

Principal's Message

Dear valued members of St Leo's community,
 Congratulations on so many fronts:

Student Leaders 2024

It gave me great pleasure to personally congratulate and present badges to our 32 new student leaders, who self-nominated and undertook an interview process with input from their peers and the staff. Their parents (and in some cases extended family) had the proud opportunity to pin their badges on, whilst the immediate past student leaders passed on the various symbols of their office. Fr Brendan gave a final blessing to the newly appointed Leadership Team. [A copy of my address is here if you would like to read it.](#) Congratulations to you all!



Aerobics Nationals

Our aerobics teams travelled to Adelaide last weekend to compete in the National Schools Aerobics Competition. A full report is in the *Sports Wrap* on pages 8-9 of this newsletter, but in summary, **2 gold medals, a silver medal, 2 x 4th places and a 6th place** were hard fought for by the 32 St Leo's competitors. The fact that our Year 7 team made it to Nationals in their first few months of being together is a tremendous effort.

I would like to congratulate all the coaches and staff who not only attended the trip but more so, have been inspiring, coaching and mentoring the students over these past seven months. There have been many hundreds of hours given so these students can be the best that they can be in this chosen and highly competitive field.

Thank you to our coaches, **Nat, Georgia, Jade, Sofia** and **Mia**, who are all recent past students of the College. It is wonderful to see these past students giving something of themselves back to their school, through their passion and instruction. They are all great models for our students. Thank you especially to our teachers, **Ms Bowman, Ms Robinson, Mr Kember, Ms McNay** and **Ms Frykberg** for your time, expertise and commitment. And finally, thanks also to the parents and carers who travelled to Adelaide to support our students!

Curriculum Accreditation Review

Last Tuesday (during the Staff Twilight Meeting), the College underwent an **External Curriculum Validation and Mission Accreditation Review** with panel members from CSBB, NESA and Catholic Schools NSW (CSNSW). The College passed with flying colours - and we are accredited again to deliver the curriculum to our students. Part of the report is listed below:

We were impressed with the manner in which the staff engaged in the process. The conversations were professional and collaborative with the sharing of programs/teaching strategies clearly valued and appreciated.

We hope the process gave all staff a strong understanding of the minimum NESA curriculum requirements essential for school registration.

The inspectors and I were impressed by the quality of your curriculum documentation.

Parent In Partnership Working Party

At our Term One Parents in Partnership Meeting, we asked for volunteers to form a Working Party in view of the College Strategic Plan. We have since met and discussed ways in which we can address [sections 4.1-4.4 in our Strategic Plan](#). We also discussed topics for the Term III Parents In Partnership Evening. Thank you to these parents/carers for their time in this working party: **John Dalton, Meera Kumaran-Ingram, Lisa Lovell-Davis, Graeme Watson, Claire Bajelis and Chris Murphie.**

The next Parent in Partnership Evening is on **Thursday, 7 September at 6.30pm** here at the College. We hope to see many of you there.

HSC Showcase – You are invited!

This **Wednesday, 30 August**, we invite all you to see the outstanding major works and performances by our talented Class of 2023 at our HSC Showcase event, featuring the exceptional work of our Visual Arts, Design & Technology, Dance, Society & Culture, Music and Industrial Technology – Timber students.

It will be held from 5-7.30pm in the Mary MacKillop Centre, with light refreshments served by our Hospitality students. No RSVP is required. All families and visitors are welcome!

Staffing

Mr Jacob Issa (HSIE) is departing the College today. He has been successful in a promotional position in a school in another diocese. We wish him the best in his new venture and chapter in his life. Jacob has not only been a highly regarded teacher, he also has led the HSIE staff whilst **Ms Doyle** has been on leave. His contribution has continued outside the classroom in sport and extra-curricular activities, ensuring our students were given many opportunities to develop and grow. Jacob will be missed in the classroom and by his peers.

The College has employed **Mr Tom O'Rourke** who will be taking up the position in HSIE. Tom comes to us from two secondary school positions, (both State and Catholic systems) where he has been a Pastoral Leader and is very experienced in HSIE, Religious Education and Aboriginal Education. The appointment of Tom will also support our Indigenous students in a very concrete way.

It gives me great pleasure to announce CSBB has appointed **Ms Sajanee Senn** as our **Parent Engagement Coordinator (PEC)**. Parent Engagement Coordinators are being employed in all CSBB schools, providing pastoral support and parent engagement activities in school and parish communities. The role supports the school community through facilitating parent education, providing information to parents on support services and wellbeing initiatives which include making resources accessible for families. Sajanee will be working to the equivalent of three days a fortnight with our *Parents in Partnership Working Party*, as well as the broader parent community in conjunction with our various parishes.

