



St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga

Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 4 Term 3, 2024

Principal's Message

Assumption Mass

Yesterday was the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. We celebrated Mary being the Mother of God as a Catholic learning community with *Our Lady of the Rosary primary school* and members of *Hornsby Cathedral Parish* in The Light of Christ Centre. **Fr Brendan Lee**, Moderator of the parish along with **Deacon Hien** led us in the Mass. Fr Brendan spoke of the many titles of Mary (his favourite being *Our Lady*) and asked us to continue to pray to her for our individual and collective needs – she will most likely listen!

College Successes

Just as the Australian Olympic Team touched down in Australia with their haul of medals, so too did our **Aerobics Teams** returning from the Nationals conducted in Adelaide last weekend. We are very proud of our teams and their coaches on the performances and more importantly the way in which they have represented the College over the past seven months, in their various competitions and endless training sessions.

Overall, the teams returned with **4 Gold and 3 Bronze National Medals!**

I would like to acknowledge both **Ms Lucy McNay** and **Ms Kelly Robinson** for enabling our young people to experience this nation-wide level, high pressured learning opportunity. To even make it to this level is impressive, and all our teams and coaches are to be congratulated.

As with all medal performances, there are many hours of training and preparation needed to reach the Zone, State and National levels. Thank you to all our coaches (many of whom are ex-students) who are masters of their sport, but more importantly for their belief in our young people of harnessing and fine tuning their capabilities and talents to end up with a National level team. It is no small feat. Add to that the number of consecutive years our College has achieved this, speaks volumes of the quality of the mentoring and coaching of our students.

Alongside our Olympic Team arrivals in the QANTAS hangar was the **Australian Girls Choir** – three of 31 young ladies were from St Leo's – well done to **Lucy B** (Year 11), **Alison D** and **Renee S** (Year 10).



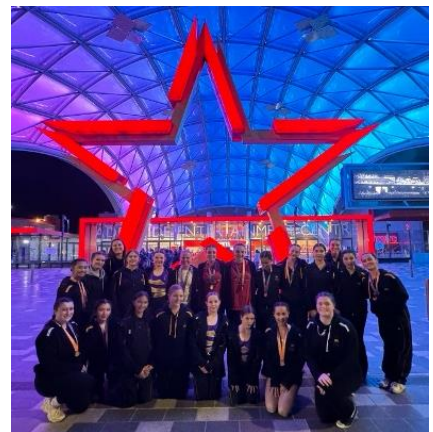
Congratulations also to our Year 8 and 9 Drama students (**Lions Drama Club**) who performed at the Ryde Eisteddfod this week, attaining, 2nd, 3rd and two Highly Commended placings.

Thank you to **Ms Ellie Field** and **Ms Kristen Nicola** for providing another fabulous opportunity for our students.

REMINDER: Student Free Day & College Office CLOSED

MONDAY 19 AUGUST

Read more: Page 5



New Parent Engagement Coordinator

I would like to introduce to you our new Parent Engagement Coordinator – **Ms Tess Fabry**. Tess has had many experiences of St Leo's – as a mother, a parishioner at Holy Name, a working parent and as a parent who can find some time to assist in our Community Tutoring Program. Above all her St Leo's experiences is the fact that Tess would like to assist our parents who are striving to bring up their young people to be the best people that they can be.

Tess will be at our upcoming *Parent in Partnership Evening* on Wednesday 28 August from 6pm (to be held both face-to-face and via Teams). The agenda will follow next week after our PiP Working Party meeting.

Please Keep in your Prayers...

Please keep in your prayers, our **Year 12 students** who will complete the HSC Trial Exams next Monday, and also the Doyle family on the passing of **Ms Asher Doyle's** father-in-law, **James**.

The Abbey Retreat

Last week I had the privilege of joining a group of Year 11 students for a three day retreat with the Benedictine nuns at **The Abbey at Jamberoo**. Thank you to **Rev Adrian Gomez** and **Ms Colleen Koffron** for their time and leadership in giving these students this valuable and unique experience.

ST LEO'S HSC SHOWCASE 2024

OUTSTANDING MAJOR WORKS & PERFORMANCES
BY THE YEAR 12 CLASS OF 2024

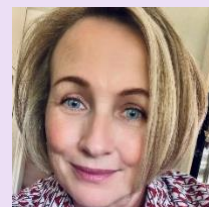
SOCIETY & CULTURE
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
ENGLISH EXT. 2
MUSIC
IT TIMBER
HISTORY EXT.
DANCE
DRAMA
VISUAL ARTS

**TUES
3 SEPT
2024**

5 PM - 7.30 PM
MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE
ST LEO'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE
WOOLCOTT AVE, WAHROONGA

**FREE ENTRY
ALL WELCOME**

Hello. My name is **Tess Denham-Fabry** and I have been appointed to St Leo's as your new Parent Engagement Co-ordinator (PEC).



