

Welcome to the Parental Lion Roars for Week 10 Term 3, 2024

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers.

Farewell to Year 12

During the past two weeks, our Year 12s have had a number of opportunities to connect and reflect with each other and staff of the College (including two games of T-Ball - where the staff were victorious!). They have had one eye on what they have achieved

throughout their secondary education journey, and the other an optimistic gaze toward what lies ahead.







We started graduation day with a Graduation Mass in The Light of Christ Centre, where parents, grandparents, siblings, and other significant caregivers joined in the farewell. Following the Mass, the graduands were presented with a St Leo's Crucifix and a crocheted Bell of Discipleship (special thank you to **Mrs Gloria Candotti** and **Ms Tess Denham-Fabry** – our newly appointed *Parent Engagement Coordinator*). The handmade bell is to remind the students of their days here at St Leo's – when they entered the College, they rang the bell, marking their 'membership' of the College and as they left, they rang the bell, signalling their departure and being a follower of Christ. The Crucifix reminds them of God's love for them and of the Gospel values that have been interwoven throughout their educational journey at

Leo's. As they left the venue as confident, competent, Catholic-valued young people of conscience – our Year 7 students formed a Guard of Honour and

clapped them out – just as Year 12 students clap the Year 7 students in when they enter the College.

I made special mention of our young people in Years 7-11 and they were congratulated on their demeanour and behaviour during this important occasion. Many comments were made on their respect and attentiveness during the Mass. This was followed by the Graduation and Awards Ceremony later that afternoon. Every student was acknowledged and received their Graduation Certificate, and academic, Growth Domain and major award achievers were recognised.





In the final moments of the ceremony, the graduates took a rose to their mother-figures and a letter (which they wrote at the Year 12 Retreat) to their parents as a small way of saying thank you.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! May your journey ahead be guided by respect and integrity as you step confidently into the future.

As mentioned in my farewell speech (which I will address with the whole school at the end of the year) -

thank you for giving us:

- 1. Inclusivity
- 2. Community
- 3. Kindness, and,
- 4. Opportunity

The St Leo's College community extends its best wishes to each and every graduate as they take their final steps towards the HSC examinations or start an apprenticeship.



St Leo's Catholic College

This week we received notification that HSC student Jonte Dunn has been nominated for



2024 - the NESA Showcase of outstanding major works by HSC Design and Technology, Industrial Technology, and Textiles and Design students. This will be held at the Walsh Bay Arts Precinct from March 2025.

Jonte was nominated for his unique cantilevered toolbox created from Jarrah, which you may have seen on display at our recent HSC Showcase. His This nomination follows that of two of our Dance students, Emily (Year 12) and Romina (Year 11 accelerated), for Dance showcase, CALLBACK recently.

Congratulations to Jonte and his teacher, **Mr Sammut**.

Year 11 Preliminary Examinations

Our Year 11 students have just completed their End-of-Preliminary year final examinations. All students are to be commended for the way in which they have undertaken their exams with being on time, in correct uniform and engaging with the content of the exams right to the end.

They have demonstrated the attitude and effort synonymous with success and the College is starting to witness another senior year which is maturing, focusing on their studies and fulfilling the potential that the College is duly aware of in this year group. Now they prepare for establishing their final goals as they move into their last year of learning at St Leo's.

End of Term 3 2024 Farewells

We say farewell to Rev Adrian Gomez after over 10 years with us as our Youth Ministry Coordinator. Rev Adrian is moving into a Mission role in another educational organisation. The past few weeks, he has been participating in his Naval Reserve training – as a member of the Naval Chaplaincy Branch of the Royal Australian Navy.









View Graduation Photo Galleries: MASS & CEREMONY





Over his time at Leo's, not only has he lived and modelled the St Leo's spirit to our community, but he has brought to the College community his deep and contemporary, yet traditional Catholic faith, that has influenced many, many students and staff. 'Faith is not so much taught – but caught'. Rev Adrian has been the No 1 'pitcher' on our field! Even with Rev Adrian's departure, there is a very strong student leadership group comprising past and present students who will ensure great support and tradition is given to our new Youth Ministry Coordinator who will commence at the start of 2025. This is a great legacy Rev Adrian has left us.

The role of Youth Ministry Coordinator is a demanding one. You need to give of yourself. Not just in terms of vast time and effort – but of yourself and your beliefs. Over the years, I

have witnessed this firsthand on the many retreats, spirituality days, liturgies, providing music for our weekly Masses, prayer groups, the Venio, Nursing Home visits, World Youth Days (x 3) The Abbey Immersions, Australian Catholic Youth Festivals (x4), the very popular Year 10 Street Retreats, Vinnies Van, St Leo's Day, Ignite Conferences (x2), Bible studies or just talking with our young people in the playground. All are invited and many take up the call! Rev Adrian gives witness to evangelisation across many age groups.

