



Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for **Week 7 Term 4, 2021.**

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the College,

On Wednesday this week we held our *Student Leadership Induction* ceremony where we formally commissioned our new Year 12 Leaders for 2022. Each Leader was presented with a stole and leadership badge by a member of the College Leadership Team. The stole is an ancient symbol of authority dating back to the officials of the Roman Empire. It designates a person as having a leadership role and responsibility in the community. Our new leaders are called to be courageous leaders and be guided by the question "*Have I made St Leo's a better place today?*"

Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) is a model for courageous leadership. At the ceremony I shared the 'Paradoxical Commandments' that were found written on the wall of Mother Teresa's Home for Children in Calcutta:



*People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
 If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.
 If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.
 What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.
 If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
 The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.
 Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.
 In the final analysis, it is between you and God.*



Although not all students in the Year 12 hold formal leadership positions, we see all students in Year 12 as leaders within the College. We call all students in the Class of 2022 to take up the mantle of leadership and be examples for the rest of the College community of how to live the values of integrity, hope, dignity and respect, and justice.

Parent TTFM Survey - We Want Your Feedback!

The annual Tell Them From Me Survey (TTFM) Survey is NOW OPEN! We are asking all parents and carers for their feedback after such a challenging year to identify what St Leo's did well and areas for improvement.

[PLEASE COMPLETE THE PARENT SURVEY HERE!](#)

The survey should take 15-20 mins maximum. Students will complete a student version in Mentor class next week, and staff will also complete a survey. This valuable feedback will help us target specific areas of improvement at the College. Thank you for taking the time to complete it.



Anthony Mahoney,
Acting Principal

Return to Campus Safety Plan - Update

The College is currently reviewing the updated guidelines and advice from Catholic Schools NSW, Catholic Schools Broken Bay and NSW Health to determine what parts of our Safety Plan need to be adjusted. Once we have a revised plan, we will publish it to our community. However, a reminder of the following provisions that must be followed:

- Students are required to wear face coverings when indoors and it is recommended outdoors (but not mandatory).
- Students are required to be in their respective Year Group Zone at the start of the day, at recess, and at lunchtime in order to reduce the mixing of cohorts.
- Students are required to wear face coverings when on public transport.
- Students are required to line-up in outdoor assembly areas if they have class in Bakhita House, Teresa House or Mary MacKillop Centre.
- We encourage students to continue to use hand sanitiser which is available at sanitisation stations around the campus.
- There will be staggered dismissal times at the end of the day to assist with minimising students of different Year Groups mingling. Students in Year 7 - Year 9 will be dismissed at 2.50pm and Year 10 – Year 12 at 3.00pm.

Feeding the Homeless in Hornsby

Each Term a group of St Leo's students prepares food and serves it to those experiencing poverty at St John's Dish in Jersey Street, Hornsby. This week, 12 Year 10 students from the new Vinnies School Conference stayed back after school to prepare 40 hot meals in our St Leo's kitchens under the expert guidance of Mrs Bourke. They prepared lasagne, butter chicken, frittata and pesto pasta as well as salads to be distributed.

Will, Zinta, Tony and Charbel were then accompanied to the Dish by Madam Noel and Rev Gomez to serve the meals to locals down on their luck. Normally patrons of the Dish sit at tables in the backyard to



be served, giving them time to socialise. However, with current restrictions, the students had to serve the hot food and drinks through a window to take away. Here are some student reflections on their experience:

"I am extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to help hand out food to the less fortunate people in our community. I met so many people who all have their own authentic and unique stories. It also meant a lot to see how happy the people were after receiving the food and seeing how grateful they were." - *Charbel*



"Getting a glimpse into the lives of those in our community less fortunate than us has made me even more grateful for the privileges I am so lucky to have, and I was glad to be able to help these people and put my faith into action. Seeing the gratitude expressed for the meals provided, and the connections formed reiterated for me the significance of "The Dish" to these people, and the importance of the countless volunteers who ensure this wonderful initiative continues to run. It was definitely a special experience which has made me enthusiastic to volunteer at similar initiatives." - *Zinta*

"Running the Dish was something that I was at first a little unsure about, I had heard stories from students that had gone previously although I really had no idea what to expect. Once we started cooking up the food and got moving however, it was such an overall amazing and rewarding experience, and it was nice to know we were actually making a difference in the lives of others. Thanks to you and Madam Noel for the opportunity to go, and I look forward to possibly going again in the future." - *Tony*

Important Reminders:

Uniform and Grooming

Now that the students have successfully returned from Home Based Learning, we remind you that all students are expected to be dressed in full Summer uniform and appropriately groomed.