My son was a student at St Leo's from Years 7-12 (Graduating Class of 2022). Our family's journey as part of the St Leo's community was a very happy and rewarding one, and I welcome the opportunity to be a part of yours.

As your PEC, my role involves supporting you as parents, and your children, the Principal and staff, as well as the Parish Priest, Fr Brendan Lee, at OLOR. It is my hope that together we can cultivate, nurture, enhance and connect through our shared faith journey within the context of St Leo's, the OLOR parish, and the wider community.

I will be on campus Mondays (8am-4pm), and at various school events, so do say hello!

Please also feel free to email me at theresa.denhamfabry@dbb.catholic.edu.au

I very much look forward to getting to know you and your families.

Sr Mother Hilda gave us a two-hour block of her time on Day 2 and in this short time



connected deeply with our young people in helping them get to know Jesus and how unique and special each one of us are in his eyes.

The retreat was exemplified in the community living activities (cooking, meal preparation, bushwalks, star gazing) of the young people. We joined in The Abbey's beautiful chapel at 5am, 7am, 9.30am, 1pm and 5pm prayers (7pm vespers is just for Benedictine nuns). Many of the prayers were Psalms (in song) and the daily scripture readings.

This wonderful opportunity is unique to St Leo's as we are privileged to be the only school permitted to have this length of time with the Jamberoo community each year.

I would strongly encourage each student to attend if they can in the future.

Science Week

This week was Science Week, and the Science team have been busy with a range of special activities during class and outside the classroom to engage students in the world of science. Activities ranged from 'Brain Breaks' in Science Club to demonstrations with Liquid Nitrogen and a Careers Talk featuring Nursing, Engineering and Environmental Sciences, with the highlight being the **Year 10 Depth Study Showcase** on Tuesday. We will include a special Science Week feature in the next Lion Roars. Well done to the students involved, parents for their support and to the Science team for all your hard work!



Science staff as their favourite elements!

2025 Student Leadership Ceremony

Next Wednesday we announce and welcome our new **Senior Student Leadership Team** for 2024/25. Our new leadership team and their parents will be joining the student body as the leaders will be blessed and take their pledges. Our new Leaders will be taking over the operational tasks and planning for 2025, as our current leaders head to their HSC Exams.

Visiting Dignitaries

Over three days this week, CSBB hosted the **Board of Catholic Schools NSW** in our schools. St Leo's was given the opportunity to host the Welcoming Presentation, Mass (at the cathedral led by Bishop Anthony) and a welcome dinner on Tuesday evening in the Mary MacKillop Centre.

A number of our students provided musical entertainment and assisted the caterers in the preparation, plating and serving of the meals for over 115 guests. It was a huge night with many of the those present congratulating the College on our young people and what they saw as they moved through the College.

I would like to particularly acknowledge **Ms Joanna Gower** (Principal's Assistant and Registrar) and **Ms Leah Hannan** (College Business Manager) for all their organisation and planning for this auspicious event.

Thank you.

Tony Gleeson, Principal

Assistant Principals' Reports

Year 12 Prayer Initiative

We warmly invite you to take part in a prayer initiative whereby families are given the first name of a Year 12 student to pray for as they prepare for their Higher School Certificate (HSC) examinations.

As our students embark on this important journey, we know that remembering them in our prayers will provide them with the strength, guidance, and peace they need during this challenging time.

Your prayers will be a tremendous support to our Year 12 students, helping them to feel surrounded by care and encouragement in our special St Leo's community.



Please indicate [HERE](#) if you would like to be allocated a student to pray for. You will also be provided with a prayer. The students will be made aware of your prayers of support.



Father's Day Liturgy & Breakfast – [RSVP HERE](#) by Mon 26/8

Online Learning and Ignite - 26-27 September



At the end of Term 3, St Leo's is once again hosting Ignite for four days from 26-29 September. This means there will be approx. 1000 extra people on site. As a result, **lessons for these days will be on online via Google Classroom.**

Students are encouraged to attend Ignite. Our students have been offered a 50% discount for the four-day pass.

To register: head to the registration page [HERE](#). Enter the coupon code: 'LeosStudent' to reveal your discounted ticket. Select the revealed \$147.50 'CSBB St Leo's Student - Ignite High' ticket and proceed to the registration form. Complete the form and submit registration.

NOTE: Students who attend the Ignite event will be exempt from the classwork on the last Thursday and Friday of term!



Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day

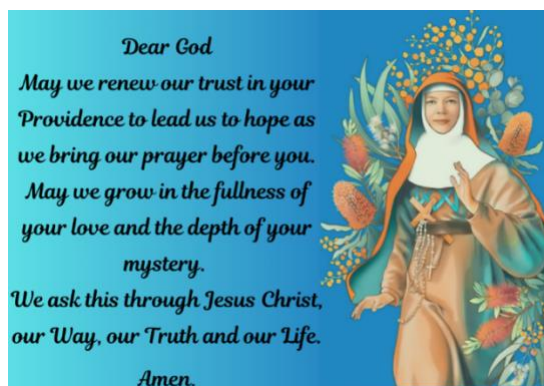
Each year on August 8, we celebrate the Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia's beloved first saint and patron saint of our Archdiocese. St Leo's acknowledged this special feast day with the following prayer (*right*).

CSBB Religious Creative Art Prize - Entries Closing Soon!

For the past decade, this highly anticipated event has been celebrating the artistic abilities of our talented students. With five categories, including visual arts, dance, drama, music, and short film, there's something for everyone to get involved in.

In 2023, St Leo's won several categories including **Gabriel O** (Year 8 Short Film - 1st Place), **Precious C** (Year 10 Short Film - 1st Place), **Maya M** (Year 10 Visual Art - 1st Place), **Aidan D** (Year 7 Visual Art - 3rd Place).

One of the key elements of the competition is how students demonstrate their understanding of and connection to the religious theme. In 2024 the theme is one of the CSBB core values, JOY.



"May the God of hope fill you with joy." (Romans 15:13)

Finalists get the chance to perform or display their work at a special diocese 'Showcase' performance evening, where industry performers and judges will be present. And the best part? The competition is open to all students at St Leo's.

Students will be required to link their creative piece directly to the religious theme by answering the question; *'How is this theme lived out or demonstrated today?'*

As well as creating an artwork, short film, dance, drama or music piece, students will need to write a brief explanation (maximum word count 150 words) to accompany their artwork outlining how their artwork connects with the theme.

Free Webinars for Parents:

eSafety Commissioner – ‘Consent and Online Boundaries’

* Tuesday 20 August, 7.30pm – 8pm

Parents and Carers of Year 7-8s may be interested in the webinar ‘*Consent and online boundaries: how to support your primary-aged child*’.



Run by the eSafety Commissioner’s expert education and training team, this free live webinar addresses how children can safely navigate the online world and how to make decisions around consent and boundaries. This 30-minute webinar will outline strategies for parents and carers, as well as support those hard-to-have conversations. To register click [HERE](#).

Breaking Point with Dr Justin Coulson – Unpacking the Crisis in Youth Mental Health

* Wednesday 11 September, 7pm – 8pm

Join **Dr Justin Coulson**, Australia’s leading parenting expert, as he unpacks the mental health crisis enveloping our kids. He’ll cover:

- The root causes behind the deteriorating state of mental health, and who (or what) is responsible
- The tools you need to reverse this trend for your children
- Science-backed, relationship-focused strategies to remedy school refusal
- Realistic approaches for managing screen time in a way that protects your child’s wellbeing without completely alienating them from their peers
- Creating margin in your home and family life to protect and promote mental wellness.



To register click [HERE](#).



HSC Trial Examinations

During Weeks 3 and 4 of this term our Year 12 students have been sitting their HSC Trial Examinations. This was an opportunity for our

students to demonstrate their strengths and identify areas needed for growth. While these Trial Examinations may bring a certain level of stress, we know they are a valuable stepping stone in the approach to the Higher School Certificate.

The effort they put in now will not only prepare them for the final exams but also build resilience and confidence for the future. We are proud of the commitment, preparation and responsibility they have demonstrated during this trial period.

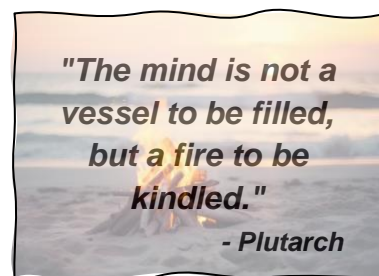


System-wide Staff Development Day – HSC Marking

Next Monday, 19 August, every secondary teacher across the seven high schools in our CSBB diocese will be meeting at St Peter’s at Tuggerah for a Trial HSC Marking Day. This day is for all teachers from each subject to come together to mark a section of the Trial Paper.

This is an amazing opportunity for all our staff to experience a marking centre and to be led by experienced HSC Markers to engage in rigorous professional development and to ensure consistency across the diocese. We

Patrick Brennan
Assistant Principal - Evangelisation and Catechesis



are so fortunate at St Leo's that several of the facilitators for the marking centre, are teachers from St Leo's. We are blessed to have many staff who have HSC Marking experience. This is the first time our diocese has held a day such as this and it is set to be excellent professional development for all our teachers.

NOTE: As well as a Student Free Day on Monday 19 August, the College Office will be closed as our administration staff will also be attending training offsite.