Thank you for your time and enjoy the weekend,

Tony Gleeson
Principal

ST LEO'S
EX DEI IN CORDE
MAJORS

2023 HSC SHOWCASE

IT TIMBER
DESIGN & TECH
DANCE
VISUAL ARTS
MUSIC
SOCIETY & CULTURE

**WED 30
AUG**
5pm-7.30pm

St Leo's Catholic College is proud to present outstanding major works and performances by our talented Year 12 Class of 2023.

**ALL WELCOME
FREE ENTRY**

No RSVP Required - Just come along!





Spiritual Growth Domain

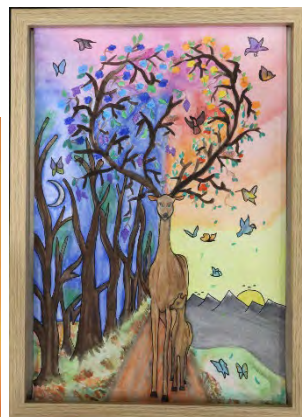
CSBB Religious Art Competition

Congratulations to the following talented students who have been selected to represent St Leo's in this year's CSBB Creative Arts Competition:

- **Aidan D**, Year 7
- **Gabriel O**, Year 8
- **Alena H**, Year 9
- **Precious C**, Year 10
- **Maya M**, Year 10.

The theme for 2023 is *Compassion*, to '...be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble' (1 Peter 3:8)

Overall competition winners will be announced at a showcase event at Hornsby RSL on 24 October. We wish our students luck with their amazing, creative entries.



Assumption Mass

On August 15, the Catholic Church celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. During this special Mass, as a College community together with OLOR Primary School, we honoured Mary's assumption into heaven and gave thanks for her role in salvation history.

The Assumption Mass is a specific liturgical celebration within the Catholic Church.

The College thanks Fr Brendan Lee for celebrating the feast day with us along with the many parents who attended.

Mr Pat Brennan, Assistant Principal - Evangelisation & Catechesis



Academic Growth Domain

Science Week Wrap

The College participated most enthusiastically in National Science Week last week! The theme was *Innovation: Powering our Future Generation*. There was a smorgasbord of activities for students, including the week beginning with the Science teachers dressing up as their favourite element from the Periodic Table.



Two different guest speakers presented on Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch time. **Simon Kennedy-Jewel** spoke about alternative energy and ways to encourage those on low socio-economic status to utilise alternative energy. **Greg Trenlow** ran an interactive workshop for students on solving scientific problems such as how can STEM students encourage families to reduce energy consumption or how can STEM students design a solution to the biggest problem with recycling. The winning teams, who gave the most effective presentations on how to solve their problem, were judged by a panel of three Science teachers:

- First Prize: Lidya O, Bienne L, Trisha G
- Second Prize: Isabelle M, Isabelle G, Madeleine M
- Third Prize: Zoe A, Brandon F

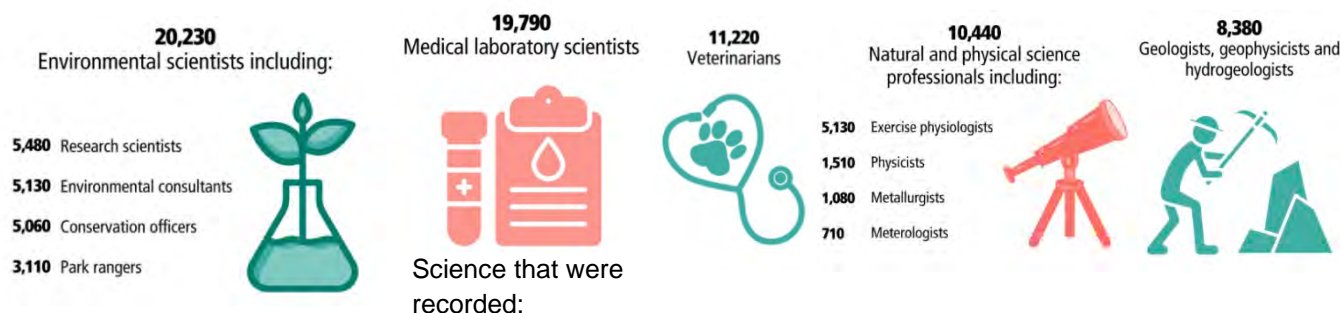


The Science curriculum encourages students to explore and research the use of technology to solve many of the problems in the world. Each year was given a different activity to undertake. This included:

- Year 7: creating a filtration device out of a plastic drink bottle to filter dirty water.
- Year 8: creating a digital bracelet based on your name
- Year 9: creating a water pump put of a plastic bottle and a balloon
- Year 10: creating a balloon rocket.



