Appeal and weekly community service initiatives. The College also combines events with Mercy College and works with Chatswood Parish to promote the Youth Masses which have been such a success in 2024.

We have so much to celebrate at St Pius X College and we are grateful for our dedicated and caring staff and our supportive and inclusive community. Annual events

such as the Book Week parade, the various carnivals, the graduations and the many performances shape our identity as a successful school in the Edmund Rice tradition.

Welcome to the 2024 Spring Pius in Profile.

God Bless you all.

Mr Michael Ronchetti
PRINCIPAL



fide et labore,
THROUGH FAITH AND HARD WORK

Goodluck and Farewell Class of 2024





2025 College Student Leaders

Congratulations to the Student Leadership Team for 2025. Anthony Parissis will captain the College, supported by Lachlan Staber and Charlie Woolf as Vice Captains. The full Student Leadership Team for 2025 is shown below. Congratulations to all these young men.

The Prefects will commence their leadership of the College in Term 4. Their roles include providing leadership and strategic direction, coordinating events, leading the College in liturgy and prayer life, cultural activities, academic and learning activities and sporting and extra curricular events.

Student Leaders for 2025



Anthony Parissis
COLLEGE CAPTAIN



Lachlan Staber
COLLEGE VICE CAPTAIN



Charlie Woolf
COLLEGE VICE CAPTAIN

House Captains



Nikolai Dimantha
BARRON



Sam Cooper
PURTON



Ben Hillsdon
RICE



Christian Wong
TREACY

Prefects

Wellbeing Prefects



Jack Fairbanks



Ryan O'Reilly



James Terzian

Mission and Identity Prefects



Matthew Dixon



Dominic D'Souza



Ethan Rahme

Cultural Prefects



Ethan Auer



Jason Kristianto



Robert Oner

Academic Prefects



Adam Fitzryk



James Furini



Luke Mortimer

Teaching and Learning

2024 has been an exciting year for Teaching and Learning at St Pius X College. In our ongoing commitment to providing a holistic education grounded in Gospel values, we launched the St Pius X Teaching and Learning Framework

We believe learning experiences underpinned by hope, forgiveness, acceptance, and personal integrity, liberate the learner, and inspire them into action for justice and enable them to actively participate in all aspects of society as informed and ethical citizens.

Our framework is inspired by EREA's 'Liberating Practice' and aligns with Australia's national goal of developing young people into 'successful lifelong learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens' (Department of Education, Skills and Employment, 2021).

Our framework includes Liberating Achievement, Liberating Potential, and Liberating Pedagogies. It features strategies designed to encourage student voice and agency, foster resilient learners who set goals, embrace a growth mindset, and where success is recognised and celebrated in all its forms.

To assist us implement the various aspects of this framework, we are working with seasoned expert and author in the field, Ms Bronwyn MacLeod. Bronwyn holds a Certificate of Gifted Education and a Master of Education from the University of New South Wales, where she also pursued doctoral studies.

In Term 3 the College also introduced the St Pius X Factor 'Learning Routine' which encourages students to have a strong start to each of their lessons, maintain a strong focus to their learning and have a strong finish to their lessons.

Each learning space in the College displays this message as a visual reminder to give of their best throughout each lesson every day. Thinking routines have been proven to improve student learning outcomes, enhance focus and prevent moments of procrastination.



Science week

"Species survival - more than just sustainability" was the theme for this year's science week which ran during the last week of August. Students enjoyed making mini terrariums to chemical analysis of whale snot and learning how to crochet nests for injured birds during lunchtime activities run by the Science department.



Academic Annexe

The Academic Annexe offers after school support for all students in the Senior Resource Centre. Tutors are available to assist with homework, assignments and exam preparation.

This provides a great opportunity for students to complete study notes, homework and receive additional support.

Open Monday to Thursday

3:20 pm – 5:20 pm



Celebrating Success



Celebration of Learning

Congratulations to the students across Years 7-10 who were presented with awards at the 9 August Celebration of Learning, held at the Concourse. Attendees were entertained by the Intermediate Jazz Band as well as with Drama performances and Visual Arts presentations. Special Guest was the Liberal Candidate for North Sydney, Gisele Kapterian, who reminded the audience of the importance of choices and making the most of the many opportunities we are blessed to have every day. Well done to all the students on their achievements and results from Semester 1.

