



# The LION ROARS

## Parent Edition



St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga

*Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 11 Term 4, 2022*

## ...AND THAT'S A WRAP FOR 2022!

### Principal's Message



Dear Parents/Carers,

The photo (*left*) shows the Nativity display outside our College Chapel which has been setup for the past two weeks. The photo (*above*) shows some of the gifts/foodstuffs donated by the students and staff for those less fortunate than ourselves this Christmas.



This is one of the many examples we have witnessed this year of our students (and families) going that extra mile, being courageous (even in a small way), giving of their time and energies. It would be far easier to do nothing!

As an aside, the nativity set has been outside for two weeks and untouched by students although it has appeared on social media.

### End of Year Prayer



At the end of this unique and demanding school year, we give thanks to God:  
For all the teaching and learning that has taken place at St Leo's, both in and out of the classroom,  
For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced;  
For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed;  
For the respect and care that has been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.  
For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,  
For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days  
And for the love that has kept us going.

We give thanks for the community that we are, and we ask you Lord –

Bless our families as we take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish.  
Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

*Amen*

## A Reflection on 2022

At the commencement of this year, our we chose the theme **'Have courage. Do not be afraid'** (Joshua 1:9).

In my end-of-year speech delivered to our final assembly last Thursday, I reflected on this theme and how it related to our lives this year. Here are my key points:



*Can we improve on where we currently are?*  
*Looking back over 2022, ask yourself the question - Did I have courage?*  
*How have you shown courage this year in 2022?*  
*Have you been courageous in your learning?*  
*Have you been courageous in the playground?*  
*Have you been courageous in your use of social media?*  
*Have you been courageous in your relationships at home?*  
*Have you been courageous in your interactions with the staff of the College?*  
*Have you been courageous in your interactions with your peers?*  
*Have you been courageous with members of the public on the train?*  
*And lastly - have you been courageous with yourself?*

## 'At St Leo's, we Concentrate on Developing Courageous Learning...'

*This courageous learning came out in the recent School Evaluation earlier this term. **Two strategic opportunities were identified. These are:***

- 1. Embedding high expectations for enabling success in learning for all, and**
- 2. Ensuring growth for all**

These two opportunities which will be collaboratively developed in 2023, will be exactly that - **creating opportunities for us all** - students and staff, and to a lesser extent parents, to excel in these two identified areas.

At our Advent Liturgy last Wednesday, our three of our College Leaders - **Zinta, Tony and Lily**, gave a reflection on what Christmas means to them. I have included these three reflections for your own reflection and enjoyment. They certainly resonate with the true meaning behind Christmas.

## Staffing – Thank You and Farewell

On behalf of the College community, I wish to acknowledge the following permanent staff who are leaving the College, for their contributions:

**Ms Tracie Axton** – for the past 15 years, Tracie has been heavily involved in Learning Diversity and Visual Arts at St Leo's, but also the many co-curricular activities offered over the years. Tracie has always given of her time for our students. We wish Tracie all the best as she moves to country NSW.

**Ms Kayla Broad** - Kayla has been with us for one year. It has been a busy year for her personally and she is moving to another CSBB school closer to home on the Central Coast.

**Ms Cilu Nebu** - our Acting Leader of Technologies is moving to another school in the area. Her enthusiasm and her smiling face over the past two years will be missed here at St Leo's.

**Ms Maria Valore** - has been with us just this year and we wish her well at her new school.

**Mr Tim Woodbine** - Tim is also moving to another CSBB school closer to home on the Central Coast. Tim has been our Leader of Mathematics this past year and he introduced '360 Maths' to the staff and students. Tim will also be Leader of Maths at his new school.

After many combined years of teaching both here at the College and in schools all over the world, we wish **Ms Susan Jones, Ms Margaret Smallwood, and Ms Helen Wessels** all the very best upon their retirement from teaching. It is never easy to just 'retire' after busy lives and practices as teachers. These three women have

influenced the lives of thousands of young people in their careers, and on behalf of the St Leo's Catholic College community we thank them for their time, generosity and expertise.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank **Ms Raylene Boyle, Ms Brooke Dougherty, Ms Louise Lawrenson** and **Mr Kurtis Thornton** for their passion and expertise in their various KLAs as they complete their temporary contracts with us. We wish them all the best in their futures.



I have spoken often of the importance of the partnership between the College and family, and I have felt that very strongly here and it is undoubtedly a key to the success of our College. It has been a great privilege to serve this wonderful Catholic learning community.

As I drive out along Woolcott Ave, there is so much that I am grateful for - our students, our parents, our staff, staff at the Catholic Schools Broken Bay, our Clergy, our Primary Feeder Schools, our local community - 2022 - it has been a real team effort! **Thank you!**

Enjoy quality time with your families and friends over Christmas and New Year, relax and recharge the batteries, as in order to give (to family, friends, your workplaces, to those in need) everyone also needs to recharge their own batteries for what will be a very busy and eventful 2023.

