Welcome to the 2011 School Year!

After what I hope was a restful and enjoyable holiday, I extend to all members of the St Francis Xavier College community a very warm welcome to the new school year. 2011 will hold many challenges and I am sure it will be a very successful year for us all.

A special welcome is extended to the boys and girls who are new to St Francis Xavier College – the 350 Year 7 boys and girls who have joined us, and also the 40 new students in Years 8 -12 who have transferred to us from other schools.

I take this opportunity to commend parents upon the very good presentation of the young men and women who returned to us last week with a positive attitude, appropriate appearance and readiness to settle to work. I have spoken with the students of the need to set goals for the year and do their utmost to reach these goals.

Our theme for 2011 is **Hold Fast to What is Good**. Throughout this year this will be our focus – to do all within our power to make this a better world, a more caring society, for all.

Traffic Flow – Berwick Campus
Parents with children at the Berwick Campus will be pleased to learn that Ridgemont Drive now flows through to connect with Bridgewater and Chase Boulevards, Soldiers Road, O’Shea Road and Grices Road. In order to ease congestion in the mornings and afternoons, I encourage St Francis Xavier College traffic to head to the College via this newly opened roadway and drop students at the on-road parking bays on Ridgemont Drive.

Land for Third Campus
I am delighted to inform the College community that we have purchased eight hectares of land in Officer for the development of a new Year 7, 8 & 9 Campus. The land, situated immediately north of the Princes Highway and Cardinia Road intersection, is ideally suited for a new school. Our plans are well advanced and architectural drawings are completed. We aim to have an intake of Year 7 boys and girls for 2012. Fuller details may be viewed on the College website under the link **Our Campuses – Officer Campus**.

College Newsletters in 2011
The College Newsletter will be available in Care Group for students to read and if they wish to have a hard copy to bring home to you it will be the student’s responsibility to download a copy from the College Website and print their own. If parents do not have the facility to view the website, please alert the College and we will make a paper copy available to you.
The warm weather
- On days of extremely warm weather, teachers encourage the students to increase their intake of water, to carry a water bottle at all times, to remain in the shaded areas during the breaks and to keep movement to a minimum.
- If the day is classified by Fire Authorities as particularly worrying or dangerous, parents are referred to the College website for up-to-date information regarding advice for student safety. Simply click on either Bushfire Emergency under Our School or Noticeboard under News.

The wet weather
Much of this region suffered the most serious of the flooding which hit Victoria over the last weekend. While a number of classrooms at the Senior Campus have had damage to carpets, the Berwick Campus has had little damage done.

Protection for the Harmful Effects of Sunlight
I offer a reminder to parents of the dangers of exposure to ultra-violet light. All students are encouraged to wear a hat (available at the Uniform Shop or at the Berwick Campus, Student Services), sunglasses and sunscreen (provided free of charge), as well as being advised to keep to shaded areas during the breaks. A daily UV rating may be viewed on our College website. Simply click on the link Sunsmart UV Alert on our homepage.

VCE Results, 2010
Congratulations are extended to the graduating class of 2010 and to those young men and women who reached their personal best. The students earned results which reflected their commitment and input.

Of note:
- Ainsley Szybkowski, College Dux 2010. Ainsley’s ENTER score of 95.3 was a wonderful effort and reward for the talent and dedication of a very fine student.
- 4.3% of our students earned an ATAR of 90 or higher.
- 17.4% of our students earned an ATAR of 80 or higher.
- 86% of our students received an offer of a tertiary placement.
- Christian Bieniak who gained a perfect Study Score of 50 in VET: IT

Year 7, 2011 Parent Information Evening
I offer a reminder to the parents and students of our Year 7 families that there is an Information Evening next Wednesday February 16 at 7.30pm. The evening will commence in the Hall at the Berwick Campus with a brief address. The main focus will be time in your son’s/daughter’s Care Group with his/her teacher, an opportunity to meet his/her House Co-ordinator, and will culminate in the serving of refreshments in the Hall.