Uniform and Grooming

A reminder to parents and students that as a College, we want to ensure that the high standards in our uniform and appearance is maintained so we are focussed on correcting:

- ❖ **Incorrect jumpers** - If students are unable to find their sports jacket or pants, then they are expected to wear their full school uniform and change for sport.
- ❖ **Inappropriate haircuts** - Students are fully aware that mullet haircuts are not part of our grooming expectations at the College. If they arrive at school, they may be asked to be collected and have the haircut rectified prior to returning to the College.
- ❖ **Facial Hair** - It is an expectation that students are clean shaven. Students will be given the opportunity to shave at school or may be asked to be collected and the facial hair removed prior to returning to the College.
- ❖ **Nose Piercings** - These are not permitted at the College. Students will be asked to remove them. Please discourage your young person from getting a nose piercing as they are not part of the uniform.

For most of the students who take pride and care in their appearance, (and parents who ensure they do) it does not go unnoticed and the College says **thank you!**

Mrs Fiona Milkins, Assistant Principal, Student Achievement



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Year 12 Society and Culture



A big congratulations to the **Year 12 2024 Society and Culture** cohort who have just submitted their HSC Major Works - their *Personal Interest Projects* or 'PIPs'.

These PIPs take an enormous amount of academic dedication and diligence to complete. As part of the HSC course and 40% of their NESA grade, students are required to complete a research task on a social or cultural issue of their choice, plan and conduct primary research of their own and conduct an investigation that presents 5,000 words on their findings in the style of an academic journal.

These students completed research on a multitude of issues from the sociology of crime to the experience of Muslim women in the West and many more topics in between.

Notably this year, students were fortunate to have the opportunity to interview experts in their fields from the University of Sydney, and even the opportunity to interview a NSW Senior Chief Magistrate. The students and I were incredibly grateful for these professionals who donated their valuable time to assist our students with their thorough research.

We would also like to thank Leo's own **Mrs Asher Doyle**, an experienced HSC Society and Culture marker, who dedicated her time to providing feedback to students, further guiding them on the path to success.

Completing the PIP is no easy task, but overall, a very rewarding experience. We invite you to find out more about these PIPs at the upcoming **HSC Showcase Evening**. Copies will also be available in the library for students.

Mrs Natasha James, HSIE Teacher

YOUTH MINISTRY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Abbey Retreat

In Week 3, **Rev Gomez, Mrs Kofron** and **Mr Gleeson** accompanied ten Year 11 students to the beautiful and serene setting of the Benedictine Abbey of Jamberoo for a three-day retreat. Here are some reflections by the participants:

'Our three-day retreat at Jamberoo Abbey was a profound and unforgettable experience. We participated in five daily prayers in the church with the nuns, and these moments deeply connected us with God. It became clear that God's presence is constant, no matter our circumstances or attempts to distance ourselves from Him. One of the highlights was the two hour talk by Mother Hilda, the Abbess (leader) of the community, who shared her insights on the impact of God in our lives. Her words helped us realise just how essential God's presence is, offering comfort and guidance even in the most challenging times.' – **Chloe**

'The Abbey retreat was such a rewarding experience and the peace and stillness that surrounded the place was incredible. We attended prayer with the sisters, had a personal session with Mother Hilda, explored the nature around us and we also held our own reflection time so that we could reflect and be open to each other and to God. The Abbey retreat was most definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity and no amount of words could explain the connection we had and the whole experience of it.' – **Maya**

'The Abbey Retreat was a once in a lifetime chance not only to reconnect with my friends, but to reconnect with God and nature. The peace and serenity of the Abbey creates the perfect space to relax and reflect on my connection with God. Praying with the nuns (including Vigils at 5am) was incredible and a great chance to experience the Benedictine way of life.' – **Conor**



Rev Adrian Gomez, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Year 8 at The Great Aussie Bush Camp



Last week (Monday - Wednesday) Year 8 attended camp at *The Great Aussie Bush Camp* at Tea Gardens. The camp was a fun, engaging, and interactive experience for the students as they enjoyed mostly clear blue skies and sunshine over the three days.



Upon arrival, Year 8 were divided into their Mentor Groups and were immediately challenged by a rotation of different activities including a vertical challenge, raft building, leap of faith, kayaking, initiatives, the giant swing, archery, and abseiling.

For our evening activities, the students were entertained by the camp instructors with a games and movie night (*Cool Runnings*), followed by a campfire for the second evening session.

Year 8 were enthusiastic participants throughout the program and built their skills in the areas of trust, independence, consideration, and teamwork. Although students were tired by the end of the camp, the consolidation of friendships, resilience skill sets, camaraderie, and positive relationships were evident upon their return.

Special thanks to the 10 staff members who accompanied Year 8 over the three-day program and ensured that the students had a wonderful residential experience across the range of activities. It was a united team effort, and Year 8 should be extremely proud of their individual/team efforts in both negotiating and responding to the different challenges that were presented during the program - they were a credit to both themselves and the College. Great work team!