106 Fide Award Recipients

(25 Year 7, 22 Year 8, 30 Year 9, 29 Year 10)

13 Waterford Awards

(Year 7 – 10)

40 Growth in Learning Awards

(Year 8 – 10)

8 Blue Colour Awards

8 Silver Colour Awards



Empowering Upstanders: Supporting a safe and inclusive school community

Another new initiative this year is the recognition of students who have contributed to the life of the College or wider community by their positive actions. Good deeds varied from assisting members of the public on transport, to intervening in negative interactions between peers at school, and voluntarily helping younger students in the library with their schoolwork. Each term students are invited to a morning tea hosted by the Principal to acknowledge their positive actions.



Cocurricular Colour Awards

Silver and Gold Colour Awards were presented at the Cocurricular Colour Awards Ceremony at the Concourse on 10 September with Blue Awards being presented during the Semester at the College assemblies. The following awards were presented.

	Gold	Silver	Blue
Athletics and Cross Country	4	5	14
Basketball	1	18	17
Chess	0	5	8
Cricket	2	9	8
Debating	5	4	5
Drama	1	0	9
Football	3	13	22
Music	7	7	15
Rugby	3	15	12
Squash	0	0	5
Swimming	1	2	7
Tennis	1	4	8
TOTAL	28	82	130



Languages

During June the College hosted 15 students from Ma Chan Duen Hey Memorial College, Hong Kong. St Pius X students acted as guides, taking the visitors to their classes to giving them a taste of what it is like to be a student at the College.



HSC Major Works Showcase

The College celebrated the success of Year 12 Major Work students at the annual evening titled Splinters, Splashes, Sounds, Stage and Stories. On this evening, students presented their music and drama performances, along with art works and industrial constructions and extension History and English projects. Students were proud to demonstrate the culmination of their hard work over the past two years to their parents and peers.

Lights, Camera, Pius! – Film Festival

Months of planning, story boarding, filming and editing came to fruition at the 'Lights, Camera, Pius! – Film Festival'. Over 150 students attended Hoyts Chatswood in Period 5 and 6 to view all of the short films submitted to the committee. There was a huge sense of excitement as the considerable amount of work was celebrated by the College community at the cinema.



UNSW Programming Competition

During June, 35 students from Years 6, 9, 10, 11 and Year 12 participated in the annual UNSW High Schools Programming Competition against some 269 teams from high schools across Australia.

ProgComp is an initiative run by the School of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The competition aims to encourage and develop programming skills among high school students in Australia. It provides a platform for students to test their problem-solving abilities and compete against other teams.

The Junior, Intermediate and Senior SPX teams consisting of three students in each, had 2 hours to problem solve as many of the set programming tasks as possible.



Australian History Competition

Each year the College enters History students in the Australian History Competition. Over 30,000 students around the country take part in the competition which consists of 50 multiple choice questions based on the National History Curriculum. Students from St Pius X performed outstandingly with 15 students attaining High Distinctions, placing them in the top 2% of Australia for their Stage.

Write a Book in A Day

Years 7-10 competed in the 'Write a Book in a Day' competition during August. The annual competition gives participants the chance to collaborate and flex their creativity as teams of between 5 and 10 participants write and illustrate an entire book in one day. The teams fundraise during the competition, with entry fees and all money raised going directly to The Kids' Cancer Project to support vital childhood cancer research.



Faith and Identity



Reconciliation Week

During May, as part of National Reconciliation Week (NRW), the College community celebrated with a captivating corroboree led by Jessy Curry and Nulungu Dreaming. Following these commemorations, students immersed themselves in cultural workshops, enriching their understanding of First Nations culture through traditional song, dance, and storytelling.

As a community, St Pius X College is committed to listening to challenging truths of the past so that we as a Catholic community dedicated to justice and solidarity, can ensure that we honour our call to be the hands and feet of Christ; dedicated to forging a future of hope and equity in the spirit of accompaniment; moving forward as one mob.



Founder's Week

Each year, Founder's Week is a time that the St Pius X community celebrates its identity and mission as a Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition. Founder's Week celebrates where we have come from in order to know where we are going.

The Founder's Day Mass was held in May and was celebrated by Fr David Ranson, Vicar General for the Diocese of Broken Bay. He spoke of the power that Edmund Rice possessed - the power that is held in the desire to change the world for the better - to hold the power in the gift of service.

As part of a new tradition during Founder's Week, the College acknowledged 22 long-standing staff through the issuing of Waterford Service Awards. These awards recognise years of service within a Catholic School in the tradition of Edmund Rice.

