



The LION ROARS

Fortnightly College News Bulletin

'Change the World
with
Kindness'
2024

St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga

Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 10 Term I, 2024

Principal's Message

Reflection

Our College theme for this year is 'Change the World with Kindness'. As we near the end of term, it is timely for us all to reflect on three key questions:

- How have I demonstrated kindness in relationships with other students, staff or family this term?
- In what ways have I served others?
- How can I better serve others and show even greater kindness next term?

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which He looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which He blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

St. Teresa of Ávila (attributed)

Term 1 Feedback and Reporting

As we wrap up Term 1, I want to take the opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. The term has been a busy but extremely rewarding one, with lots of activity, enjoyment and most importantly learning experiences for our students. I want to express my gratitude to all in our community for your hard work, dedication, and commitment throughout the term. By now, I hope that you have had a chance to look over the Term 1 Interim Reports. These reports provide a snapshot of students approach to learning in each subject, providing feedback on the following areas:



- Commitment to achieving their personal best
- Conduct / Behaviour
- Constructive involvement in classwork
- Level of organisation
- Effort



More photos - Open Day 2024
Photo Gallery: [CLICK HERE](#)

The holidays provide time to celebrate your young person's progress and to discuss goals for continuing the growth in their learning.

Staff Updates

Tony Gleeson has decided to extend his leave into next term. While Tony takes this much deserved leave, I look forward to continuing in the role as Acting Principal until he returns.

Tamara Bowman, Leader of Learner Diversity, has decided to take on a role with TAFE NSW. Tamara leaves the College after 21 years of distinguished service to the St Leo's community. Throughout her time at the College, Tamara has had a significant influence on thousands of young people. She has always gone above and beyond to ensure that our students receive the best possible support and care. On behalf of the St Leo's Catholic College community we thank Tamara for her time, generosity and expertise. While we will greatly miss Tamara, we know that this is a great opportunity for her and we wish her all the best for the new role.



I am pleased to announce that **Leah Hanan** has been appointed as the new Business Manager at the College. Leah comes to us with a range of experience across a range of industries and extensive expertise in school operations having worked as Director of Business at Columba College in New Zealand for more than 12 years.

With the arrival of Leah, **Bob Partington** will finish up as Facilities Manager at the College at the start of Term 2. Bob has had a long association with the College - we have been so fortunate to have Bob come out of retirement to assist us this term. As always, Bob has done a magnificent job in managing our facilities effectively and efficiently, ensuring that we have a great environment for learning at the College.

Open Day Wrap Up

Our College Open Evening was a wonderful occasion that allowed us to showcase our vibrant and nurturing community. More than 2000 people attended the event and the feedback has been so consistently positive. I was immensely proud of our students and staff who provided a wonderful welcome to our community. A big thank you to the more than three hundred students who volunteered their own time - they were truly great ambassadors for their College. (View the [Photo Gallery](#) here).

Of course, events like this one do not just happen. They require a huge amount of time, energy and organisation. I would like to thank all staff for their commitment, and I would particularly acknowledge **Fiona Morsink-Ryan** (College Marketing Officer) for her vision and coordination of this important event.

Enrolments for Year 7 2025-26

St Leo's certainly remains the school of choice for many. With well over 120 students on our waitlist already for 2025, we are currently only able to offer a spot on our waitlist for 2025. [Applications for 2026 close on 1 May](#). We are trying to increase our available positions for 2026, however, we already have significantly more applications than spots we will be able to offer. We of course do give preference to students in our Catholic Feeder Schools and siblings of students already at St Leo's - however, this is only if applications are submitted on time.

If you or anyone you know is interested in St Leo's for 2026 and has not yet submitted an enrolment, please do so by completing the [Online Enquiry Form](#) on our website in the first instance and our Registrar, **Joanna Gower** will be in contact regarding availability and next steps.

Japan Tour

This week, 34 students and four staff members headed off on our Japan tour. This is a great opportunity to students to learn first-hand about another culture. You can follow their trip via the [Tour Blog](#) or highlights on the College Facebook page.



Term 2

I am looking forward to an exciting Term 2. A reminder, classes resume on Tuesday 30 April, with staff attending a system wide Development Day on Monday 29 April.

Year 12 students will hit the ground running as they head off on their Senior Retreat from Tuesday 30 April to Thursday 2 May. Year 9 have their Camp in Week 2 next term, with Year 7 heading off on Camp in Week 6. These are always great experiences for our students.

Anthony Mahoney, Acting Principal

Key Term - 2 Dates

Note these scheduled dates may be subject to change throughout the year.