An important role of Science week is to draw our student's attention to the many fields of Science and the passion and interests that Scientists possess for their particular field of Science. The following statistics from the Bureau of Statistics shows just some of the occupations affiliated with



To pursue a career in Science, you must be someone who loves to explore and ask why does this occur. I always feel this is an innate natural desire that is found in everyone - but perhaps a little more obvious in some. We hope that Science and the future are explicitly entwined and that Scientists can help solve the many problems in this world so as to make it a fairer, just and peaceful world to enjoy.

Mr Chris Gould, Leader of Learning, Science

From the Leo's Library

It's Book Week!

In the library this week, we have been celebrating the inspiration, comfort, relaxation, knowledge, insights and new perspectives that reading and libraries give us.

Year 7 and 8 have been immersing themselves in page-turners, listening to novels being read aloud while creating mini artworks to be displayed in the library entrance. Over thirty teachers volunteered pictures of their personal bookshelves for the 'Selfie to Shelfie' competition, and students have been testing how well they think they know their teachers by matching the teacher to their choice of books. Year 11s have been preparing for their exams during the regular Wednesday Senior Study Afternoon Tea using library resources. On Thursday, a tribe of book lovers from different year groups





enjoyed the fun and feasting at the Book Week Afternoon Tea hosted by Mrs de Kantzow: a fabulous exchange of book talk, book games and food!

PRC 23

The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2023 is now complete. A huge congratulations to all these students who have completed reading 20 books: **Zoe A, Cara D, Andrew D, Chris F, James G, Isabelle M, Madeleine M, Aaron P, Ziggy S, Hannah T, Tahlia T, Harry T, Violet W, Arturo BS, Remi DT, Harry DV, Daniel M, Violet T, Anu VS. Alison D, William G, Suzie T, and Connor C.**

Mrs Megan de Kantzow, Leader of Information Resources

HSC Society & Culture

A big congratulations to our HSC Society & Culture class who recently completed their Major Work - The Personal Interest Project (PIP).

The Personal Interest Project is worth 40% of their HSC mark. The project consists of students selecting a topic of their own interest that aligns with the course concepts of Society & Culture, developing and conducting their own primary research, combining this with academic research and constructing a cohesive academic paper of 5,000 words.

From designing their own case studies and questionnaires, to interviewing experts from the University of Sydney, these students have spent the last nine months chipping away at tackling these projects, and they have done a wonderful job.

PIPs will be on display at the HSC Showcase Evening next week!

Year 11 SLR Bushwalking Excursion

Well done to our Year 11 SLR students who completed a 14km bushwalk from Cowan to Brooklyn via the Jerusalem Bay Track and the Great North Walk. This was part of their Outdoor Recreation unit. Students enjoyed amazing weather and encountered various terrain ranging from rocky steep tracks to sandy fire trails. Their efforts were rewarded with amazing water views and a drink and ice cream at the end.

CONGRATULATIONS
SOCIETY & CULTURE HSC CLASS OF 2023/
PERSONAL INTEREST PROJECTS

Movie Madness
The portrayal of mental illness across Eastern and Western culture and how it may reflect within society.

#MISOGYNY
THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON MISOGYNY IN WESTERN SOCIETY

The Gender Agenda
The Influence of Video Games on the Behavioural Development & Socialisation of Individuals

Divorce Inheritance
An investigation into how mental considerations and social perceptions of divorce have evolved and their influence on a child's development of relationships.

Rock Music
Music as reflection of youth identity & contemporary social issues.

THE WITCH IS BACK IN TOWN
An investigation into 'how the portrayal of women in horror films in the East and West continues to reinforce harmful and degrading stereotypes.'

Female Rappers "Flipping the Script" Empowering or Hurtful?

Normal, THE LEADING STEREOTYPE?
THE IMPACTS OF DIAGNOSIS THROUGH SOCIAL STEREOTYPES AND HOW IT DEVELOPS AN INDIVIDUAL'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE TERM 'NORMAL'.