Year 12 Parent Information Evening
Our Year 12 students had a Reflection afternoon yesterday, concluding at 7.00pm – enabling them to attend an Information Evening with their parents. It was an excellent day concluding with a very informative evening.

Parents & Friends Association – first meeting for 2011
The P & F is a vitally important body in the life of our school. I would encourage those considering an avenue to contribute in another way to good learning at St Francis Xavier College to join the P & F. The Parents & Friends would welcome new faces and your input would be most welcome.

Staffing Update
It is with sadness that I inform parents that Mrs Sue Nichols, long-serving teacher at the Beaconsfield Campus, is undergoing treatment at present for a serious illness. Following surgery and subsequent treatment over the next few months, Mrs Nichols will make a full recovery and plans to be back with us in Semester 2. Fortunately, Mrs Barb Ryan will teach Mrs Nichols’ classes throughout this period.

New Staff members
Beaconsfield Campus
Mrs Vera Treloar (from Thomas Carr College) – Deputy Principal – Head of Senior Campus & teacher of Year 12 English.
Mrs Barb Ryan – teacher of senior English.
Mr Gary Keet (from Private Industry) – VCAL
Mrs Pamela McKillop (from Padua College, Mornington) – Art & Visual Design & Communication
Ms Amy Mazzitelli (from Deakin University) – Psychology and Religious Education.
Miss Stephanie Stewart (from Wellington SC) – Health & Human Development, Physical Education.
Mrs Jane Watkins (from Maternity Leave) – Careers and Senior English
Berwick Campus
Mr Ron Breen – teacher of Electronics & Wood Technology
Mr Clinton Broadhurst (from La Trobe University) – teacher of English & Mathematics.
Mr Shaun Hurley (from Horyuji International School, Japan) – teacher of English & Japanese.
Miss Nicole Kwiecien (from Deakin University) – teacher of Drama & English.
Miss Stephanie Shane (from Monash University) – teacher of Science & Mathematics.
Mrs Nicole Sheridan (from Deakin University) – teacher of English & RE.
Ms Verne Simmons (from Hall Senior College) – teacher of Art & Visual Communication.
Mrs Jennifer Trodden (from Mt Lilydale Mercy College) – teacher of Health & Physical Education.
Mr Justin Yap (from Stotts SC) – teacher of Mathematics & RE.
Mrs Rebecca McCasker (from Maternity Leave) – teacher of RE & English.
Mrs Sam Griffiths – Education Support, Berwick Campus

Ancillary Staff
Mr James Fitzpatrick (from St Edmund’s College, Canberra) – Trainee, Youth Ministry
Mr Cameron Furlong (from St Francis Xavier College Year 12 2010) – AFL Traineeship
Mrs Margaret Donohue – Reception, Berwick Campus
Miss Kathleen Card – Administration, Beaconsfield Campus
Ms Hayley Mann – Reception, Beaconsfield Campus

Your prayers are asked for:
St Francis Xavier College is a large community of thousands of students and staff, both past and present, and their families. Our community has had cause in recent weeks to both grieve and rejoice:

Births
Welcome to Ruby Lillian Ferry, a daughter for our colleague, Laura and her husband, Matt.

Bereavements:
• The repose of the soul of Mr Garry Coggins, father of our colleague Mr Troy Coggins, Schneider House Coordinator.

And for:
• Mrs Sue Nichols, member of the College teaching Staff.
• Stacey Colebrook of Year 12 as she continues treatment for Leukemia.
• Chante Masset of Year 8 as she returns to school following a 12 month period in the Austin Hospital.
• The parents of Staff Member, Mrs Naomi Spruitenbarg, both of whom are seriously ill.

Your prayers for the families of each would be very greatly appreciated.

Hold fast to What is Good

OUR PARISH MASSES
Berwick: Sat. 6.00 p.m.
Sun 9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Narre Warren: Sat. 6.00 p.m.,
Sun. 9.15 a.m., 11.00 a.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Pakenham: Sat. 6.00 p.m.,
Sun. 9.00 a.m., 10.30 a.m.