See more [CAMP PHOTOS HERE](#).

Ashley Johansen, Leader of Learning: Pastoral – Year 8 2024



Environmental Group



On Tuesday, 13 August, our school took another step towards sustainability with the successful setup of the compost bin that we fundraised for in Term 2!

This project, which has been in the works for several months, came to fruition as students from our environmental group worked together to assemble the bin from a flat pack. It now proudly resides outside the Food Tech and Hospitality kitchens.



This new compost bin will play a crucial role in managing food waste, transforming scraps from our food-related subjects into nutrient-rich compost. This initiative is part of our ongoing efforts to make our school more environmentally friendly and to educate students on the importance of sustainable practices.



Special congratulations go out to our environmental leaders, **Venuka** and **Charlotte**, who were instrumental in making this project a reality. Their dedication and leadership have set a fantastic example for the entire school community. Well done to everyone involved in this important project!



Ms Isabella Hawke, Environmental Coordinator

CAREER SPOTLIGHT

Discover your future

Careers & Pathways

Students interested in **Food Technology** and careers in the **Food Industry and Hospitality**, [William Angliss Institute Open Day](#) is on Saturday, 17 August.

LE CORDON BLEU AUSTRALIA

LE CORDON BLEU SYDNEY OPEN DAY 2024

Date: Saturday 17 August 2024
 Time: 10:00am to 2:00pm
 Location: 250 Blaxland Road, Ryde, NSW 2112

Please scan the QR code to register.

TERM 3 'MANE EVENT' CAREERS SESSIONS

- 13TH AUG - TRADE OPPORTUNITIES**
HEAR FROM AN AIRCON ELECTRICIAN ABOUT THE TRADE & BUILDING A BUSINESS
- 16TH AUG - SCIENCE CAREERS**
MEET PROFESSIONALS IN THE FIELD: NURSING, ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENT
- 22ND AUG - HOSPITAL CAREERS**
INCLUDING MEDICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES
- 5TH SEPT - CAMP AMERICA**
US GAP YEAR OPTIONS INCLUDING SUMMER CAMP & NANNING
- 12TH SEPT - LEGAL CAREERS**
'A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LAWYER' - GENERAL LAW TO CONVEYANCING
- 17TH SEPT - NURSING**
THE MANY PATHWAYS AVAILABLE IN THE NURSING PROFESSION

It's never too early or too late to plan for your future!

For any questions or further clarification regarding the TVET courses or the application process, please contact me ([Mrs Melissa Duff](#)) and I will be happy to assist with any inquiries or provide guidance on next steps.

Mrs Melissa Duff, Careers Advisor

LIBRARY NEWS!

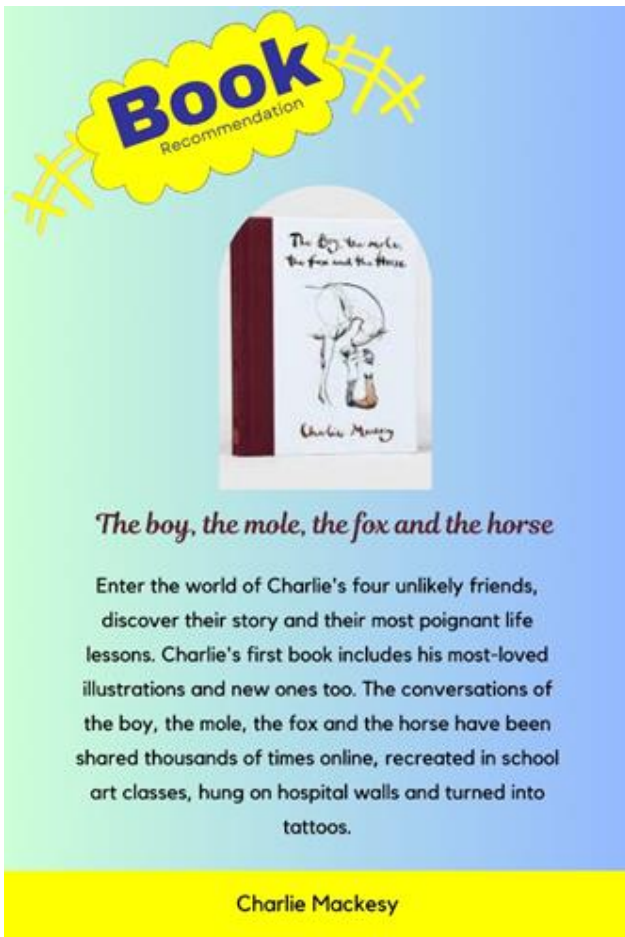
This fortnight, the library is supporting the Science Department in celebrating Science Week with a selection of books on display. Science subjects range from Geology to Astronomy, Biology to Chemistry and Environmental Studies to Physics.