Week	Date	Event
1	Mon 29 Apr	Staff Development Day (No classes for students)
1	Tues 30 Apr	Students return for Term 2
1	Tues 30 Apr – Thu 2 May	Year 12 Retreat
1	Tue 30 Apr	College ANZAC Ceremony
2	Tue 7 May – Fri 10 May	Year 9 Camp
2	Tue 7 May	Parent Duke of Edinburgh Presentation – Year 9
2	Thu 9 May	Mother's Day Liturgy & Breakfast
3	Mon 13 May	Year 10 Vaccinations
3	Tue 14 May	Student Early Dismissal – 1.25pm Year 11-12 Student Conferences – 2pm-7.30pm
4	Tue 21 May	College Careers Expo
4	Wed 22 May	Term 2 Parents in Partnership Meeting, 6pm
5	Wed 29 May	Year 11 2025 Student & Parent Information Session (online)
5	Thu 30 May	Year 10 Subject Market Day
6	Mon 3 Jun – Wed 5 May	Year 7 Camp
6	Fri 7 Jun	Staff Spirituality Day (Pupil Free Day)
7	Mon 10 Jun	King's Birthday Public Holiday
7	Fri 14 Jun	Main Photo Day
7	Fri 14 Jun	Vinnies Sleepout
8	Thu 20 Jun	College Athletics Carnival (Foxglove Oval)
9	Tue 25 Jun	Years 7-8 Studio Concert
9	Wed 26 Jun	Years 9-12 Studio Concert
9	Fri 28 Jun	Year 7 Reflection Day
10	Wed 3 Jul	Year 7-10 Reports released
10	Thu 4 Jul	Last day for students for Term 2
10	Fri 5 Jul	Diocese Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

Holiday Classes

Below is the schedule for the optional classes for Year 12 being run during the holidays.

Thank you to all teachers involved for volunteering your holiday time.

[CLASS SCHEDULE](#)

Assistant Principal Reports

Building Staff Capability

Last week Tuesday, April 2, teachers from across Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) gathered in The Light of Christ Centre to engage in a system-wide Professional Development Day. This was the first of two days that have been provided by CSBB as additional professional learning days for teachers. As one of CSBB's strategic goals for 'Towards 2025' (*below*), we are 'building the capacity of our staff'.

The day began with a NESA presentation from updating teachers on curriculum reform and reinforced **why** there is a specific focus on the areas below:

In Memorium

Our sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to our Acting Principal, **Anthony Mahoney**, following the sudden passing of his mother this week. Please keep Anthony and his family in your prayers.

Eternal rest grant unto her, oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen



1. We will develop a collaborative culture of continuous improvement.



2. We will accompany students, families, and staff to know Christ and to grow in faith.



3. We will maximise the learning and growth of each student.



4. We will build the capability of our staff.



5. We will embed future-focused systems, policies and processes.

- Make the NSW curriculum clearer to understand and teach
- Examine ways to de-clutter the curriculum so that it allows teachers to focus on the main knowledge and skills that all students should have
- understand the implications for planning, teaching, assessing, and reporting
- draw on the expertise of teachers to ensure the review's outcomes continue to support their important work
- provide students with strong foundations of knowledge, capabilities, and values to be lifelong learners.

The presentation moved to unpacking the common grade scale ([LINK](#)) and how teachers are consistent with allocating grades to students across not only our CSBB schools, but the state.

The focus of the next Professional Development on April 29 will be around quality assessment tasks and the image of the learner. Both of these worthy days align with our St Leo's Strategic Plan and how we can set our 'high expectations' and ensure 'growth for all'.

Term 2 Uniform Notes

A reminder that students resume in Term 2 in full Winter Uniform.
(See p. 16 for new and second-hand uniform supply information).

Skirt Lengths

It has been commented on by many staff and members of the public that our uniform standards have improved this term. This is a great effort from students, and they are to be congratulated for upholding our high standards.



Some dress and skirt lengths are still at an unacceptable length and several of these students have stated that the hem will need to be dropped. We have been collecting student names this week and sending home reminders for this to occur during the break. Thank you for your understanding and support.

College Backpack

The College backpack was selected because of its orthopaedic benefits and is an extension of our uniform and indeed, the College brand.



Students in Years 7-11 have **until the start of Term 2** to purchase the College backpack, or they will require a uniform pass, as is the case when they do not have the correct uniform.

Checks will begin on day one, Term 2 upon entering and leaving campus to ensure all students are using the College backpack.

A Holiday Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this holiday—
an extra chance for fun and play.
There's so much I can learn and do
even if I'm not in school.

All the beauty and gifts abound.
The world you created is all around.

Today's a chance to go explore,
try new things and discover more.
I'll miss my teacher and my friends
just as it happens on weekends.

But I know that for today,
I'm thankful for this holiday.
St Leo the great - Pray for us.
Live Jesus in our Hearts - Forever

Thank you

As we enter the last week of term, I personally would like to thank the community for your kind words of support and encouragement as I moved into the role of Assistant Principal. As a former student of St Leo's, I am so proud and loyal of what an amazing College this is and by the number of former students who now have their own children at the school - I know I am not alone.

Have a safe and wonderful break. See you in Term 2!

Mrs Fiona Milkins, Assistant Principal, Student Achievement

Gaming in the Library

As you are aware, our library is an amazing thriving place where students flock to before, in breaks and after school to read, study and collaborate with peers. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in students using this space to play games on their devices.

All students have been informed that from the start of Term 2 there will be no electronic gaming permitted in this space, or anywhere on the school grounds.

Whilst we understand that for some students the library is a safe space, it is also important and necessary to have a break from devices. If found gaming they will be asked to switch off their device and if this is a continual occurrence, they will be asked to leave the library.