Koo Wee Rup: Sat. 7.00 p.m.

Iona: Sun. 11.00 a.m.

Lang Lang: 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 9.00 a.m.

Nar Nar Goon: 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 9.00 a.m.

Maryknoll: 4th & 5th Sunday of each month at 9.00 a.m.

UNIFORM SHOP
Beaconsfield Avenue, Beaconsfield
Mrs Vicki Lister

Hours
Tuesdays and Thursdays
8.30am – 4.00pm
Every Saturday
9.00am – 12.00pm

Telephone Orders Welcome
Please call 9707 3111 (Tuesday or Thursday)

Second-hand Uniforms
Second-hand uniforms are always required in the Uniform Shop. Please have them cleaned and bring them in. Alternatively, if you would like to donate your old uniforms or second-hand current books, there are always needy families that would appreciate your generosity.

Rhonda O’Connor, Pastoral Associate
CYBER SAFETY
Towards the end of last year the staff had a presentation on Cyber Safety. Below is some information that may assist parents and students.

Positive online behaviour is the ability to develop positive, constructive online relationships with peers, family and strangers in a variety of mediums. The presentation also dealt with concepts such as netiquette, appropriate contact and communication with others, and issues such as cyberbullying, problematic usage and unethical behaviour.

**Some common forms of cyberbullying include:**
- abusive texts or emails
- excluding individuals from online chats or communication
- posting unkind messages or inappropriate images
- assuming the identity of the victim online and representing them in a negative manner.

**Responding to Cyberbullying:**
- Report any incidence of bullying to parents or school
- Do not respond to further messages/postings
- Block their mobile number or email address
- Keep evidence of bullying


SUNSMART
Early this year there was a presentation on protecting ourselves from the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation. By regularly using appropriate protection, we can

- minimize wrinkling, freckling and aging of skin
- minimize the risk of eye damage
- avoid sunburn
- reduce lifetime exposure to UV radiation
- reduce risk of skin cancer


SLIP! SLOP! SLAP! SEEK! SLIDE!
- Slip on sun protective clothing
- Slop on SPF 30+ liberally
- Slap on a broad-brimmed hat
- Seek shade
- Slide on sunglasses

Our Youth Ministry students met with Bishop Prowse last Friday. The Bishop spoke to students about the message of the Gospel, which he summarized in two ideas from John’s and Matthew’s Gospels – ‘Come and See’ and ‘Go and Tell’. His message was presented in the context of special worship, which included singing, reflection, preaching and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Our students were wonderful in the respect and participation shown. We are grateful for the presence of our Bishop for such an extended period, and for the presence of the Community of the Risen Lord, who provided this prayer experience.

Our Commencement Mass will take place on March 30 this year – hopefully in the new Hall, and will involve a blessing of the new facilities. Our musicians, singers and captains will begin planning shortly for this event, which parents are most welcome to attend.

In Year 11 RE classes, students have reflected on the theme for the year, ‘*Hold Fast to What is Good*’ and have written meaningful prayers, which have been used on the bulletin this week. Here is one of them:

**Dear God,**

*We pray that this year brings a lot of opportunities and that we hold fast to what is good. We pray that we can be brave to take up every opportunity we are given, and pray that God gives us strength to go through the year able to face every challenge. Amen***
PARENTS – WE NEED YOU!

What does success mean to you?

- Success means different things to different people.
- Success is setting goals and accomplishing them.
- Success takes planning and a strong desire.
- Success is taking action.
- Success means reaching your goals even when the going gets tough.

On the first day I challenged your children to do everything in their power to be successful at school and armed them strategies to assist. We talked about goal setting and learning styles.

At St Francis Xavier we run programs to enable your children to become independent and confident learners. We expect that our parents will fully support us in this endeavour.