Mother's Day

Over 800 mothers and sons gathered alongside aunts and grandmothers to celebrate Mother's Day. The Mass and Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea was celebrated by Fr Joey and the atmosphere was filled with love, gratitude and reflection, as students and families gathered to celebrate the remarkable women in their lives.



Father's Day

On August 30 approximately 600 fathers and sons gathered in Our Lady of Dolours to celebrate Father's Day with Mass followed by breakfast at the College.

Parish Youth Masses

St Pius X College and Mercy College students are fortunate to be able to attend a dedicated youth mass at Our Lady of Dolours Parish. These are held four times a year with the aim to foster an inclusive community.

The new Student Leadership Team for 2025 were presented to the Parish at Mass on Sunday 8 September. It was a joyful occasion as the student leaders and those from Mercy College led the liturgy and enjoyed a celebratory pizza meal after Mass.



Feast of the Assumption

On August 15, the College was alive with celebration as we honoured Mary with not one, but three Masses to celebrate the solemnity. Joined at varying Masses by students from Mercy College and Our Lady of Dolours Primary School Chatswood, we celebrated, along with parishioners, Mary's reward of being assumed body and soul into Heaven.

Faith in Action Through Service



Red Dirt Immersion

Over the course of 8 days during July students and staff from St Pius X College Chatswood and Christian Brothers High School Lewisham, sought to deepen their understanding of Aboriginal culture and spirituality and learn 'on country and through country'.

They visited both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal communities through Coonabarabran, Coonamble, Walgett, Brewarrina, Bourke, and Dubbo not so much to 'do' for others, but to 'be' with them, learn from them and listen to their stories of hardship, displacement and dispossession. They were also very fortunate to take in a number of local cultural sites, visiting the Sculptures in the Scrub site in Dandry Gorge, the Siding Spring Observatory and The Brewarrina Aboriginal Cultural Museum and Fish- traps.

Thanks goes to the school communities they visited - Coonabarabran High School, St Laurence's Catholic Primary Coonabarabran, St Joseph's Walgett, St Patrick's Brewarrina and the St Ignatius' Parish School Bourke. The immersion dove deeply into the beauty and tragedy, the strength and the fragility and above all the awe and wonder of the tapestry of Aboriginal peoples and culture.

They finished the immersion at Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo, where they were fortunate to experience a smoking ceremony and welcome to Wiradjuri Country.





Winter Appeal

Inspired by Blessed Edmund Rice our community gave generously to support those in need.

Weekly Service Program Partnerships

Every week students from the College attend the Matthew Talbot Hostel in Woolloomooloo and St Peter's Catholic Care in Lane Cove. Where they serve meals to those in the community struggling whilst other students attend St Peter's Catholic Care Centre in Lane Cove to spend time with the elderly residents.



Parish in Council IV: Igniting Young Hearts at Chatswood Parish

Chatswood Parish recently hosted Parish in Council IV, with the inspiring theme of "Igniting Young Hearts," focusing on involving and empowering the youth within the parish community. The event brought together parishioners, student groups from both St Pius X and Mercy College, and church leaders to discuss the future of youth engagement in parish life, with a strong presence from our student body.

One of the highlights of the event was a speech by Year 11 student Nathan Formosa, who passionately addressed the need for young people to be actively involved in the planning of parish events. He emphasised the importance of empowering the youth to utilise their gifts and talents to



serve the community, advocating for a stronger partnership between the parish and its younger members.

St Pius X College played a significant role in the event, with volunteers from the school helping with the set-up and pack-up, ensuring the smooth running of the day. A table of enthusiastic participants from Years 10 and 11 also attended, eager to engage with the theme and contribute their ideas.

The event was an inspiring opportunity to explore how the church can better connect with younger generations, with the voices of students from the Edmund Rice Society and the Sarto Collective leading the charge. Parish in Council IV underscored the importance of building a parish where the youth feel valued, involved, and empowered to make a difference.



Intermediate Jazz Band at the Colour Awards



Peer Mentor



Ryan Volpato and Ethan Suleman



Year 9 Commerce Market Day

The College enjoyed the annual Year 9 Commerce Market Day in September. On sale were some highly sought-after hot food including burgers, snags, nachos and some delicious sweets and drinks. It was a great success with most stalls selling out! Well done to all the students who worked hard planning and marketing their business and thanks to staff and parents who helped out behind the scenes and in supervising and judging.