They are accessible to a range of ages, and of course there are more great books on the shelves. We also have more new books in the fiction section. We will feature these in the next *Lion Roars*.


REMINDER

Last Chance! The 2024 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge registrations close on the 24 August 2024.

Mrs Victoria James, Acting Librarian



Book Recommendation



The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse

Enter the world of Charlie's four unlikely friends, discover their story and their most poignant life lessons. Charlie's first book includes his most-loved illustrations and new ones too. The conversations of the boy, the mole, the fox and the horse have been shared thousands of times online, recreated in school art classes, hung on hospital walls and turned into tattoos.

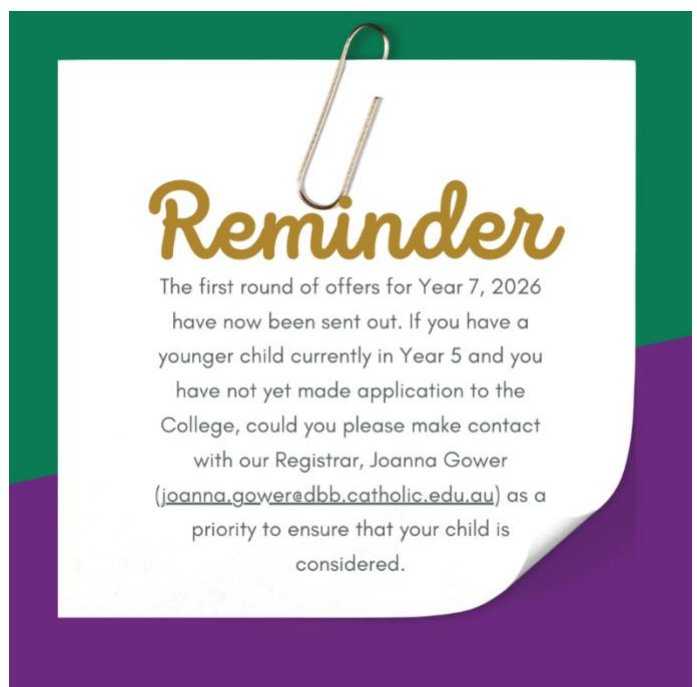
Charlie Mackesy



2023 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations
to the following students for participating in the 2023 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Zoe A	Madeleine M
Arturo BS	Aaron P
Cara D	Ziggy S
Alison D	Hannah T
Andrew D	Suzie T
Remi DT	Tahlia T
Harry DU	Violet T
Maxine F	Harry T
James G	Madeline T
William G	Anu (Aarya) VS
Daniel M	Violet W
Isabelle M	



Reminder

The first round of offers for Year 7, 2026 have now been sent out. If you have a younger child currently in Year 5 and you have not yet made application to the College, could you please make contact with our Registrar, Joanna Gower (joanna.gower@dbb.catholic.edu.au) as a priority to ensure that your child is considered.

UPCOMING TERM III DATES

Week	Date	Event
5	Mon 19 Aug	Pupil Free Day except Year 12 completing Trial Exams (CSBB Secondary Staff Strategy Day HSC Marking – see p.5)
5	Tue 20 Aug	B Street Smart – All of Year 10
5	Wed 21 Aug	Student Leadership 2025 Induction Ceremony (12.30pm) CSBB Junior/Inter Boys AFL, Junior/Inter Girls Rugby 7s
5	Thu 22 Aug	'Mane Event' Careers Session – Hospital Careers
5	Fri 23 Aug	Year 7 Laudato Si Excursion Year 9 2025 Electives choices due
6	Mon 26 Aug	CSBB Inter Basketball
6	Wed 28 Aug	Parents in Partnership Mtg, 6pm (hybrid – in person & online) NSWCCC Netball
6	Thu 29 Aug	Father's Day Liturgy & Breakfast, 7.30am - RSVP HERE Co-Curricular Photo Day CSBB Religious Art Prize submissions due
7	Tue 3 Sep	HSC Showcase, 5-7.30pm CSBB Athletics
7	Wed 4 Sep	Parent Coffee & Chat, 7.45-8.30am Year 12 Reflection Day
7	Thu 5 Sept	'Mane Event' Careers Session – Camp America
8	Mon 9 Sep	Year 11 Exams (9-20 Sep) Outdoor Education Cert II Workplacement (9-13 Sep)
8	Tue 10 Sep	Year 7 2025 Information Night TLOCC - 6pm
8	Thurs 12 Sep	'Mane Event' Careers Session – Legal Careers
8	Fri 13 Sept	Year 9 Reflection Day Vinnies Van
9	Mon 16 Sep	NSWCCC Athletics
9	Tues 17 Sep	'Mane Event' Careers Session – Nursing Careers Dance Showcase TLOCC – 6pm
9	Wed 18 Sep	Year 12 Graduation Mass and Ceremony
10	Mon 23 Sep	Cert II Outdoor Recreation Work Placement (23-27 Sep)
10	Thurs 26 Sep	Ignite Conference 2024 Online Learning for students not attending Ignite – see p.4
10	Fri 27 Sep	Ignite Conference 2024 Online Learning for students not attending Ignite – see p.4 End of Term 3 (last day for students)