Your child had the opportunity to write down 3 academic goals he/she wishes to take action upon and achieve during the first Term at St Francis Xavier. I encourage you as parents to ask him/her about their goals, which are written in his/her student planner. Ask how he/she intends to achieve them. A gentle reminder throughout the Term would be greatly appreciated. At school your child’s Care Group teacher will oversee his/her progress and you’ll have the opportunity to discuss it at the Parent/Teacher/Student conversations sessions later this term.

During our discussions I challenged your children about how they learn. At St Francis Xavier we refer to the major Learning Styles as Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic and Tactile learners. Simply, they are the different ways that people perceive, process and learn information. Different people prefer to learn in different ways and each of us has a preferred style or combination of styles upon which we rely heavily when learning ‘new’ things.

A team of Year 7 subject teachers will spend time over the next couple of weeks explaining and expanding on these styles within the context of their subject area to their Year 7 class. Students will have the opportunity to go online and complete a test to establish their preferred style and then apply and expand their skills in the area. Years 8 and 9 students will also have the opportunity to test themselves through Moodle. Year 8s will participate in the Aa+ Program in their English and Mathematics groups, while Year 9s will be challenged to raise standards in all areas including NAPLAN testing and Examinations.

Throughout the year we will challenge your children to adopt other methods of learning in order to fully develop a learning repertoire. If there are two points that I want the students and you as their first teachers to remember – they are – one - that learning to learn is very important because it can increase academic achievement and helps to make school and learning more enjoyable and secondly that ‘smart is cool’.

My final challenge to your children is to get their name on my ‘cool’ list. At the end of each semester I tally up semester report grades and present the TOP10 in each House with an academic achievement award.

As I mentioned previously, we here at St Francis Xavier expect that you, their parents, will support us in our programs which were introduced to benefit your children.

Here are my challenges to you – the parents:

I encourage you to become even more involved in your child’s learning and academic progress. We are all busy parents but I’m going to present you with 8 easy steps to ensure your child achieves his/her very best.

1. Asks questions about what happened at school. Do not accept a grunt or OK as the answer.
2. Make a space where your child is comfortable doing homework and study…that place will be dependent on how he/she learns best. My auditory learner spent the best part of the first three years of secondary school on the kitchen bench discussing and reading me her notes out loud. Not everyone can work in silence sitting at a desk in their room.
3. Maintain a regular schedule for doing homework or study. Check your child’s student planner each week to ensure he/she is up to date. We use it to alert you of work and behaviour.
4. Learn together…model learning yourselves by reading the novels set and discussing them with your child, read the paper, do the crosswords together, play games together.

5. Connect what your child is learning at school with his/her life and yours. Maths isn’t just about the exercises in the textbook, cooking, measuring, building, shopping or estimating can also develop Mathematical skills.

6. Attend all the Parent/Teacher/Student interviews and ask us about your child as a learner, challenge us, make contact via email or call when you are worried about your child’s progress. If you receive a work due letter, take action don’t send him/her to their room to do the work without following up.

7. Remind your child about who pays the internet bills and monitor their on line access – set a time limit and stick to it.

8. Most important of all praise your child, tell them how proud you are that they completed that assignment on time or that their work ethic is pleasing.

I’d like to encourage your child, with your support, to make a decision to get all he/she can from what is being offered. Make informed decisions, ask advice, have a great time, use what he/she learns to improve his/her outlook. As parents I’d like to invite you to be our partners as your child travels his/her learning journey.

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING & VCE
Mrs Margaret Blythman

It has been a busy but smooth start for senior school classes at the commencement of the 2011 school year. A good deal of this can be attributed to the hard work undertaken by teachers, students and House Co-ordinators in the orientation period last year. This placed all classes in a sound position to introduce their subject content and attend to the many organisational issues that can often cloud the first days of a new school year. The feedback from teachers has been positive in that students have returned to their VCE studies with the necessary level of preparation.