Year 9 Geography, Sydney Zoo Excursion



RUOK? DAY Assembly



Year 7 Fan Powered Cars



Maths Dropin



Senior Drama Ensemble at the Colour Awards



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Hike

Student Wellbeing



Year 8 Ski Trip

Late July Year 8 headed off to the slopes for the annual ski trip at Mt Perisher. They enjoyed three days of great snow, beautiful weather and the opportunity to build character and resilience. A wonderful example of the Pastoral Care that St Pius X College facilitates.



Year 12 Retreat

After completing their Trial HSC exams, Year 12 students refocused their energies through the annual Retreat program in August. Students attended a wonderful, and prayerful three days at either the Retreat Centre at Mulgoa,

or Workul Koo at Terrigal for a residential experience. Others chose to camp out under the stars at Tallow Beach on the Central Coast. Whatever the venue, the retreats offered a time to step back from daily life and engage with their own spirituality in a relaxed and peaceful environment.

RU OK? Day

St Pius X has an ongoing commitment to mental health and RU OK? Day, which was held on 12 September, provided another significant opportunity to create discussion.

Senior students and staff welcomed all arrivals into the school grounds with cards, wrist bands and all manner of encouragement. A special assembly featuring the College counselling team provided practical advice regarding positive mental health. This included the need to stay connected, keep fit, eat well, reduce social media time and seek help if needed.



Bullying No Way

During August the College ran a series of events as a part of the Bullying No Way - National Week of Action. The theme was that 'Everyone Belongs' and provided an opportunity to create conversations around bullying.

Year 11 students greeted students and handed out Action Against Bullying cards. All participants received house points for participation and there was a great turn out by staff and students for crazy sock' day.



Peer mentoring

Peer mentoring continues throughout the year and during the last two terms the Year 11 peer mentors organised a fun and engaging trips to ten-pin bowling and rock-climbing as well as games in the gym at lunch for the junior school students.



Jersey Day

As a part of Father's Day celebrations on 30 August staff, students and visiting dads got behind Jersey Day, wearing a great range of jerseys. It was fantastic to see the community coming together to raise awareness of the importance of registering to become an organ and tissue donor.

Cocurricular – Sports

Athletics Carnivals

During June, both the Senior and Junior school Athletics Carnival were held at Homebush. Treacy House won the Senior carnival followed closely by Barron, Purton and then Rice. On the following day Treacy House also won the Junior School House Carnival.



Football Champions

Six teams made the football Grand Final including 1st XI's, 2nd XI's, 4th XI's, 16B, 15C and 13A's. Congratulations to all the Grand Finalists with the 2nd XI and 16B's crowned ISA Champions.

CIS Cross Country

The St Pius X Cross Country team competed in tough, muddy conditions on 6 June at the CIS Cross Country at the Australian Equestrian Centre. SPX placed 4th overall out of 14 schools with special mention going to Cristiano Calcarao who placed first in his U13 age group with a time of 10:09.



Athletics

The ISA Athletics Carnival was held at SOPAC on August 17 with some fantastic individual performances leading to strong team results. The Junior team finished third, Intermediate team third and the Senior team finishing in second place, with an overall third place finish for St Pius X behind Oakhill College and St Augustine's College.



Sporting Heroes



Cristiano Calcarao Year 7, came 1st at SPX, ISA and CIS cross country events, 4th at NSW All Schools Cross Country Championships, 4th at Athletics NSW Cross Country Championships and 2nd at Athletics NSW Short Course Cross Country Championships

1st place in 800m and 1500m at the CIS SECONDARY ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS held on 24 September at SOPAC. Setting a new PB and CIS record in both races. He will be attending the NSW All Schools next.



Ben Fogale Represented NSW in the Nationals Cross-Country in Tasmania in the U15/16s.



Hunter Austin U13 and **Luke Austin** U16 both CIS shot put champions



Nick Gladen Year 12, competed in the recent Olympic trials in backstroke and was awarded the College's Open Age swimming champion and Sportsman of the Year 2024.



After winning the Men's Super Lightweight division at the South Pacific Championship in August **Tiger Hart** Year 12, qualified to compete at the World Championships in Tokyo next year. Tiger will be competing in the Asia Championships in Thailand in November and is the youngest competitor in the Opens category.



Reef Farias Year 12, has been signed with Sydney FC Academy.



Matt Hunt Year 12, competed at the World Under 20 Years Championships in Lima, Peru, in August in the 400m hurdles and was awarded the College's Sportsman of the Year 2024 for his sporting success in Athletics and Cross Country.