CAPA NEWS

Drama Students' Eisteddfod Success

On Wednesday evening a talented group of Year 8 and 9 students competed at the Ryde Eisteddfod representing St Leo's in Drama as part of their involvement in the Lions Drama Club. The students created their own short scenes under the guidance of Miss Nicola - with very successful results, coming home with a second place, third place and two Highly Commended placings:

Congratulations to the follow groups who performed:

Group 1 - **Bienne, Lidya** and **Olivia** (Rapunzel)

Group 2 - **Sophie** and **Amelia** (Commedia) - **3rd Place**

Group 3 - **Audrey, Ethan** and **Shania** (Commedia) – **2nd Place**

Group 4 - **Finn, Zoe** and **Fernando** (Snow White) - **Highly Commended**

Group 5 - **Isabelle** and **Madeline** (Three Blind Mice) - **Highly Commended**

Group 6 - **Aidan** and **Gabriel** (Cinderella)



HSC Dance Practical Examinations

Congratulations to **Emily R** (Year 12) and **Romina Z** (Year 11 accelerated) who completed their HSC Dance Practical Examination on Wednesday 14th August. These Year 12 Dance students have now completed 80% of their HSC for Dance, performing their Core Performance and Major Study Performance works. They also presented their Core Composition works, a special thank you to their dancers **Scarlett C** (Year 9) and **Scarlett H** (Year 11) who have worked closely with the HSC Dance students to learn their compositions.

If you would like to view their HSC works, please come along to the HSC Showcase evening on Tuesday, 3 Sept.

Upcoming Eisteddfods

All our ensembles have been working diligently in rehearsals for their upcoming eisteddfods. These events are now on Compass awaiting permission for your child to attend. On Compass you will find key information for the events incl. meeting times, location, performance times etc.

Here are the upcoming co-curricular events for Term 3:

- **Fri 16 Aug - Hawkesbury Eisteddfod**
Vocal Ensembles: Lions Singers & Male Vocal Group
- **Wed 21 Aug - Hawkesbury Eisteddfod**
Instrumental Ensembles: Pride Performance Band, Lions Concert Band, Accordion Group, Guitar Ensemble, Rock Band
- **Sun 25 Aug - Hills Dance Spectacular**
Dance Ensembles: Lions Jazz & Hip Hop, Pride Jazz & Hip Hop, St Leo's Company
- **Sat 14 Sept - AASCF State Championships**
Dance Ensembles: Pride Pom

A poster for the "ST LEO'S HSC SHOWCASE 2024". The poster is purple and white with gold accents. It features the text "OUTSTANDING MAJOR WORKS & PERFORMANCES BY THE YEAR 12 CLASS OF 2024". Below this, there are several icons representing different subjects: "SOCIETY & CULTURE", "DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY", "ENGLISH EXT. 2", "IT TIMBER", "MUSIC", "HISTORY EXT.", "DANCE", "DRAMA", and "VISUAL ARTS". At the bottom, it says "TUES 3 SEPT 2024" and "5 PM - 7.30 PM MARY MACKILLOP CENTRE ST LEO'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE WOOLCOTT AVE, WAHROONGA". It also includes "FREE ENTRY ALL WELCOME".

AROUND THE GROUNDS – SPORTS NEWS

Aerobics Nationals Summary

Over the weekend, St Leo's had 40 students compete at the National Aerobics Championships in Adelaide. The teams travelled back Sunday afternoon and created history with it being the most successful in recent years, with 4 Gold medals and 3 Bronze medals to both the students and their coaches.

Away from the medals we also had several girls who made their national debuts and did themselves, their coaches, and St Leo's proud, learning valuable lessons they can build on for future years. Congratulations to both Ms Lucy McNay and Ms Kelly Robinson for their hard work and effort during the season. Below is a list of the students who achieved national medals:



Gold



Romina Z (Blue Singles)

Emma W, Bridgette C, Holly B, Sofia T, Eliza W, Sophie A, Sarah P, Pernille B
(Orange Large Team)

Coaches (**Georgia M, Mia LT, Jade L, Sofia AL, Rebecca B, Arlyne B**) (Team and Pairs)



Bronze



Amelia S, Jessica D, Emma T (Stage 3 Trio)

Amaya SA, Molly S, Scarlett C, Aleah Mu, Amelia M (Orange Small Team)

Romina Z, Grace TH, Matilda V (Blue Trio)



Again, congratulations to all students who represented the College at the National Aerobics Championships.