We are aware that gaming can be collaborative and a way for some students to socialise, so we are looking into the possibility of a co-curricular activity centred around this. *Watch this space!*

Parking around the College

St Leo's is lucky to have supportive neighbours who are happy to work in partnership with the College.

We ask that all parents and carers are mindful of our neighbours with regards to parking by ensuring parking signs are respected and that driveways are not blocked.

We appreciate your support with regards to these matters.

Leaving Campus After 4pm

Students attending after school activities on campus should note that the College Office closes at 4pm on school days, meaning Reception cannot open Gate A for students leaving. If students have after school activities finishing after 4pm, they should exit the campus/be picked up via **Gate D (Unwin Road).**

Year 10 Vaccinations

NSW Health will be offering vaccinations to all Year 10 students on Monday 13 May 2024 here on campus for Meningococcal ACWY.

They will also be offering catch up vaccinations for:

- Year 11 – Meningococcal ACWY (if not already vaccinated in Year 10)
- Year 8 – dTpa and HPV (if not already vaccinated in Year 7)

Vaccination will only be provided at school if consent has been received. Please complete this consent at least 2 days prior to the school clinic.

How to provide consent:

1. To complete online consent for your child's school vaccinations, scan the QR (right) or visit: <https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage> and log in using your ServiceNSW details. This is the same account you may already use to renew your driver's licence. Refer to Service NSW to create an account if you don't already have one.

2. Update or confirm your personal details in ServiceNSW as required.

3. Complete the School Vaccination Consent Form for your child. Read a [step-by-step guide on how to provide consent online](#). If you require information in your language please visit [Arabic](#), [Korean](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Traditional Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#).

NSW Health

NSW GOVERNMENT

Is your child in year 7 or year 10?

Provide your consent for routine school vaccinations online

To provide online consent, you will need:

- to visit: <https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage>
- your Service NSW log-in details
- medicare card details for you and your child – the name of the high school your child is attending in 2024.

If you or your child do not have a medicare card, you can provide consent using a paper-based consent form at your child's school.

Scan the QR code to give your consent now

For more information on vaccination visit: health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination

February 2024 © NSW Health. SHPN (HP NSW) 221060.

Year 7

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Year 10

- Meningococcal ACWY

PROCEDURE & POLICY REMINDERS:

Procedure for Students Leaving School Early

From time-to-time, students are required to leave campus during the school day. To ensure a smooth, stress-free departure, parents and carers should remember the following:

- Parents and carers can **add an absence note to Compass** or send the child to school with a note regarding leaving early and the reason why.
- When the student needs to leave, they are **to attend Student Services to sign out** before leaving school.
- If the student arrives late or is returning after an appointment, they need to proceed to **Student Services to sign back in**.
- Whilst every attempt is made to remind a student that their parent or carer is waiting, this is not always possible with last minute classroom, teacher or venue changes. **Students should be aware of when they are required** to be collected from the front office and excuse themselves from class.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that student mobile phones are to be stored in lockers, and preferably placed on silent or flight mode to eliminate loud ringtones. They can only be used next to one's locker before or after school for short periods of time. The only exception to this is when students are instructed to contact their parent/guardian regarding variations to scheduled events or, under direct teacher supervision, they may use their device.

Devices cannot be taken to class (every student has a laptop in class).

If a mobile phone is brought to any class or used during the day in the playground, a student will have their mobile phone confiscated until 3pm and issued with a demerit note on Compass.

Parents needing to contact their child during class time, should contact school reception directly.

** See p.17 of this newsletter, or p.14 of the 2024 College Personal Planner (diary), for further information.

Patrick Brennan - Assistant Principal - Evangelisation and Catechesis

What's Been Happening?

Spiritual Growth Domain

Easter Liturgy

This year our Easter Liturgy was celebrated in a more intimate way - in Mentor groups with 41 simultaneous events taking place on Holy Thursday.

Two students from each Mentor class volunteered to lead their groups and participated in three training sessions. The liturgy itself included lighting candles, readings from the Bible, prayers as they shared pita bread and juice, and sharings from everyone on what has brought them joy this term as well as about an act of compassion they had witnessed. It was up to



each Mentor group to decorate their room to provide an appropriate atmosphere.

Following the liturgy, they had an opportunity for a Mentor celebration, bringing in food and drink to share.

Many thanks to the 82 students who led the prayers, the 82 students who did Bible readings and the Mentor teachers who supported their groups.



Upcoming Youth Ministry Opportunities

Students at St Leo's have the opportunity to participate in voluntary retreat experiences to help them go deeper in their faith. Retreats are time away from school, work, family and friends to have some time for personal reflection and prayer while experiencing life in a small Christian community.

Two annual voluntary retreat opportunities are coming up:

From 16-18 May (Thursday afternoon to Saturday lunch), a small group of Year 10 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Venio Youth Ministry Retreat at the Josephite Centre for Spirituality at Kincumber. This is run by school-based Youth Ministry Coordinators and will involve staff and students from all eight Broken Bay high schools.