Does losing your native language alter the cultural identity you maintain?

bonjour SELAM GUTEN TAG ni ho salgam ZDRAVO HELLO merhaba KONNICHIWA nei ho BANNAWANO

THE WITCH IS BACK IN TOWN
"Must be the s..."

Female Rappers "Flipping the Script" Empowering or Hurtful?

CONGRATULATIONS!

THESE STUDENTS HAVE SPENT THE LAST 9 MONTHS CONDUCTING ACAMEDIC RESEARCH TO PRODUCE A 5,000 WORD REPORT ON THEIR FINDINGS.

WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!



Careers News

Preparing for Life Beyond School

With HSC Trial exams completed, our Year 12 students took time out recently to hear how LinkedIn can be a useful tool to explore and connect with future careers.

School work placement specialist **Grant Wilson** discussed the benefits of LinkedIn, and ex-student **Sergeo Domtchenko**

(Class of 2019) spoke about his own experiences, encouraging Year 12 to follow their passions to do what they love. Students then spent time setting up their own profiles and joining the Class of 2023 alumni group to stay connected with their peers.



Are you on LinkedIn?

If so, please follow us @<https://www.linkedin.com/school/stleos-catholic-college>.

If you are a St Leo's Alumni then please edit your education to connect with our new LinkedIn school page.

LinkedIn is a great way for you to stay connected with former students and their career pathways. LinkedIn the world's largest professional network on the internet and is used by people across the spectrum of careers from professional services and health care to the arts, trades and industry.

REMINDERS:

Canteen Lunch Orders – Note ID now required

Students who have pre-ordered their lunch are now required to produce their **Compass ID or lunch order receipt** to ensure their correct lunch is collected from the canteen.

Upcoming Dates for Term 3

Week	Date	Event
7	Wed 30 Aug	HSC Showcase (CAPA, TAS) – All welcome
7	Thu 31 Aug, 7.30am	Father's Day Liturgy & Breakfast – Fathers/father-figures welcome
8-9	Mon 4 Sept – Fri 15 Sept	Year 11 Yearly Exams
8	Mon 4 Sept	BBSSSA Athletics
8	Thu 7 Sept	Term 3 Parents in Partnership (PiP) Meeting – All parents welcome
8	Fri 8 Sept	Years 9-10 Entrepreneurship YES Summit

9	Tue 12 Sept	BBSSA Junior & Inter Boys (Rugby 7s) & Girls (AFL)
9	Wed 13 Sept	R U OK? Day
9	Thu 14 Sept	Year 12 Last Day of Official Classes
9	Fri 15 Sept	Year 12 Pastoral Day
10	Wed 20 Sept	Year 12 Graduation Mass (am) & Ceremony (pm) – Year 12 families invited
10	Thu 21 Sept	State Library Shakespeare Excursion
10	Fri 22 Sept	Year 7 RE Laudato Si Excursion
10	Fri 22 Sept	Last day of Term 3 for students and staff



Cultural Growth Domain

Eisteddfod Updates

Eisteddfods Information Packs: Available via our St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA Website.

Drama

Good luck to all the Drama groups competing in the City of Ryde Eisteddfod this Saturday!

Dance Eisteddfod Dates - Term 3

A reminder that Eisteddfods are not yet finished for Dance ensembles this term - 2 more to go. Information packs will be released closer to the dates with arrival times provided. Please see the calendar below:

The Hills Dance Spectacular

27th August (Sunday from 1:45pm) - Dural

Lions and **Pride** Jazz

Lions and **Pride**, Hip Hop

Lions Lyrical and **Pride** Contemporary

Hawkesbury Eisteddfod

29th August (Tuesday, during school hours) - Windsor Function Centre

Cubs, **Lions** and **Pride** Jazz

Lions and **Pride**, Hip Hop

Lions and **Pride** Lyrical/Contemporary

CALL OUT for new CAPA Ensemble members!

If you are interested in joining one of our CAPA Ensembles please come along to any of the Music, Drama or Art ensembles. Students interested in Dance are welcome to come along from Week 9-10 onwards this term to try out the various styles and be placed into a group for Term 4!

All information regarding our CAPA Co-Curricular Program is available via our [St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA Website](#), we encourage you to bookmark this page.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to [email Miss Shinas](#).

A reminder that entries for the Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) Religious Creative Arts Competition close on August 18, with finalists showcased on the evening of October 24. Scan the QR code on the poster below for more information.