James Patchett Year 10, has been selected for the NSW U16 Waratahs Squad to compete in the National Championship later this year.



After successful ISA and CIS Tennis representation **Nick Tozer** Year 12, was awarded the College's Leading Opens Tennis Award and will be pursuing international tennis in the USA after the HSC.

Cocurricular – Performing Arts

College Concerts

Performances and events are an important aspect of music and drama at St Pius X College.

The following events were held through Terms 2 and 3 to enable students to practice their live performance skills.

- Chamber Music Concert - held on 24 May at the Sarto Centre, was a resounding success, drawing a 'sold-out' crowd.
- Big Band Bonanza, held on 31 May, was a spectacular musical event showcasing the immense talent of the college's students
- Twilight Concert 'Farewell to Seniors' – held 6 September. This cherished tradition marks the culmination of the senior students' artistic journeys. The evening provided a poignant platform for the graduating performers to showcase their talents one last time before they embark on new adventures.



Sydney Eisteddfod

The talented St Pius X musicians and Ensemble Directors continued to demonstrate their exceptional skill and dedication, earning recognition at the prestigious Sydney Eisteddfod in June. The following awards are a testament to their hard work and commitment to their craft:

- **Junior Jazz Band - 1st place**
(conductor: Ms Laura Power)
- **Senior Jazz Ensemble – 2nd place**
(conductor: Mr Geoff Power)
- **Senior Concert Band – 2nd place**
(conductor: Mrs Stella Talati)
- **Intermediate Concert Band - 3rd place**
(conductor: Ms Laura Power)
- **Intermediate Jazz Ensemble – Highly commended**
(conductor: Mr Geoff Power)



The New Drumline

The newly formed Drumline has been busy competing in the Australian Drumline Championships held at Barker College, performing at rugby games at Oxford Falls and leading the Year 12 guard of honour.



NSW State Band Championships

Congratulations to the Intermediate Concert Band who competed in the NSW State Band Championships on 25 August at Penrith where they placed 2nd overall (by one point!) and won the test piece section (a great achievement!).

Well done to the approximately 50 students who performed in the band. They worked incredibly hard under the direction of the talented Ms Laura Power to achieve this placing.



Intermediate & Senior Drama Showcase

During June the Intermediate and Senior Drama students performed at the Sarto Centre in front of a packed audience of parents, teachers, and friends.

Over 35 students participated in acting, stage management, and crew roles. It was wonderful to see each student embody their character and navigate the stage with confidence. Students from Years 7-12 performed scenes from the following plays: The Proper Mechanicals, Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead and The Accidental Death of an Anarchist.



Manly Jazz Festival

The Senior Jazz Band thrilled a full spring crowd at the Manly Jazz Festival on 21 September. Conducted by Mr Geoff Power, the band sent their Year 12 performers out in great form.

Their repertoire featured an Elliott Sanders student-composed piece, tributes to Billie Holiday and Stevie Wonder, as well as rousing renditions of 'Coconut Champagne' and 'The House of the Rising Sun' with a virtuoso guitar solo from Max Lenton to wow the crowd in conclusion.

Other outstanding Year 12 musicians to play their final performances in school colours included **Fergus Fung, Sam Cummins, Luke Mooney, Cameron Masters, and Tom McElvogue.**

Cocurricular



Bronze Adventurous Journeys

During June two practice hikes were held for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh participants. The first saw 22 students and 2 staff walking 23 km from Hornsby to Berowra, camping overnight at Crosslands Reserve (route modified due to excessive creek flooding) in intense rain and with countless leeches. The second took place late June with flashbacks of leeches, flooded creeks, evacuation routes, wet sleeping bags. The students and staff were pushed outside their comfort zones, but the team work, resilience and relationships developed during these challenges provided a platform for spiritual growth and experience.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Congratulations to students **Angus Gibson, Jason Jarrett, Joshua Paul, Michael Cheah, Hamish Dewhurst, Jason Kristianto, James Mooey, William Scaiff and Fred Shelton** in achieving their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze awards .

The College offers students from Years 9-12 access to participate in the internationally recognised Duke of Edinburgh Award program.

Every year approximately 100 students at the College participate in the Award. The Award has three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold.

Students commit to regular extracurricular activities of learning a skill, improving their physical wellbeing, volunteering in their community and undertaking a team adventure to earn an Award.