From 6-8 August (Tuesday to Thursday), a group of Year 11 students will attend the Abbey Retreat at the Benedictine Abbey at Jamberoo. This is an experience unique to St Leo's where students spend time in quiet reflection and prayer with the nuns.





Students from Year 9 to 12 will also be invited to the [Shine Youth Ministry Conference](#) at St Peter's, Tuggerah, for worship and workshops. This year the special guest at Shine will be well known Australian spiritual singer/musician **Gen Bryant**, who performed at World Youth Day in front of over a million people.

At the start of next term, the Year 11 Vinnies Conference will also launch the [Vinnies Winter Sleepout](#) which will be on 14 June and open to all students. Last year almost 100 students slept overnight at the Light of Christ Centre and raised over \$30,000 in

sponsorship to go to helping the good works of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

For any further information please contact [Rev Gomez](#).

Academic Growth Domain

Excursion to Sydney Opera House: [Dissecting Geometry](#)

During our excursion to the Sydney Opera House, the Year 10 Elective Mathematics class explored the geometric aspects of its construction and engaged in hands-on activities. We learned about the architectural properties used behind the Opera House's design and collaborated in teams to create our own designs using limited materials, which presented a challenging yet rewarding experience.

When the day was finished, we thanked the Opera House team for the opportunities we were given and headed home. My classmates and I really enjoyed the building activity and how you go from one design to a completely different one within a short amount of time.

Thank you, **Mr Liceralde**, **Ms Marcano** and the Sydney Opera House Team for such an enjoyable day!



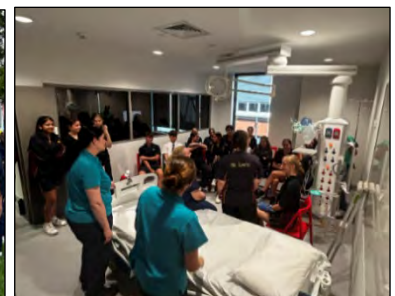
Social & Emotional Growth Domain

Wellbeing Update

'On Wednesday, 3 April a group of Year 10-12 students accompanied by **Ms Cura**, **Mr Bowmer** and I attended Hornsby Hospital to take part in the Prevention of Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth program. The day consisted of workshops, simulations, and practical hands-on experiences. Students engaged in practical learning about the far reaching and long-lasting effects of choices that they may make when out with friends.'

'The students were engaged in each of the presentations from NSW Ambulance, NSW Police, ICU staff and ED staff, and represented the College with the utmost of respect and pride in their college. This day was offered to students aged 15 years and over and was a very successful day.'

Benjamin J, Year 10





'The P.A.R.T.Y. Program was an impactful experience where we got showcased firsthand the consequences of negative decisions involving alcohol, drugs, and driving.'

'We witnessed the journey of a trauma patient from the emergency department to intensive care unit (ICU) and the long and difficult road to recovery + the process of rehabilitation. Medical professionals, trauma specialists, police, and ambulance services spoke about injury prevention and the rise of youth trauma cases.'

'It was a valuable lesson in keeping yourself and those others safe and being more responsible about the decisions you make revolving around drugs, alcohol and driving.'

RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration



Earlier last week, three of our senior students attended the RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration held annually at the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park.

This celebration aims to educate primary and secondary school students about Australia's military history, whilst paying respect to the service and sacrifice of servicemen and women of the Australian Defence Force.

The RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration was first held in 1953, co-hosted by RSL NSW and the Department of Education. Over the years the service has expanded to Catholic Schools NSW and the Association of Independent Schools NSW.



Our students were chosen as three of the six flag orderlies for the ceremony. Flag orderlies are one of the most important roles in any commemoration. These six students are responsible for lowering the flags before the service to half mast, then during Act of Remembrance they raise the flags to full mast.

Reflection from students:




'Our attendance last week at the RSL and Schools Remember ANZAC Commemoration provided an opportunity for ourselves to pay respect and honour the service men and women who have and continue to fight for the freedom of our country.'

We felt great privilege to attend and become a part of this withstanding ceremony and thank those from the Education Department of NSW and RSL NSW who led students across the state through this important event in Australia's calendar.'



Coding Club for Years 7-8




www.connectedcode.org

info@connectedcode.org

After-school Coding Club

Interested in computers? Robotics? AI? Games? Want to learn how these things work and build exciting projects?!




ConnectEd Code projects build critical skills for the modern world.


Engaging projects, connected to both the real world, and the Australian DT Curriculum.

Workshops start Term 2!

ConnectEd Code workshops feature bespoke projects designed for high-school students, delivered by expert tutors!




- \$320 per term
- 8 workshops per term
- From 3pm to 4:30pm
- Exact dates TBC
- Register interest here:



www.connectedcode.org/code-club-at-leas

Connecting coding with context, community, and curriculum



Artwork by Sami Bayly

NSW Department of Education

2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Start reading now!


www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

Key dates for students in K-10:


Challenge opens Monday 26 February


Challenge closes for student entries Friday 23 August

Digital Partner



Successor





2024 Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

The PRC is a state-wide reading challenge open to every K-10 student in NSW that aims to encourage you to read, to read more, and to read more widely and develop a love of reading for the joy of it!