Timetable:

Co-Curricular CAPA Ensembles / Programs 2023					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School		7:30-8:30am Lions Concert Band (MML04)	7:00-7:45am Pride Hip Hop (MML01) 7:45-8:30am Pride Jazz (MML01) ALTERNATE TIMES LATE START WEEK A: 8:00am - 8:45am 8:45am - 9:30am	7:00-7:45am Lions Lyr/Cont (TWG) 7:45-8:30am Lions Jazz (TWG) 7:30-8:30am Cubs Concert Band (MML04) 7:30-8:30am Lions Singers (MML03) 7:45-8:30am Pride Lyr/Cont (MML01) 7:45-8:30am Wildcats (TWG)	7:00-7:45am Lions Hip Hop (MML01) 7:30-8:30am Pride Performance Band (MML04)
Recess					10:50-11:20am Guitar Ensemble (MML04)
Lunch		Accordion Group (MML04)	Male Vocal Group (MML04)	Girls Rock Band (MML04) Cubs Singers (MML03)	Rock Band (MML04) Cubs Art Club (MMG02)
After School	3:05-4:00pm Cubs Drama Club (CG02)			3:05-4:00pm Cubs Dance (MML01)	
<div> Art Cubs - Year 7 & 8 </div> <div> Dance Cubs - Year 7 Wildcats - Recreational Dance Lions - Years 8-9 Pride - Invitation </div> <div> Drama Cubs - Years 7 & 8 </div> <div> Music Cubs - Year 7 Lions - Year 8-12 Pride - Invitation </div>					

All information regarding our CAPA Co-Curricular Program is available via our [St Leo's Co-Curricular CAPA Website](#), we encourage you to bookmark this page.

Thank you for your ongoing support and please do not hesitate to email [Miss Shinas](#).



Physical Growth Domain

Sports Report

Aerobics National Competition

Six teams travelled to Adelaide to compete in the 2023 National Aerobics Competition. Our competitors performed well and should be very proud of their achievements.

Fireball, coached by **Georgia**, team came 4th by 0.62 of a point. This high energy routine is exhausting just to watch! Many students in this team will be in Year 12 next year and we have complete confidence they will continue to be great models to the junior members of the squad.

Chelsea and **Kyrah**, coached by **Nat**, are an amazing pair. Their routine was flawless – a well deserved 1st place! Both students have a bright future in our aerobics squad.





TS4, coached by **Ms McNay**, were disappointed last year to miss out on Nationals. They made up for it this year by working on their routine and strength – their 2nd place reflects all their hard work. Three members of TS4 leave St Leo's this year. **Ally, Lily and Bec** have committed completely to aerobics over their six years at Leo's. The aerobics squad will miss their cheekiness and leadership. We hope they know how proud of them we are!

Dynamite, coached by **Georgia**, all came together when it mattered most – their routine was well executed. Their 1st place in their competitive section was gravy on top!

Romina, coached by Ms McNay, ventured into

the singles competition for the first time this year. She had to learn two routines as she also performs with TS4. Romina should be proud of her 4th place!

The **Velocity** team, coached by **Sofia**, had some new competitors from Year 7 as well as some more seasoned competitors from Year 8. They have made a huge effort to learn the obligatory moves and build their fitness to perform the routines. There were 10 teams in this section – 6th place at this National is an achievement to be proud of!

We are very proud of all of teams for competing this year. The competition period starts in October with strength training and aerobic technique. Coaches and students commit to at least two early mornings a week for three terms of the year – there are many mornings when students would prefer to be in their warm beds but are instead learning how to correctly do a hinge push up or kick with a straight leg.

Our coaches have all shown this commitment too, covering each other's teams or giving sage advice to one another. All of our coaches competed as students and their commitment to coaching is their way of keeping a sport they loved alive for the next generation of St Leo's students. **Nat, Georgia, Jade, Sofia, Mia and Ms Lucy McNay** are great leaders who nurture their teams to compete fiercely with dignity. The teams would also like to acknowledge **Mr Michael Kember, Ms Kelly Robinson and Ms Stephanie Frykberg** for their support through the season.

We look forward to the 2024 aerobic season!



Athletics Carnival

The College carnival was held last Thursday at Foxglove Oval. With great weather conditions, the day saw amazing competition on the track and in the field. Congratulations to all students for your participation in either Championships or Novelty events. Overall house champion was awarded to **Chanel** and **Theresa** Houses. Age Champions will be presented at morning assembly next Monday and published in the next newsletter.