Debating

Well done to the St Pius X College Year 12B Debating team. Unfortunately, they didn't win the semifinal against McAuley Catholic College late July but a great team effort and wonderful season.

Robotics

Senior students have been working on a range of projects this year with the support of old boy mentors. Year 11 have been making soccer robots for the upcoming RoboCup challenge and Year 12's have completed a prototype of their Coke Can delivery Drone.



Snowy Hike

Year 11 students have commenced training for the annual Snowy Hike which will take place at the end of Term 4. Sixty eight students are currently signed up and will be accompanied by 10 staff and 4 old boys.

The students have completed 2 afternoon practice hikes in Lane Cove National Park and have started their own preparations for equipment and training.

Junior School

Afternoon of the Achievers

On 26 June, Year 6 presented the Afternoon of the Achievers, with each student engaging in and presenting an in-depth study of one notable immigrant. They presented themselves in character as their 'Notable', displayed the learning centre they had created and engaged with the audience in a short question and answer session at each booth.



Potato Olympics

On 13 August the Junior School celebrated the end of the 2024 Olympics (and learnt about measurement) with their very own Potato Olympics!



Father's Day Liturgy and Sports Day

Over 200 dads, grandads and special guests attended the Junior School Father's Day Liturgy and sports afternoon at Oxford Falls on 29 August.

Year 6 Natural Disasters, Safeguards and Detection Systems

As a part of the Science Curriculum Year 6 created and presented some explosive and interactive models showing natural disasters and engineered safeguards during September.



Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Award

Congratulations to **Michael Capra** Year 6, on his award in the Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Awards. Michael's poem was one of 7,200 entries received from over 530 schools.

Michael is part of the Junior School's Creative Quills program where students work on developing their writing skills with Mrs Greenwood every Tuesday at lunchtime.



Dance-off

The Junior School finished off Term 2 in a spectacular fashion at the Oxford Falls with a 'Dance-off' after participating in four weeks of training from the Raw Energy Dance Education program. Treacy House showed off their moves to take out the win.



Book Week

The Junior School Book Week Parade held during August showcased some amazing costumes.



Grandparent's Day Liturgy and walk-a-thon

On 15 August the Junior School celebrated their Grandparent's and Wisdom Figures with a heartfelt Liturgy and fun filled walk-a-thon at Oxford Falls.

Year 5 Planetary Parade

This exciting event introduced visitors to the incredible tours of the planets in our solar system. From the scorching surface of Mercury to the icy rings of Saturn, our Year 5 students worked hard on creating fun, interactive exhibits that transported the visitors across the cosmos. They were immersed and discovered what it was like to skydive through the clouds of Jupiter, hike on Mars, or explore the mysterious depths of Neptune.



Junior Sporting Highlights

- Junior AFL team went back-to-back in the 2023 and 2024 season maintaining an undefeated record in the Independent School Competition.
- Junior Rugby team claimed their first victory in 2 seasons, winning a nail-biting game at Oxford Falls.
- Junior Prep 1st managed an undefeated season in 2024.
- **Ryan Volpato** and **Ethan Suleman** represented ISPHA at the CIS Football Carnival and CIS at the NSWPSA Football Championships. Their team finished undefeated finishing 3rd overall.
- **Matthew Krizan** Year 6, represented IPSHA at the CIS Cross Country Carnival he finished in the top 30.
- **Dominik Playle** represented CIS at the NSWPSA Softball Championships in Penrith. The CIS won 9 out of their 12 games and placed equal 3rd in the tournament (the highest CIS have ever finished!).
- **Oliver Mackinlay** represented CIS at the NSWPSA AFL Championships Wagga Wagga, making the quarterfinals.
- **Cuba Nicholas** represented CIS at the NSWPSA Golf Championships in the Hunter Valley. He finished 14th overall and the CIS team finished 2nd.
- **Lukas Gazey** (Long Jump) and **Ethan Leong** (Shot Put) represented IPSHA at the CIS Athletics Carnival at SOPAC. Ethan finished 8th and Lukas finished 4th.
- In September, several junior boys represented the College at the 2024 Taekwondo Junior/Senior NSW All Schools Championship. **Fletcher Stark** and **Nicholas Lindsell** earned a Gold medal and **Connor Hyung** secured a Silver in their respective divisions.

Our Inclusive Community



P&F Trivia Night

The annual P&F Trivia Night was held during August in the College Gymnasium with an Olympics theme. It was a great night with lots of laughter, raffles, auctions and prizes. Congratulations to Lord of the Rings for taking out the 2024 Trivia.