The challenge involves reading a certain number of books from a set list. These books are read and reviewed by teachers and teacher librarians for their suitability and quality - so every PRC book comes with a recommendation!

There is a huge range of books (almost 11,000) on the PRC booklists - each challenge level contains a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, and picture books.

Students interested in participating in the 2024 Premier's Reading Challenge can [REGISTER HERE](#) or [find our more information](#).

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

7-10 Challenge rules

NSW Department of Education



Careers & VET News

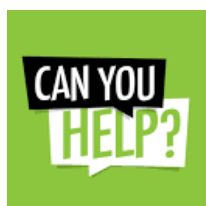
In This Week's Careers Newsletter...



- Lunch n' Learn Sydney University Presentation
- Year 10 Future Ready Pathways Report
- University Admissions Centre Open for 2025 Applications
- Holiday Workshops

[Read the St Leo's Careers Newsletter HERE](#)

For detailed information about upcoming open days, courses and more at a range of **universities, private colleges, TAFE and events for high school students**, please take a look at the [Job Jump Careers Newsletter](#).



Calling all Carpenters/Builders – Can you Help?

One of our Year 11 students is currently looking for an employer to take him on as part of a School Based Apprenticeship in Carpentry/Construction. The student currently attends TAFE one day per week and is required to be employed with a carpenter/builder one day per week as part of this commitment.

We are reaching out to see if any of our wonderful community would be able and willing to potentially employ this student as part of his apprenticeship? He is a hard worker and comes with good references.

For further information, please contact our VET & Careers Leader, [Ms Melissa Duff](#).

Business Services Work Placements



Year 11 Business Services students headed out this week for their first of two work placements that are a compulsory part of the Certificate III in Business Services course.

They had the opportunity to develop their workplace skills and gain a greater understanding of the professional work environment. Businesses that hosted students included Real Estate Agencies, NRL, Granny Flat Solutions, Education facilities, Engineering firms and many others.



Co-curricular Groups, Clubs & Activities Flourishing!

Below is the Term 2 calendar for our Co-Curricular groups, clubs and activities (*other than CAPA – see separate schedule below*). They include Youth Ministry, Social Justice, academic and other general interest groups that are currently being held at St Leo's, with regular sporting activities now also added to the calendar.

We are excited that the list is continuing to grow, with Science, Coding (*cost involved – see p.9*) and Chess Clubs restarting in Term 2, and Duke of Edinburgh program briefings being held for interested Year 9 students.

Students should keep their eye out for this calendar around campus noticeboards and online for updates as we continue to add new clubs and activities!



Co-curricular Calendar – Groups and Clubs

Term 2 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school	Sprint/Athletics Training (Years 7-12) 7:10-8:30am	Fitness (Years 7-12) 7:30-8:30am	Cross Country Training (Years 7-12) 7:00-8:30am	Maths Club (Years 7-12) 7:30-8:30am BHG08	Fitness (Years 7-12) 7:30-8:30am
Mentor/Recess	Rosary Group (Years 7-12) Recess College Chapel	Vinnies L/ship Team (Year 11) Mentor College Chapel Vinnies Conference (Year 11) Recess THG03 Science Club (Years 7-12) Week B only Mentor/Recessroom TBC	Bible Study (Years 7-12) Mentor & Recess College Chapel Spanish Club (Year 7-12) Recess BGH04	Photography Club (Years 7-12) Week A only Recess MMG02 Social Welfare Awareness Group (Years 7-12) THG03	Mass (Years 7-12) Mentor/Recess College Chapel Lego Club (Years 7 & 8) Mentor/Recess XCG04 Maths Club (Years 7-12) Recess BHG08
Lunch		EarthCare (Environmental Group) (Years 7-12) THG03 Chess Club (Years 7-12) Library Maths Club (Years 7-12) BHG08		ACU Youth Academy (Years 11-12) THG03	
After school	Coding Club (Years 7&8) TBC	Dungeons & Dragons (Years 7-12) 3:00-4:00pm Library	Dungeons & Dragons (Years 7-12) 3:00-4:00pm Library		

CAPA CO-CURRICULAR ENSEMBLES & PROGRAMS 2024

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	7:30-8:30am Lions Singers (MML02)	7:30-8:30am Lions Concert Band (MML03) 7:45-8:30am String Ensemble (MML02)	7:00-7:45am Pride Jazz (MML09) 7:45-8:30am Pride Hip Hop (MML09) <small>ALTERNATE THING LAYS START WEEK B 8:10am - 8:45am 8:45am - 9:30am</small>	7:00-7:45am Lions Jazz B (TWG) 7:00-7:45am Lions Jazz A (MML09) 7:45-8:30am St Leo's Company (MML09) 7:45-8:30am Lions Hip Hop (TWG)	7:30-8:30am Pride Performance Band (MML03)
Mentor/Recess (45mins)		Cubs Concert Band (MML03)		Photography Club (MMG02) WEEK A ONLY Guitar Ensemble (MML01)	Pride Drama Group (AHG02) Rock Band (MML03)
Lunch (30mins)	Cubs Singers (MML02)	Accordion Group (MML01)	Male Vocal Group (MML01)	Girls Rock Band (MML03)	Cubs Art Club (MMG02)
After School	3:05-4:00pm Lions Drama Club (AHG02)			3:05-4:00pm Cubs Drama Club (AHG02) 3:05-4:30pm Pride Pom (MML09)	
DRAMA	DANCE		MUSIC		ART
Cubs – Year 7 Lions – Years 8 + 9 Pride – Years 10-12	Cubs – Year 7 Lions – Years 8-12 Pride – Invitation Company – Invitation		Cubs – Year 7 Lions – Year 8-12 Pride – Invitation Specialty Groups		Cubs – Year 7 Photography – Years 7-12