Three College records were broken. In the U/13 Girls Discus, **Chelsea F** broke the previous record of 20.18m, (2019) with a throw of 24.43m. This was not the only record broken Chelsea broke on the day as she also broke a record set back in 1993 in the U/13 Girls Javelin with her winning throw of 23.07m. In the U/14 Girls Shot Put the previous record of 9.96, was set 36 years ago in 1987, and **Makayla A** threw 9.98m with her winning throw.

Canada Cup Softball

In the July school holidays, **Maddi and Milla D** (Year 11) travelled to Surrey, Canada to compete for Australia in the Canada Cup International Championships in the U/17 Competition.

The team faced some of the best national teams from Canada, USA, and Mexico. Both girls throughout the tournament were dominant on the diamond with their batting and fielding as part of the starting nine. After a long 14 game competition, they were unfortunately eliminated in the quarter finals, going down 3-1 by the eventual winners of the competition. While they were not playing, the girls were able to meet some of the best players in the world and join in training clinics. The trip gave the girls the knowledge about the game and their pathway along with making some lifelong friends.

Since returning to Australia, they have gone straight into the NSW Opens Softball Championships where they took home gold and Milla received the best batter award for the tournament. The girls now are back to training with the Australian squad and have state camps coming up. Congratulations to both Milla and Maddi on these fantastic achievements.

Junior and Inters Boys and Girls Basketball

Over the last few weeks, the Junior and Inters Basketball teams have been representing the College at the BBSSA Championships. The participation rates of basketball at the College have grown significantly, and this has been evident through the results of the representative teams. The Junior Boys and Girls played well throughout the championships with a number of wins on the day but narrowly missing semi-finals. The Inters Girls finished 5th in their respective competition with a number of the girls also playing the Open side earlier in the year. The development of this team under the guidance of **Mr Nicoll** shows that in the next few years they will be fighting for the medals.

The Inters boys had a slightly different format of competition to the other teams and had to play every other school, with the top two playing off in a grand final. After four wins and a narrow loss, the boys faced a St Paul's side in the last game with the winner making the grand final. After a tense opening the boys pulled away and won by 3 points in the end. In the final the level of competition and physicality started to show with a number of niggling injuries and soreness, and the boys went down to an undefeated St Edwards team. Finishing as runners up is a well-deserved result and they are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Swimming Carnival

The annual College Swimming carnival is coming up in Term 4. This week students have been given entry forms that need to be returned by the last day of Term 3. The carnival will be held at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. If your child has not received an entry form, please tell them to see Mr Kember.

Next Edition

- Athletics Age Champions
- Swimming Carnival
- Peninsula Cup Update.

Community Notices

Position Vacant – Part Time Parish Secretary

Are you a warm and engaging person, with strong administration or office management experience? Do you have a commitment to delivering excellent customer service? Are you looking for a role where you are more than a standard member of the team?

If you answered yes, then we invite you to join the Epping & Carlingford Parish as their permanent part-time Parish Secretary, working approximately 24 hours per week. There is flexibility within the working schedule for the right candidate, however the role does require a physical presence in the Parish office. This role plays an important part in the Parish team, providing support for Parish communications, general & sacramental program administration, compliance and Diocesan support.

The ideal candidate will have a comprehensive knowledge and demonstrated experience with office administration as well as a sound understanding of Microsoft Office Suite of programs. As this role is often the first point of contact for the parish, well-developed communication and interpersonal skills are crucial, supported by a good understanding of, and commitment to Catholic values and teachings.

Applications close **Friday, 1 September 2023** If this role interests you, please email a brief cover letter and CV to the parish office: jim.mckeeon@bbcatholic.org.au

Second-hand Uniforms

A reminder that second-hand uniforms can be bought and sold through [The Uniform Exchange](#) at Pymble and online via sustainableschoolshop.com.au as on our website:

1. **The Uniform Exchange** has a physical store in Pymble as well as an online store which buys and sells secondhand school uniforms. Buyers can search available items online by school. For sellers, there are no listing fees online, or they will sell items at their Pymble Exchange.
2. St Leo's is registered with sustainableschoolshop.com.au, an online trading platform for parents to buy and sell secondhand uniforms. The site also sells secondhand textbooks, musical instruments, calculators, etc. Buyers can search for items for free by school, set up a regular email alert for a 'stocktake report' of St Leo's uniform items currently listed, or place a 'wanted ad' after setting up a free account. Sellers can list items for \$1.50 (single items) up to \$21.95 for unlimited items (12 month subscription). Interested buyers then contact sellers directly (similar to Gumtree or Marketplace).