Thank you, Rev Adrian, for your commitment to your old alma mater and to our wider community. May our paths cross again soon. You always speak of your St Leo's crucifix that you received when you left school – I am sure that crucifix will hold some extra significance for the many lives you have influenced here at the College.

One of our TAS (Technical and Applied Studies) staff, **Ms Lauren English** is moving back to the country in Northeast NSW. Lauren launched her career with us 3 years ago as a prac teacher. In this time Lauren has taken on more than a normal recent graduate would. Due to a shortage of TAS teachers across the country she quite happily took on duties to assist her TAS colleagues in terms of programming, developing resources, and filling in any gaps that appeared in the timetable.



Lauren's natural classroom/ workshop/kitchen talent was not only quickly developed but mastered across many year levels. Thank you, Lauren, for your unwavering support of our young people and your colleagues. All the best for your bright future.

On behalf of the College community, I thank our staff, parents and students for a very productive and purposeful Term 3. If you are fortunate enough to have some time off over these next two weeks, please keep safe and enjoy the time with the family.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in Term IV on Monday 14 October.

Thank you for your time,

Tony Gleeson, Principal



Assistant Principals' Reports

Term IV

All students resume their learning on <u>Monday 14 October</u>. Term IV is always great with the weather warming up and summer holidays on the horizon. It is also a time of consolidating content covered throughout the year and learning the skills and knowledge needed for the next learning stages. Students will be required to demonstrate responsibility and



resilience to push through challenges facing them in Term IV. It is not a time for complacency but for challenging themselves with the next steps in their learning.

Well done to all students on a great Term III, and we hope you have a safe and restful break.

Year 12 Graduation

This week marked the end of a journey for our Year 12 students. Last week we celebrated their achievements at their Graduation Mass and Ceremony. There were a few changes this year to our awards which allowed greater alignment with our Houses and Growth Domains. We were also fortunate to have sponsored awards including:

- · Alister Henskens award for Legal studies
- ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award
- · The Future Innovators Award
- The Skill Engineer VET Award
- Allambie Sports Physiotherapy Sportsperson of the Year
- Element Live Productions CAPA Award.

The night concluded with our highest College awards, the Pope St Leo the Great Award and the St Leo's Medal.



Congratulations to these students as our Growth Domain, Sponsored and Major Award winners for 2024:

Growth Domain Awards Spiritual	Brendan Co-Elliot Michael Dalton Danielle Pinto Jenna Suyyagh Kaylan Vila	Alister Henskens Award for Legal Studies	Stefan Misquitta
Growth Domain Awards Academic	Holly Belcastro Adrian Jalgha Joseph Saracino	ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award	Emma Waters
Growth Domain Awards Cultural	Emily Rologas Carmen Torres- Fernandez	The Future Innovators Award	Adrian Jalgha
Growth Domain Awards Environmental	Spencer Cove Augustine Lemetter	The Skill Engineer VET Award	Matthew Jesperson
Growth Domain Awards Social/Emotional	Spencer Cove Gemma Parisi Danielle Pinto	Allambie Sports Physiotherapy Sportsperson of the Year	Holly Belcastro Emma Waters
Growth Domain Awards Physical	Maddi Durnell Milla Durnell	Element Live Productions CAPA Award	Michael Dalton
Pope St Leo The Great Award: Michael Dalton	Major Awards The Pape St Lee the Great August	St Leo's Medal: Adrian Jalgha	Major Awards St Lee's Medal 21

Seasons for Growth Program

Learning to Live with Change and Loss

Everyone is affected by change and loss at some time in our lives. At St Leo's, we recognise that when changes occur such as separation, divorce, death, school transitions and natural disasters, young people may benefit from learning the skills to manage these changes effectively. We are



therefore offering an education program called Seasons for Growth which will commence in Term 4 2024.

This program is facilitated in small groups of up to seven participants and is based on research which highlights the importance of social support and the need the practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The focus is on building skills such as how to manage feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and developing peer support networks. Participation in the program can promote improved self-esteem and self-confidence as well as giving young people the opportunity to find their own voice amid change.

If you think your young person would enjoy joining the Seasons for Growth program, we encourage you to talk to him/her about it. We are pleased to be able to offer this successful program and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those involved.

If you require further information, or would like your young person to be considered for the program, please contact their Year Leader.



Careers, Pathways & Partnerships

Focus on... Speech Pathology

What is a Speech Pathologist?