Additionally, 6 ex-students competed in 2 teams, both winning gold. These ex-students were **Georgia M, Mia L T, Jade L, Sofia AL, Rebecca B and Arlyne B**.

Much gratitude goes to **Ms Kelly Robinson** and **Ms Lucy McNay** for all of the hard work they put into Aerobics. It is a long season, with two trainings each week which started in Term 4 last year, and discussions about next year's teams and routines were already being held on the flight home. Thank you Kelly and Lucy for providing the opportunity for our students to not only compete, but to have great success under your direction.

The teams representing St Leo's were:

Stage 1 – Electrify	Stage 1 – Energise	Stage 1 – Explosion
Emily B Hayley A Ellysia H Poppy S Layla M Mihika S Erin F	Olivia DN Aria GB-N Isla M-P Nikki K Melanie M Katya VDW	Sarah C Analeigh W Rebecca C Mia H Mia C Felicity M

Stage 3 Trio – Disco Divas – BRONZE 🏅 Amelia S Jessica D Emma T	Blue Trio – Triple Threat – BRONZE 🏅 Romina Z Grace T-H Matilda V	Orange Pairs – Blitz Chelsea F Kyrah M
Blue Singles – GOLD 🏆 Romina Z Orange Singles Scarlett C	Orange Small Team – Dynamite – BRONZE 🏅 Amaya SA Molly S Scarlett C Aleah M Amelia M	Orange Large Team – Voodoo Child – GOLD 🏆 Holly B Bridgette C Emma W Sofia T Eliza W Sophie A Sarah P Pernille B



School Sport Australia Games



Two weeks ago, the School Sport Australia Games were held in Queensland. The event saw students from across Australia represent their states in a variety of sports. St Leo's had two representatives at the games in the U/18 Girls Softball. **Maddi** and **Milla D** (Year 12) were selected to represent NSW after strong performances at the NSWCCC and NSW All Schools Championships.

At the school sport games, the NSW team were undefeated in the pool stages winning six matches and drawing one. This led to a grand final match against Queensland that saw the girls coming out victorious 4-3 in the final. Milla was also named in the Australian Schools Merit squad.



Congratulations to Maddi and Milla!

CSBB Junior Rugby League

On Wednesday 7 August, the **U/13 Boys Rugby League** team competed at the CSBB Junior Rugby League Gala Day. On the day the boys came up against some tough opposition from both St Brigids, and Mackillop. These boys overall were bigger than the Leo's boys however this did not stop them from throwing themselves into tackles and supporting their teammates by making the tough carries in attack.

Unfortunately, the boys did not win however they showed true determination throughout the event. A big thank you to **Mr Hunter** for coaching the boys on the day and in the lead up to the event.

Katrina Fanning Cup

On Tuesday 6 August, the **U/16 Girls Rugby League** team competed at the Manly/North Sydney Katrina Fanning Cup regional qualifying event. This event is a prestigious girl's rugby league competition, with our girls winning their group after beating both Galston High School and Narrabeen Sports High.

This saw the girls come up against CSBB rivals Mater Maria in the semi-final and the girls dominated from the kick-off and coming out winners. This meant a grand final appearance against Pittwater High School and, after a long day of rugby league, the girls finished runners-up after being beaten by 8 points. Congratulations to all girls on a fantastic result.

CSBB Junior Basketball

The Junior Basketball Gala Day held on Monday 5 August was the first opportunity for many of the Year 7 students to wear the Gold and Purple of St Leo's in a representative capacity, and they did the College proud.

The boys team played six games throughout the day against teams from both the Central Coast and Northern Beaches, and came away with one win and a few narrow defeats.

The girls played five games on the day. They may not have come away with a win, however four of their games were lost by a single point. The level of improvement they have shown from last term to the gala day is a credit to their hard work and a big thank you to their coach **Mr Joe Robinson**.

Sports Trials and Training Information

Over the last few weeks, there have been several sporting opportunities that have been made available for all students. Trial and training information is regularly posted on the **St Leo's Sport Google Classroom page** that all students have access to. Please remind your son/daughter to check this so that they can be involved in all aspects of the co-curricular life of the College.

Community Notices



Helping young people with social anxiety

Free webinar | 10th & 11th September
Parents | Teachers | Teenagers

- Find out into what "social anxiety" means and the challenges faced
- Explore the latest **research and insights** to build confidence
- Discover **practical tools** to empower young people
- Understand and help young people to **break the cycle** of anxiety
- Create encouraging **home and school environments** for growth and well-being
- How, why, where and when to seek **professional help**

All welcome



60 mins (plus Q&A)

Register for free: <https://form-aus.keela.co/social-anxiety-webinar>

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 Wednesday 21 August 6pm – 7.30pm.

For bookings visit:

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/learnerdrivers>.

COST IS FREE.