*Have a safe, Blessed and joyful Christmas, filled with the spirit of the newborn Jesus Christ,*

Regards,

**Tony Gleeson**  
Principal

## HSC Results 2022

Congratulations to our Year 12 Class of 2022 on their solid HSC results, which were released last week.

College Dux was **Rivan Roy**, with a mark of **96.1** who was awarded Distinguished Achiever for both **Mathematics Ext 1 and 2** subjects. An outstanding effort also by **Ali Bonagdarán** who achieved **2<sup>nd</sup> in the State for Information Processes and Technology (IPT)**. This in addition to the earlier showcase nominations for **Lilianna Chambers** (*Callback* for Dance) and selection for **Mattia Candotti** (Shape for Industrial Technology – Timber).

Overall, of our 102 students across 42 subjects, 18 students made the Distinguished Achievers list:



<b>Baseotto, Adam</b>	Mathematics Standard 2	<b>Khamis, Rhianna</b>	Community and Family Studies (CAFS)
<b>Bates, Joshua</b>	Business Studies	<b>Koopman, Mia</b>	Ancient History
<b>Bellamy, Hannah</b>	Music 1	<b>Meade, Oliver</b>	Visual Arts
<b>Bonagdarán, Ali</b>	Information Processes and Technology (IPT)	<b>Oates, Austin</b>	Mathematics Standard 2
<b>Chambers, Lilianna</b>	Community and Family Studies (CAFS)	<b>Pringle, Sylvie</b>	English Extension 1 Modern History
<b>Griffin, Jake</b>	Music 1	<b>Rai, Savya</b>	Information Processes and Technology (IPT)
<b>Haslem, Rhiannon</b>	Community and Family Studies (CAFS)	<b>Roy, Rivan</b>	Mathematics Extension 1 & Mathematics Extension 2
<b>Jenkins, Alix</b>	Music 1		



## Advent Liturgy

Last Wednesday, in the Light of Christ Centre, we held our end of year Christmas liturgy with a service of readings, dramatised carols and personal reflections on the meaning of Christmas offered by student leaders **Lily, Tony and Zinta**.

Little Leo (son of ex-student Rachel) guest starred as baby Jesus, bringing a smile to every face. Thanks to the RE and Youth Ministry teams for the beautiful ceremony.

Meanwhile, at the exact same time, half of the College Choir were at Hornsby Park singing carols for the homeless at a Vinnies Christmas BBQ. Special thanks to our amazing CAPA team who made it possible for St Leo's to be singing carols at two places at once.

What depth of talent we have in our College!



## End of Year Awards - Years 7-11

Over the past few weeks as we have finished off the Academic Year, our major award recipients across each of the St Leo's Growth Domains have been presented at our Year in Review Award Assemblies.

Year 10 students finished the year on a high note with an award ceremony on Monday, 5 December. Congratulations to **Emma W** who was presented with the Member for Bradfield Award for Citizenship by **Hon. Mr Paul Fletcher MP** as well as the Vanessa Anderson Award

for PASS, while the Pope St Leo the Great Award presented to **Holly B** as the best all round student.

First in Course and Academic Achievement Awards were presented, along with Pride Medallion recipients and awards for Outstanding Achievement in ROSA, along with the most outstanding contributions across each of our six Growth Domains. Well done to all our Year 10 students on your very successful year. A special mention to those leaving to pursue trades, apprenticeships and other further education opportunities. We wish you all the best for the future.

An award ceremony was then held last Thursday, 15 December for Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 students acknowledging their achievements this year, again across all areas of College life through our Growth Domains. A summary of all our Special and Major Award winners for Years 7-11 are listed below.

### AWARD PHOTOS!

**VIEW PHOTO GALLERIES HERE:**

[YEAR 10 AWARDS CEREMONY](#)

[YEAR 7, 8, 9 & 11 AWARDS](#)

## Special Awards

Year 10: Outstanding Achievement in ROSA	<b>Holly B, Spencer C, Michael D, Belle H</b>
Year 10: Member for Bradfield Award for Citizenship	<b>Emma W</b>
Year 10: Vanessa Anderson Award for PASS	<b>Emma W</b>
Pope St Leo the Great All Rounder Award	<b>Year 7: Arturo B</b> <b>Year 8: Suzie T</b> <b>Year 9: Romina Z</b> <b>Year 10: Holly B</b> <b>Year 11: Tony B</b>

Year 10: Long Tan Youth Leadership & Teamwork Award	<b>Emma W</b>
Year 10: ADF Future Innovators Award	<b>Michael D</b>
Year 11: Alister Henskens Legal Studies Prize	<b>Tony B</b>
Year 9: Diocesan Entrepreneur of the Year Award	<b>Conor C</b>
Year 11: Matt Kean Citizenship Award	<b>Charbel K</b>
Year 11: Macquarie University Emerging Leaders Award	<b>Zinta H and Tony B</b>