Speech pathologists work with people of all ages who have trouble understanding and talking with other others.

They might work with patients to improve their reading and spelling, and teach them how to use technology or other ways to improve their communication skills.



Speech pathologists also help people who have trouble swallowing, which can make eating and drinking difficult.

What skills and strengths are needed?

- Good listening and interpersonal skills
- Enjoy language and communication
- Able to inspire confidence and cooperation
- Enjoy working with people
- A patient and tactful approach to people's problems.

What are the Pathways?

Speech pathologists must be university educated either through an accredited Bachelor's or Master's degree.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

First Nations Representation for Broken Bay

Earlier in the term, **Marisa** (Year 10) and **Anthony** (Year 11) represented Catholic Schools Broken Bay in a First Nations Student Engagement Project being conducted by Armidale Catholic Schools. The siblings, whose mob is Bundjalung Country, were selected by CSBB's Learning Partner: Aboriginal Education to represent the diocese

based on their eagerness to engage with culture.



The pair were filmed on Darkinjung Country along the northern shore of the Hawkesbury River, a central location of the Diocese of Broken Bay, and were tasked with speaking a line from the Aboriginal Our Father – a prayer written and published by the Catholic Diocese of Broome that rewords the Lord's prayer into Aboriginal Standard English.

Their contribution to the project will be on display early next term at the triannual Catholic Schools NSW Spirit on Country Conference, hosted this time at Tamworth by Armidale Catholic Schools. Both students represented the College with pride.





Year 9 Reflection Day – 13 September



'Our Year 9 Reflection Day was very interesting, meaningful and fun. The theme of Resilience made us think about how important it is to stay strong, even when things feel tough, and turn to God for guidance and help through our toughest times.'

'Hosted by the amazing Youth Ministry team, we spent time reflecting on our challenges, and those of others, and how we can approach them with a mindset that doesn't give up and doesn't push God away. The activities that we

participated in such as fun games, group activities and discussions, helped us all to realise that at the core of resilience is our faith. Some of the favourite activities included fun team building games, and some of the performances that we were able to get involved in. Each activity taught us important lessons, in their own way.'

'By the end of the day, we were sad to see it come to an end and for the team to go, but all of the fun memories will stay with us for ages! All in all, it was a super fun and enjoyable day, and we can't wait for next year's reflection day!' (Anonymous, Year 9)









Year 10 Street Retreat

To walk with others without judgement is not always easy.

To look with compassion is a personal quality we can practice in daily life.

These were the key learnings from Street Retreat this week.

Twelve Year 10 students stepped out into the unknown to see for themselves the issue of homelessness in Sydney. The journey took us from the financial heart of a global city to the underbelly of our metropolis. We met people living on the streets, the people who assist them and those who are working with the community in Woolloomooloo and Kings Cross. There were confronting moments where we got to sit down and hear people's stories while meeting others who have been able to assist others.



We all learned a lot about the different levels of homelessness from sleeping rough to couch surfing and unsafe accommodation. We saw how a workplace accident at work can lead to homelessness. We had the chance to reflect on life and how for some, poor choices can lead us to a downward spiral. We were able to practice non-judgement and compassion with Rev. Gomez on his last Street Retreat at St Leo's. Street Retreat proved to be an unforgettable experience for all of us.

Mrs Lorraine Champ, HSIE /RE Teacher



Year 7 Visual Arts

Year 7 Visual Arts have been learning about creating 3-dimensional space on a 2-dimensional surface.

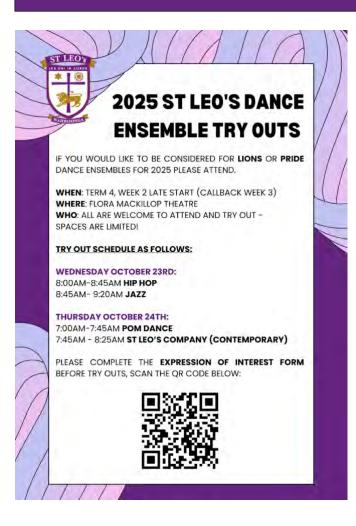
They have been practising one point perspective drawing and taking some fabulous black and white photographs around the school such as these, which demonstrate their understanding...







GET INVOLVED! TRYOUTS ARE ON!



ST LEO'S AEROBICS

2025 TRYOUTS



If you are interested in being a part of the Aerobics team in 2025 please fill out the expression of interest form and attend the first round of tryouts.

Please see Miss McNay if you have any questions.