[CLICK HERE: Live Link 2024 CAPA Co-curricular Timetable](#)

Cultural Growth Domain

Private Music Tuition Studio Concerts Semester 1



St Leo's also offers our Pride Lands Private Music Tuition Program. If you are interested in receiving private lessons to learn an instrument and/or vocals, please complete the following [expression of interest form](#). Students are welcome to join the program at any time throughout the year, including mid-term.

Co-Curricular Website & Contact Details:

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 Mrs Field](#).

Sydney Dance Company Workshop: Years 9 & 10 Dance Elective



On March 22, Years 9 and 10 Dance Elective Students participated in the Sydney Dance Company incursion at St Leo's.



The workshop developed students' dance technique with a focus on contemporary dance, students explored a composition task and learnt a section of Sydney Dance Company Repertoire.



Yr 11 and 12 Visual Arts Excursion to Art Express and Louise Bourgeois

Last week our senior Visual Arts students had the opportunity to view both Art Express and the Louise Bourgeois' exhibition 'Has



the Day Invaded the Night or Has the Night Invaded the Day?' at the NSW Art Gallery.

Art Express is an annual exhibition of exemplary artworks created by New South Wales visual arts students for the Higher School Certificate examination. It was an excellent opportunity for our students to see first hand the diverse range of mediums and themes explored by their peers as they embark on their own Body of Work major works for 2024.

In addition, Louise Bourgeois' exhibition explored a world of emotional extremes in an exhibition of one of the most influential artists of the past century. Giant metal spider sculptures and

alien-like forms greeted students as they explored 'The Tank', a repurposed multi-functional exhibition and performance space which was once used as an oil tank to provide fuel for the naval fleet at Garden Island in WWII.

Giving our students first hand experience of a variety of artworks and exhibition spaces helps to widen their understanding of material and conceptual practices.



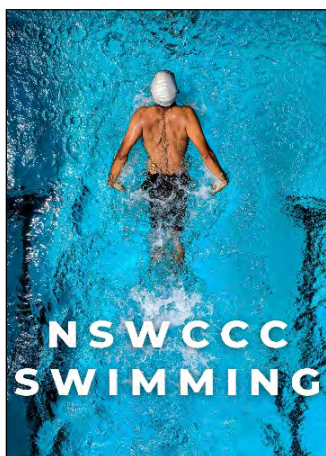
Physical Growth Domain

AROUND THE GROUNDS: CSBB Open Basketball

The Open Boys and Girls Basketball sides recently competed at the CSBB Championships at Breakers Stadium in Gosford.

On the day, both teams played great basketball, and this was a result of the countless hours of training that the teams have put in leading into the championships.

The Open Girls won two of their games and were narrowly beaten in three others by less than four points. The Open Boys were undefeated, winning five matches and drawing against St Edwards in the other game. This meant that without finals, it came down to points difference and the boys finished as runners-up. This is a massive achievement and congratulations to all students and their coach **Mr Jon Nicoll**.



NSWCCC Swimming Success!

Last week the NSWCCC Swimming Championships were held at Sydney Olympic Park. St Leo's had two students - **April A** (Year 8) and **Anna S** (Year 7) - representing Broken Bay at these titles and both achieved fantastic results:

U/14 Girls 50m Breaststroke – 1st - April A

U/12 Girls 100m Freestyle – 3rd - Anna S

U/12 Girls 50m Freestyle – 5th - Anna S

U/12 Girls 50m Breaststroke – 8th - Anna S

These results are amazing, and it sees the girls qualify for the NSW All Schools Carnival later in the year! Well done!

Schools Cup Volleyball

Last Thursday, the Year 11 Boys and Girls Volleyball teams played at the NSW Schools Cup Volleyball competition at Sydney Olympic Park.

The competition sees teams from around the state compete in the event with the quality of play extremely high. Both teams performed exceptionally well with the girls reaching the semi-finals and finishing in 3rd place, while the boys team finished in 6th overall.

This was the first competition of the year for the teams with School's Cup second round later in the year and the CSBB Championships in Term 4.

Well done to all students on your fantastic results!



St Leo's Lawn Bowls Team

The lawn bowls competition held at Pennant Hills Bowling Club last Sunday was a great opportunity for students to try a new sport as well as to learn/develop new skills. Leading up to the competition, our St Leo's teams participated in multiple training sessions where everyone saw massive improvements in their own skills going from individuals who were rolling their bowl into the ditch to landing it right on the jack. Not only was this day a good opportunity for students to participate in a new sport, it was also a way for different year groups to interact with each other.