PAPA Comedy Night

During May the College community enjoyed a fun-filled Comedy Night thanks to the Performing Arts Parent Association (PAPA). Laughter echoed through the Sarto Centre as well-known comedians Frida Deguise, Mick Meredith, and Tahir of Fat Pizza fame took the stage along with stand-up comic, Simon Kennedy. It was a memorable evening of entertainment while raising funds to support Performing Arts at the College.

Football Club Social Evening

On 14 September the SPX Football Club was entertained by Robbie Slater, former Socceroo and TV/radio personality, who shared insights into his football career and offered valuable advice to parents on supporting their sons. It was wonderful to see parents and coaches mingling and reflecting on a successful football season.



Rugby Gala Dinner

Held on 27 July at Cockle Bay Wharf, the night featured a silent and live auction, music by Dow Jones and the All Ordinaries, as well as an inspiring interview with Nick Farr-Jones. As the first Australian World Cup-winning captain and a newly inducted member of the Waratahs Hall of Fame, Nick shared insights from his career journey, highlighted many memorable moments, and offered valuable advice to our young players.





Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders

St Pius X College is part of a global network of schools and related communities focused on education and social justice known as Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders. The global map of the Edmund Rice network of schools was released in September, highlighting the global presence of the Charism of Blessed Edmund Rice across 280 schools in 21 countries. It also shows our commitment to UNESCO's Futures of Education, the UN Sustainable Development

Goals and Pope Francis's Global Compact on Education. Schools are asked to display the Global Map and use it to not only build awareness but also to teach about the Global Edmund Rice Schools' community, the Charism of Blessed Edmund Rice and the legacy and ongoing ministry of the Christian Brothers. A worldwide online launch will be held early next year to bring together students and staff from across our schools in global solidarity. The College has promoted a number of programs to encourage connections with other schools in this network.



Edmund Rice Immersions

During September and October four College staff had the privilege of participating in Edmund Rice immersion programs. These programs aim to develop a deeper connection between the global school networks and the Edmund Rice communities.

Mr Petrie and Mr Balboa took part in a two-week immersion in Kenya and Uganda during September. Led by the Edmund Rice Foundation Australia, the immersion took members of various Edmund Rice schools into the 'heart' of some of their projects in Kenya and Uganda. They visited schools for students with special needs and Kibera slums in Nairobi.

During the recent holidays Mr Di Sano and Mrs Greenwood also visited Edmund Rice Projects in India, and then onto Ireland where the origins of the Edmund Rice charism began in Waterford.

Old Boys' Association News



Oxford Falls BBQ

Every year the Old Boys' Association members volunteer at the BBQ at Oxford Falls throughout the winter season. Their efforts help raise funds for important school projects, including Speechcraft, scholarships, sports, and more. A special shoutout to Old Boy, John Preston, for generously donating the coffee machine and a new fridge for the Old Boys' BBQ hut.

L-R. Craig Lightfoot, John Preston, Philip Walter, Paul Heath, Sean Brannan, Paul Avery and Barry Wong (Jeff Clarke & Dave Bullard not in photo)



Annual Dinner

The intimate turnout at the Annual Old Boys' Dinner created a relaxed atmosphere, allowing everyone to connect and engage in meaningful conversations. The Class of 2023 had an especially enjoyable time. Special thanks goes to Old Boy, Paul Watkins and his team at the Chatswood Club who cooked up a great dinner.



50 Year Reunion

The Class of 1974 celebrated their 50 year reunion on the 14 September.



International Football success

During August College Old Boy (Class of 2024), Massimo Papallo came to the College to talk to the Year 9 Football PASS students whilst on summer break from playing football in Europe.

Massimo has a professional football contract with Calcio Lecco in Italy. He shared his story about how he trialed at various clubs before finally deciding on Lecco.

Massimo's highlights so far have been scoring against Palma and playing against AC Milan on his debut. Massimo will play for Lecco in the U19' side in the upcoming season.

Australian Rugby success

Angus Paterson, Class of 2022, who has been selected to play in the NSW Waratahs U19s squad.

Oliver Aylmer, Class of 2022 who has been selected in the Super Rugby U19s Brumbies squad.

Facebook Group

The Old Boys' Association Facebook Group has reached a significant milestone with over 2,100 members! It's a fantastic platform for staying connected with classmates and keeping up with all the latest news.