Details

- When: Term 4 Week 2
 Round 1 Tuesday 22nd
 October
 - Callbacks Friday 25thOctober
- Time: 7am
- Where: The LOCC
- Who: Tryouts are open to all



SCAN FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

LIBRARY NEWS



A Gift from Japan

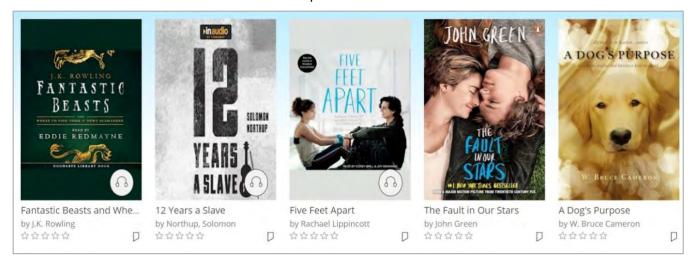
As a departing gift expressing their thanks, our recent Japanese visitors from Kaimei High School gifted our school library with a beautiful book called *An Introduction to Hokusai: Anecdotes about the Renowned Ukiyo-e Artist*, by **Hinohara Kenji**.

Katsushika Hokusai was a Japanese ukiyo-e artist of the Edo period whose works continue to claim fame around the globe. Although his repertoire is wide and varied, Hokusai is best known for the woodblock print series *Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji*, which includes the iconic print *The Great Wave off Kanagawa*. We invite students to find out more about this captivating artist by visiting the St Leo's library and enjoying all that this gift has to offer.



Spotlight on ePlatform

St Leo's is lucky to have an eBook and Audiobook subscription service called 'ePlatform' managed by Wheelers. It has a huge range of titles and is added to on an almost daily basis. The images below are a small selection of the new additions to the Audiobook collection in September.



Available titles have been assessed by librarians who utilise the service, and some titles have had age restrictions placed on their access. I have just reviewed and updated the age restrictions for our St Leo's platform. Whilst I think it is important to have these restrictions in place, especially on titles that cover more challenging and 'adult' topics, they are not perfect. Please regard them as a general indicator and when in doubt, perhaps it would be a great opportunity for parents and carers to engage in reading the same titles. Reading in its many forms provides so many opportunities to engage with our young people and influence the development of their values.

If students have not had the opportunity to borrow physical reading material, ePlatform is a great way to access holiday reading. Visit: stleos.wheelers.co

Wishing our St Leos community a happy and safe holiday period.

Happy reading!

Victoria James, Acting Teacher Librarian

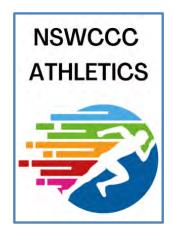
UPCOMING DATES

Note these scheduled dates **may be subject to change** throughout the year. Students and parents will be advised of changes as soon as possible via Compass notifications and/or in The Lion Roars newsletter.

Week	Date	Event	
TERM 4			
1	Mon 14 Oct	Term 4 commences HSC commences	
1	Thurs 17 Oct	Year 12 (2025) Parent information Evening (online) 6pm	
3	Tues 29 Oct	Year 8 Duke of Edinburgh Information Session	
3	Wed 30 Oct	Parents in Partnership (PiP) Meeting, 6pm	
4	Mon 4 Nov	Year 10 Yearly Exams commence Year 7 HPV Vaccinations	
5	Mon 11 Nov	Remembrance Day ceremony – Recess	

5	Wed 13 Nov	Year 12 Formal Catholic School Parents Leadership Meeting, Pennant Hills 6pm
5	Fri 15 Nov	Year 7 2025 Orientation (LOCC)
6	Wed 20 – Fri 22 Nov	Year 10 Camp
7	Tue 26 Nov	Year 10 Spirituality Day Studio Concerts
7	Wed 27 Nov	Term 4 Parent Coffee Cart & Chat (LOCC)
8	Thurs 5 Dec	Year 10 Celebration Evening, Epping Club 6-10pm
9	Mon 9 Dec	Leo's Student Select Swimming Carnival
9	Thurs 12 Dec	Year in Review Awards, 10.30am TLOCC
9	Fri 13 Dec	St Leo's Day Last Day of Term 4
-	Wed 18 Dec	HSC Results Released HSC Morning Tea

AROUND THE GROUNDS



NSWCCC Athletics

Last Monday, 12 students from St Leo's represented CSBB at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships at Sydney Olympic Park. These students were selected after finishing first (field events) or first/second (track events) at the CSBB carnival at the end of August.