On the day of the competition, St Leo's had four teams (the most of any school), prepared to show everyone what they had learnt. Over the course of the day, there was continuous development shown, each team coming closer and closer to getting the win. It was great to see different year groups playing against each other as well as to witness each of the teams supporting each other from the sidelines.

A standout performance was had by the 'Dino-Nuggies' with team members **Joshua M, Thomas C, Cameron G** and **Logan R** finishing in 4th place, securing a place in the bronze medal match. Unfortunately, not without a fight, the team claimed 4th position. Their achievement was a true testament to the hard work that each of the teams had put into the lead up to the day.

We would like to say a massive thank you to **Mr Wilson** and **Ian Moyst** for the continuous patience and support shown to each student during the preparation for the competition as well as the performance on the day.



Sporting Trials and Training Information

A reminder to all students that all upcoming sporting trials and trainings are posted weekly on the [2024 St Leo's Sport Google Classroom page](#). If there are changes due to weather or other circumstances this page is constantly updated. The code for the page is **6q7xvbh**.

Next Edition

- Cross Country Results
- NSWCCC AFL
- Girls Rugby League Update

If you have questions or external sporting success, please [contact Mr Kember](#).

Environmental Growth Domain

Clean4Shore Excursion - 8 April

We are pleased to share with you the exciting experience our students had at the recent Clean4Shore event on the Hawkesbury River.

The event began with a briefing from **David Bolton** of Hornsby Shire Council, who spoke about catchment management and water quality. This was a great opportunity for our students to gain valuable insights into these crucial issues.



During the clean-up, our students discovered various items amidst the flood debris, including a plastic roadside barrier, advertising signage, timber pallets, plastic drums, and



buckets. Kangaroo Point had bulk timber debris, but plastic litter and flood debris were not as abundant. Despite facing some challenges, our students collected an impressive 360kg of litter during the event. Their dedication and hard work truly exemplified the values of our school community. Their efforts will contribute to the preservation and protection of our environment.



During our last meeting for Term 1, we focused on our goals for Term 2. Our main priorities are to fundraise for a composting bin, which will predominantly be used for the Food Tech and Hospitality green scraps, and to separate out the recycling and general waste bins.



We invite all students who are interested in the environment and contributing in a positive way to our school community to come along to our meetings next term on Tuesdays at lunch time in THG03.

REMINDERS:

New & Second-Hand Uniforms

Full details are available on the Uniform Information page of the College website.

Uniform Supplier – New Uniforms

Brand new St Leo's College uniforms are available only from our suppliers. Cowan and Lewis in Turrumurra (note we do not have a uniform shop on campus):

Cowan and Lewis

1315 Pacific Highway, Turrumurra

Ph: 9449 9777

Fax: 9440 8931

Email: sales@cowanlewis.com.au

[Cowan and Lewis website](#)

ORDER ONLINE

Uniform orders can be collected from the Turrumurra store (by appointment – see Covid note below), posted (at cost) or delivered to St Leo's College Reception during school terms (at no additional charge).

Secondhand Uniforms

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).

Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile phones are ubiquitous in modern society and schools are in no way immune to the phenomenon. Across the world, in the media and among our lawmakers and academics, there has been ongoing debate about the impact of mobile phones being used by students during school hours. This discussion was reignited after the NSW Department of Education announced that mobiles will be banned for all students in NSW state primary and secondary schools in 2024.

While there are compelling reasons in favour of removing mobile phones from schools, there are also good reasons for being cautious about instigating such a sweeping ban. Unlike government schools who must abide by Department policy directives, as a Catholic systemic school, St Leo's can apply discretion in relation to this issue.

Impacts in the Classroom

Arguably the key point raised in favour of banning mobile phones from schools, or at least from classrooms, is that they distract students and detrimentally affect learning, just as an open laptop can on occasions. St Leo's agrees with this argument and has therefore banned mobile phones in the classroom.

Cyberbullying

Lowering the incidence of cyberbullying is another commonly cited reason for preventing students from using their phones during school hours. Current research suggests half of all young people have experienced cyberbullying via mobile phones. Child psychologist, **Dr Michael Carr-Gregg**, similarly points out that 'all schools have a legal obligation to provide a safe environment in which to learn' and that banning mobiles makes this easier to achieve.

However, it is worth noting that much of the cyberbullying experienced by young people does not occur during school hours or on school premises. In fact, part of what makes cyberbullying so dangerous is that it can occur anywhere and at any time. Clearly then, the problem will not suddenly come to an end by preventing students from using their phone at school. Furthermore, there is a risk that teachers may invest less effort in looking for signs of cyberbullying among students if there is an assumption that the ban will largely deal with the issue.

What is the Policy at St Leo's?

The College recognises that most students possess mobile devices such as mobile phones, iPads, and Apple Watches. These devices are a useful way for family members to keep in touch. Though, this should not occur during the school day as it often causes anxiety amongst parents being contacted by their children for what most of the time can be described as 'minor' issues. The devices are often expensive, so securing them safely is a priority for all students. They also have the capacity to be a distraction in a school environment and so guidelines are required for their use.