Join the SPX Chatswood Old Boys' Facebook group.



SPX Chatswood Old Boys

Bill James Fellowship

'To go on pilgrimage really means to step out of ourselves in order to encounter God where he has revealed himself.'
– Pope Benedict XVI

Thanks to the generous ongoing support of College Old Boy, Bill James, (Class of 1968), two Religious Education and Humanities teachers, Ms Leigha Zervakos and Ms Felicity van Riet travelled to Greece and Turkey during April with the aim of following in the footsteps of St Paul of Tarsus.

The Acts of the Apostles came alive as they joined like-minded Christians to tread the same path as St Paul and his companions during his Second Missionary Journey.

This opportunity made clear the profound faith and significant struggles the early Christian communities faced. Their passion for the Gospels was rekindled as they set out to experience the commitment and spirit of the Church's greatest Evangelist, whose influence remains a prevalent component in the curriculum throughout Years 7-12.



VALE

Andrew Leafe (Class of 1983)

Andrew bravely fought a long battle with cancer, passing away on 24 July 2024. He attended OLGC Forestville for primary school then SPX in 1976. He courageously attended the 40th school reunion last November and loved the evening with the guys and girls from the Class of 1983.

Cathy Wilcox

Mrs Cathy Wilcox passed away in August 2024. She was a long serving staff member at the College (1984-1998). She was the mother of recent College parent Mrs Donna Hoy, and mother-in-law to staff member and Old Boy, Bryan Hoy (Class of 1985) RIP, and of course grandmother to their two sons who were students of the College.

Patrick 'Ten Pin' Bollen OAM (Class of 1967)

02/12/1949 – 29/04/2024

Patrick was cherished brother to Paul, Mary, Bernadette, Joseph, and Margaret. He was a beloved uncle to thirteen nephews and nieces, and his legacy lives on through 14 grandnephews and grandnieces. He will be dearly missed by his numerous friends from school, golfing, and sailing circles.

'Ten Pin,' as he was affectionately known in sailing circles, graduated from SPX college in 1967.

Patrick's legacy extends beyond his achievements in sailing; he was recognised with the Order of Australia Medal for his outstanding service to the community and his unwavering commitment to the sport of sailing.

James 'Dimo' Dimitroff (Class of 2008)

During May, James finally rested after four and a half years of battling cancer. He leaves a legacy through his family, his wife Kristy with his son Teddy, along with the memory that he left in each of our minds and in our hearts.

Michael Breen SPX Old Boy and Teacher

Michael was a student before becoming a teacher at the College. His father, Bernie was also the College 'handyman' in the 1960s. Michael taught Maths and Science from 1968-1974 and was noted for his energy and commitment to education. He coached sport and fostered many successful teams. He was a particularly good organiser and led the very strong College Cadet unit before moving in 1975 to a long and successful career at St Joseph's, Hunters Hill. The College extends its condolences to his wife Cathy and their extended family and many friends after his passing in September 2024.

Timothy Justin Cawood (Class of 1985)

Tim, most recently from Coffs Harbour, passed away on 30 September surrounded by family including his wife Jillian and three children.

Our thoughts, prayers and deepest sympathies are extended to Tim's family and friends.

Outstanding HSC 2024 Nominations



OnSTAGE

Congratulations to Year 12's **Blake Markulin** and **Michael Krizan** for their nominations for OnSTAGE, NESA's showcase of exemplary HSC drama works. Both students have been nominated for their Individual Projects in Performance. This is a great testament to their dedication and hard work. They each performed a 6-minute monologue in the Absurdist style of theatre.

SHAPE

Three Industrial Technology – Timber students have been nominated for possible inclusion in the HSC Showcase - SHAPE. Congratulations to Year 12's **Daniel Formosa**, **Oscar Kalcher** and **Andrew May** for being nominated to this most prestigious event that showcases outstanding projects from students who have completed their HSC in Design and Technology, Industrial Technology, and Textiles and Design.



YOUNG WRITER'S SHOWCASE

Congratulations to Year 12's **Michael Krizan** who has been nominated for possible inclusion in the Young Writer's Showcase 24 for his HSC English Extension critical response 'The Resurrection of the Auteur: A Critical Response on the Inevitable Rise of Metamodernism in Film'

The Young Writer's Showcase presents a selection of outstanding major works by HSC English Extension 2 students in NSW across a range of literary genres including creative fiction, poetry, essay, critical response, podcast and more.