This is the highest level that students can compete in NSW Catholic Schools and we had a number of personal bests, and also top 6 finishes. Congratulations to the following students who achieved Top 6 results:

Bronze Medal – Chelsea F (U/14 Girls Javelin)

Bronze Medal – William F (U/17+ Boys High Jump)

4th - Xavier K (U/12 Boys 1500m)

4th - Freya T (U/16 Girls 400m)

4th - Chelsea F (U/14 Girls High Jump)

4th – **Kyrah M** (U/15 Girls 200m)

5th – Freya T (U/16 Girls Triple Jump)

5th - Chelsea F (U/14 Girls Discus)

5th – **Armando M** (U/15 Boys Long Jump)

5th - **Kyrah M** (U/15 Girls 100m)

6th – Chelsea F (U/14 Girls Hurdles)



Lawn Bowls State Finals

Over two days in September at Merrylands Bowling Club, St Leo's not only answered a last-minute call from Bowls NSW to enter a team for State Finals, but also excelled in every aspect of gamesmanship.

Jamie A, Harrison G and **Zac F** of Year 9 participated to the best of their abilities and did themselves, their families and St Leo's proud.

The event started with a coaching clinic including training exercises at different stations and navigating between cones. Professional bowlers and other experts walked around helping to improve on the young peoples' skill and techniques.



The clinic was handy as the students had not bowled in a few months and took the opportunity to become accustomed to their new bowls.

The morning proceeded with a Q&A interview set up with international representatives **Cody Packer** and **Ben Twist**, as well as a Year 12 student who was playing in the competition. The students learnt about the experiences of the bowlers when starting out, their involvement in Lawn Bowls and as Commonwealth Games medallists, and different techniques and styles.

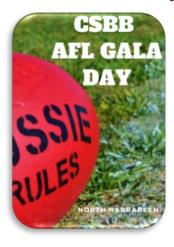


The team bowled very well for the two days and five games with some narrow losses. They played teams near and far in our great state and re met and met new friends.

This is what sport is all about. I would like to thank **Mr Ian Moyes** (Youth Coordinator, Pennant Hills Bowling Club) for all he has given St Leo's and the invitation to the 2024 State finals.

Mr Anthony Wilson, TAS Teacher & Bowls Coach

CSBB AFL Gala Day



Earlier this term, the Intermediate Boys AFL Team competed at the CSBB Gala Day held at North Narrabeen reserve.

The boys, under the guidance of **Mr Callum Saul**, played well throughout the day with four wins out of five games in the pool stages of the competition. This saw the team qualify for the Grand Final where they faced St Peter's. In a very tight affair, the St Peter's boys scored two early goals, and

this proved the difference up until the final hooter.

Congratulations to all students on a fantastic achievement and we look forward to entering a junior boys and both Junior and Inters Girls teams in the competition next year.



CSBB Rugby 7s Gala Day



Last week the Intermediate Boys Rugby 7s team travelled to North Narrabeen reserve to play in the annual CSBB Rugby 7s Gala Day.

It was the first time that we were unable to field a junior team and girls' side after putting expression of interests out earlier in the Term. The boys have been training regularly under the watchful eye of their coach **Mr Anthony Wilson**, and this showed on the day.

After facing eventually winners St Edward's in the first game, the boys gained confidence

and this showed in strong wins against St Peter's and St Brigid's. After a few injuries they played the last two games under fatigue and struggling for numbers and went down narrowly to Mater Maria and St Paul's.

The boys finished a gallant fourth, and with a young side, we look forward to seeing the boys go around again next season.

Swimming Carnival

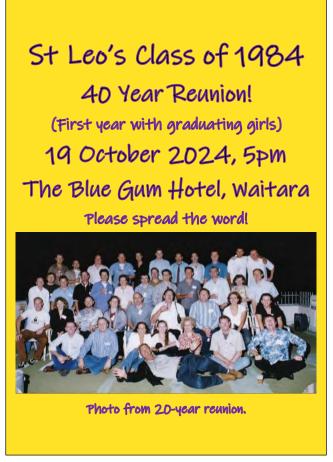
The annual College Swimming Carnival will be held on **Monday 9 December** at Hornsby Aquatic Centre.

Students are reminded to complete their online entries via the Google Form that has been posted on Google Classroom. The link is also <u>HERE</u> and must be completed by the **31 October**.

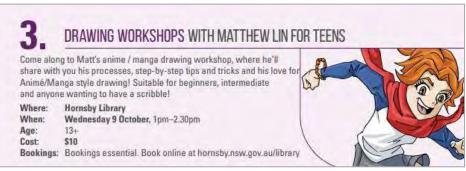


COMMUNITY NOTICES









Ku-ring-gai Council:

School Holiday Art Programs

Term 4 Art Classes