## Growth Domain Awards and Pride Medallions

Award	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>Academic Growth Domain Award</b>	Holly A Arturo B S Emma B Alexis B Nicole C B Whitney C Zasha E Ariell F Zac F Ella H Laura H Isabella H-L Shania M Sean O Amelia R Skyla S Marlise Sc Piper S Nina S-T Lucy W	Genevieve B Alison D Benjamin E Zara H-C Alena H Tahlia H Matilda H Yu Fei H Maximilian J Salome L Saffia L Bailey L Liam L Elizabeth N Morris O Katelyn P Sofia Q D Zack S Audrey S-M Ranveer S Giorgia S Eloise S Bronte T Freya T	Atharba A Chresten B-N Conor C Michelle D Alex F Erica H Eleanor I Lila K Yewon L Isla L Alex M Zachary O Lucy P Liam P Caitlin R Rish R Max T Matilda V Romina Z	Holly B Ella B Oliver C Spencer C Michael D Milla D Viviane F Kirin I Maddi D Caitlyn E Amelia E Joshua E Ideen G Charlotte G Belle H Antony H Ashley H Rachel H Adrian J Matthew J Molly J Teagan J Ruby K Matthew K Augustine L Thabo M Siobhan M Toby M Stefan M Joshua M Aaron M Jackson M Lucie M-J Nikolai N Gemma P Conner P Danielle P Emily R Larissa R M Harry R Luella R Natasha R-F Chloe R Joseph S Isobella S	Samantha H Thomas E Zinta H Maksymilian P-S Porada M Harrison C Lily A Zachary T Zinta H Scarlett D Bridget W Caleb L Tony B Zachary T Sebastian B Thomas E William H Grace H Hannah G Charlie L William H Sebastian B Charlotte M Hannah M Ashton T Sarah W Jack K Rhys M

				Kaylan V William V William W Emma W Megan W Rosemary W Isla W	
<b>Physical Growth Domain Award</b>	Isabelle G Oliver M-A	Wol A Bronte T	Alex M Jaykob M Eliza W	Holly B William W	Bailey C Lachlan L
<b>Cultural Growth Domain Award</b>	Scarlett C James F Zac F	Alison D Joshua S	Conor C Grace T-H	Michael D Emily R	William Z Sophie W
<b>Social Growth Domain Award</b>	Mia H Millicent P Marcelo S-N	Maximilian J Patrick W	Jackson M Oscar O	Viviane F Kirin I	Oskar P S Chloe P
<b>Environmental Growth Domain Award</b>	Sean B Piper S	Benjamin J	Aidan H Pernille B	Augustine L Spencer C	Bryndis P Ashton T
<b>Spiritual Growth Domain Award</b>	Remi d T Ella H	Matthew B Vito d T	Simone T Chloe M	Michael D Kaylan V	Rebecca B Bridget W
<b>Pride Medallions</b>		Cameron A Josephina D Maximilian J Bailey L Liliam L Noah R Ryan W	Alejandra S A	Bridgette C Brendan C Thabo M Danielle P Jeremy S	

## St Leo's Festival Day

On our last day of school for the year last Friday, our community enthusiastically came together for the St Leo's Festival Day – the first time this important event has been held since 2019.



It was hugely successful, collectively raising **over \$5,500** for the Cancer Council NSW through the various events, stalls and rides.

Students got into the spirit, enjoying rides, food and entertainment including a Talent Quest, cake stalls, BBQ and the very popular dunk tank.

The Year 12 Leaders worked together as an inspirational team to make the day such a success. Special thanks and acknowledgment to them and all participating Year 12 students who enthusiastically led this community event. Thank you also to all 7-11 students who participated on the day and defined 'community' through their participation and monetary contributions.

School events like St Leo's Festival Day always promote a real sense of belonging and purpose, and last

### ST LEO'S DAY PHOTOS!

**VIEW PHOTO GALLERIES HERE:**

[TALENT SHOW PHOTOS](#)

[FUN DAY PHOTOS](#)





Friday was another great example of our (festive) spirit, camaraderie, and teamwork which included the support of our amazing staff.

Well done team St Leo's!



## Information for 2023

### Late Start – now Wednesdays

To support continued collaborative professional development for St Leo's staff, we will continue with a 9.20am start once a fortnight. In 2023, our late start period will move to each **Wednesday of Week A**. This means that our first 9.20 am start for 2023 will be on Wednesday, 1 February.

### Important Dates – Start of 2023

2022		
11	Tue 20 Dec, 12 noon	College Office closes for 2022
TERM 1 2023		
0	Mon 23 Jan, 8am	College Office reopens for 2023
1	Mon 30 Jan	Year 7 2023, Year 12 & new Year 8-11 students Day 1 (Orientation)
1	Tue 31 Jan	Years 8-11 students return for 2023
8	Wed 22 March	College Open Evening (4-7pm) – All welcome

*Wishing all St Leo's families every blessing for a joyous Christmas.*

*See you in 2023!*