Uniform and grooming expectations can be found in the Student Personal Planner (diary) and also on the [College website](#). It is an expectation that any student not in correct uniform reports to their Year Leader before 8.30am with a valid note/diary entry from their parent/carer so that a Uniform Pass can be issued.

Duke of Edinburgh

Current Participants

All current participants need to complete the Google Form about their intentions for next year. This form can be found on the Duke of Edinburgh Google Classroom page and needs to be completed by the end of this week. This helps with the planning of hikes for next year as they need to be booked now with the relevant companies.

Year 8 Students Interested in the Bronze Award

An Information Session will be held for Year 8 students and their parents who are interested in starting their Bronze Award next year. The session is on **Thursday, 25 November** at 7pm via Zoom.

Here is the [MEETING LINK](#).

Please complete this [Expression of Interest form](#) for any student interested in the Bronze Award for Duke of Edinburgh next year to help with planning the hikes.

Year 10 Meningococcal Vaccinations

A reminder that Year 10 Meningococcal Vaccinations will be held on Wednesday 24 November.

[Further information for parents](#).

Key Dates

HSC Exams	Tuesday 9 November – Fri 3 December
Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Surveys	Now Open - PLEASE COMPLETE THE PARENT SURVEY
Year 10 Meningococcal Vaccinations	Wednesday 24 November
Year 10 All My Own Work & Minimum Standards	Thursday 25 November & Friday 26 November
Year 12 (2022) Leaders Afternoon with Bishop Anthony	Thursday 25 November, 12.45-3pm (via Zoom)
Duke of Edinburgh Information Session for interested Year 8 students/parents	Thursday 25 November, 7pm (via Zoom) - LINK
Year 10 Advent Liturgy/Year in Review presentation (LAST DAY OF FORMAL CLASSES FOR YEAR 10)	THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER
Year 10 Semi Formal	Thursday 2 December
Year 12 Graduation	Monday 6 December, 10am-12.30pm (will also be live streamed)
Year 12 Formal	Thursday 9 December
Year Group Advent Liturgies/Year in Review presentations (LAST DAY OF FORMAL CLASSES FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-9 & 11)	FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER
Year 12 Short Graduation Experience (for those who could not attend on Monday 6 December)	Tuesday 14 December - 10:00am (College Chapel)
Last official day of academic year/College Office closes	Thursday 16 December
Year 7 2022 & new Year 8-12 students start	Monday 31 January 2022
Year 8-12 students return	Tuesday 1 February 2022
College Open Day 2022	Tuesday 15 March 2022
Last Day of Term 1, 2022	Friday 8 April 2022

School Photos

Our College photographers, MSP, are back in full swing after being closed during the lockdown in an area of concern. They are currently finalising our St Leo's photos and will have them to us as soon as possible before the end of Term.

November

This November, our senior male students are promoting 'Movember' in order to raise awareness around the importance of men's physical and mental health. Senior Student Leaders will visit year groups over the next week to promote the cause and to provide relevant information. Then, on **Tuesday 30 November**, there will be a fundraiser BBQ to raise money for a



Catholic charity that supports men's physical and mental health. We encourage you to get behind this initiative and support this important cause. Further information will be shared on Year Group pastoral pages about the fundraiser BBQ.

Lost Property

There are an ever-growing number of lost property items being handed in. Sadly, most are unlabelled and we are unable to contact students to return them. **Please ensure all uniform and other items are labelled, in particular AirPods.**

Our wonderful Receptionist, **Karen** contacts the owners of any labelled items handed in, while all unlabelled items are placed in the Lost Property box in Xavier Court for students to search and claim.

Vending Machines in MMC

While the canteen is closed for refurbishment, two vending machines have been placed in the foyer of the Mary Mackillop Centre with a limited selection of drinks and snacks for your convenience. Please note payment is via debit/credit **card only**. Students are only permitted to access the vending machines during recess and lunch. Purchasing from the machines during class and in between periods is not allowed.

Christmas Appeal 2021

'A Christmas without a home is no Christmas at all. But it doesn't need to be that way. Your generosity can help bring joy and comfort to people this Christmas. Because your donations will mean the chance of a better future.'

A reminder that we have begun collecting goods for our 2021 Christmas appeal. Together with Vinnies and JRS (The Jesuit Refugee Service), St Leo's is organising shopping bag hampers for those less fortunate than ourselves.



Jesuit Refugee Service

Please see the range of goods that [Vinnies](#) and [JRS](#) are asking us to donate. Mentor teachers have suggested items for students to bring.

Please send in all donations by 3 December (end of Week 9) so that they can be packed and sent to families in time for Christmas.