At the College

Devices are to be stored in lockers, and preferably placed on silent or flight mode to eliminate loud ringtones. They can only be used next to one's locker before or after school for short periods of time.

The only exception to this is when students are instructed to contact their parent/guardian regarding variations to scheduled events or, under direct teacher supervision, they may use their device.

Devices cannot be taken to class (every student has a laptop in class).

If a mobile phone is brought to any class or used during the day in the playground, a student will have their mobile phone confiscated until 3pm and issued with a demerit note on Compass.

Parents needing to contact their child during class time, should contact school reception directly.

Students found to have mobile devices switched 'on', using devices to 'hotspot' laptops to external data sources, bypassing the College's network, or used in anyway deemed inappropriate by College staff or supervising adult can expect their phone to be confiscated until 3pm and a demerit noted on Compass.

At College Activities:

The College will determine the use of mobile phones during off-campus activities arranged by the College, including field trips, camps, and retreats.

The College takes no responsibility for a mobile device on its premises or excursions. Families are advised that the College expects that if students bring mobile devices to school or on excursions they do so with the full knowledge and authority of their parents. Parents are therefore advised to take appropriate measures to insure such mobile devices against loss, damage, or theft.

The College recognises that with many students travelling considerable distances to and from the College, with often irregular bus and train transport, it is important for the safety of the students that they have the capacity to contact their parents, or other family members in an emergency.

The College recognises that most devices have the ability to take photos or videos. Students are reminded that the law prohibits the use of devices for taking photos or videos of anyone without their permission and expressly forbids the use of cameras in change rooms and toilets.

Community Notices



Hornsby Relay for Life – 2-3 November 2024, Rofe Park, Hornsby Heights

Planning is currently underway for this year’s Relay. Last year the event raised just over \$133,000 - this year we are aiming for \$150,000.

We are currently seeking the donation of raffle prizes and sponsorship of various items/events. If you think you can help or know of a local business who might be interested in assisting, please contact Joanna Gower (Registrar and Assistant to the Principal) who is on the Organising Team and is Captain of St Leo’s Pride team on email:

joanna.gower@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Thank you!



ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

On behalf of the 18 Battalion and 2/18 Battalion (Ku-ring-gai Regiment) Associations, we would like to invite you, your family and students to attend our ANZAC Commemorative Service.

Refreshments will be provided in the church hall at the conclusion of the service.



SUNDAY 28 APRIL • 11.30AM

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

754 Pacific Highway Gordon

RSVP BY FRIDAY 19 APRIL

email: events@krg.nsw.gov.au | phone: 94240980



Cr. Sam Ngai
Mayor of Ku-ring-gai

Rev. Robert Happer
Rector, St John's Gordon



Teaching **Learner drivers** - The facts



As young people approach driving age it is important, they and their parents or carers are aware of what is ahead as a learner driver and how they achieve the 120 supervised driving hours in their logbook. As you may be aware, P-plate drivers are involved in more crashes than any other driving group (including learner drivers). Parents play a key role in guiding and promoting safe driving habits.

Hornsby Shire Council holds a virtual presentation via Microsoft TEAMS several times a year offering practical advice and information to parents/carers and supervising drivers on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers. The presentation includes information about:

- Understanding the Graduated Licensing Scheme and the current laws of L and P licence holders.
- Completing the *Learner driver logbook and App*.
- Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience.
- Supervising learner drivers.
- Young Driver Issues.
- The Safer Drivers Course.
- Lots of tips to help the supervising driver and learner.

The next presentation council is offering is on **Thursday 23 May 6pm – 7.30pm**.
For bookings visit: <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/learnerdrivers>. **COST IS FREE**

Express

Empower

Get loud!

**Celebrate Youth Week
in Hornsby Shire with FREE
events for ages 12-24**

11-21 April 2024

[hornsby.nsw.gov.au/youthweek](https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/youthweek)

Hornsby Shire Council's Youth Week events are safe and inclusive events for all our young people to attend.



Movie Night: Ghostbusters – Frozen Empire

Friday 12 April, 6.15pm–8.30pm

Events Cinema Hornsby

Free movie, popcorn/ice cream/drink

Bookings essential



Hornsby Art Society – Young Artist 2024

Award Ceremony, Friday 12 April, 6pm–8pm

Exhibition Open, 9–14 April, 10am–4pm

Wallerobba Arts & Cultural Centre



Community Skate Workshops & JAM Sessions

Saturday 13 April, 10am–2pm

Galston Skate Park

Free event, BBQ, prizes. Ages 10+

Families welcome



Community CPR Workshop

Tuesday 16 April, 10am–12pm

Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre

Lunch provided. Spaces extremely limited, bookings essential



Lifeline Session

Thursday 18 April, 1.30pm–5pm

Hornsby Library

Support and information in one place

Show bags available for all young people



Make Your Own Beeswax Wraps

Thursday 18 April, 2pm–3.30pm

Pennant Hills Community Centre

Snacks provided. Spaces extremely limited, bookings essential



Scan the QR code for more details and to book