Our principal goals continue to be to enable each of our students to significantly progress in their learning by providing meaningful challenge, holding students to account for their learning and to develop an increasing sense of personal and collective responsibility for our success as a learning community. We continue to have high expectations of our students and have our teachers striving for learning improvement for all. A priority for 2011 is the building of greater school connectedness for our students. We have introduced an electronic roll marking system during Care Group time that enables us to monitor more effectively student attendance and communicate more readily with parents.

VCE Academic Award Ceremony
St Francis Xavier College is pleased to acknowledge and celebrate the 2010 VCE results of all our students. At our recent College Assembly, we were proud to acknowledge our many high achievers, including several students who achieved a ENTER of 90+ and those who made up the fifty-seven study scores of 40+. As in previous years, Year 11 students undertaking higher VCE studies, performed well, with several also achieving study scores of 40+.

We are delighted to highlight that many of the high achieving students had been actively and generously engaged as student leaders throughout this final year. We congratulate and look forward to their future contributions as informed and compassionate young men and women.

Well done and thank you to all these VCE students, their parents and teachers. We hope that their efforts and success will inspire other students to work hard and achieve excellent results. These results are an affirmation of our comprehensive learning and teaching strategy and a source of great pride and satisfaction for students, families and staff.

VCE Attendance
Attendance at all classes is compulsory. Regular, punctual attendance is essential. In many instances it will be impossible to satisfy VCE outcomes if the student’s attendance is irregular. Full attendance at all classes is expected, but a minimum attendance of 90% is mandatory in order for a student to be awarded an S for the unit. After an absence, a note of explanation must be given to the Care Group Teacher. If a student is to be absent, parents/guardians are requested to ring the College before school if possible. Absence for a SAC/SAT due to medical reasons requires a doctor’s certificate.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank the St Francis Xavier College community for the warm welcome extended to me. I am very grateful for your generosity. I would like to welcome all Year 10 students who are new to the Senior Campus and the students who have joined St Francis Xavier from other schools. I am sure that your time here will be successful. The 2011 academic year has begun and it is pleasing to observe that our students have commenced their studies with enthusiasm.

Technology, when utilised effectively, can be a wonderful tool. However, it has come to our attention that some students have posted inappropriate comments on social networking sites such as Facebook. Parents are encouraged to monitor their children’s computer use and are reminded that cyber bullying is not condoned by the College. Many social networks have useful cybersafety information for parents and students. Brochures including information and advice about staying safe online are included with this Newsletter.

Overall, students appear to be wearing their uniform with pride. However, students are reminded that excessive hair colouring and make up are not appropriate. Lace trimmed socks are not to be worn and T-bar shoe buckles must be fastened at all times due to Occupational Health and Safety concerns. Parents, we seek your support with our Uniform Policy. We also ask for your support when dropping off or collecting your children. Parents are reminded that car park access is limited to buses and staff vehicles.

It was a pleasure meeting many parents at our recent Year 12 Information Night. The session on Parenting Strategies for Teenage Success by Darren Pereira was engaging and useful. At St Francis Xavier we recognise that parent involvement is vital for successful learning outcomes for our students.

It is important that staff, students and parents work together to provide an optimal academic experience for all our students. As parents, you can play a vital role in helping your child achieve their best. You are reminded that your son's/daughter’s Care Group teacher should be your first point of contact if you have any concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact the College so that we may be of assistance.

The Year 11 Information Night (incorporating Presentation Ball information) is scheduled for March 15. The “Keys Please” session for Year 10 students and parents will be held at 7.30pm on March 8. Further information regarding these important College events will be forwarded closer to the relevant dates. Each student in Years 10 -12 will be issued a calendar of important events. Please ensure that these calendars are displayed in a prominent position as they are a useful reference for future key activities.

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)**

*Information Parents/Guardians*

The Education Maintenance Allowance helps families on a low income with financial assistance to cover the cost of essential educational items like textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for your child.

In 2011 the EMA payment for parents/guardians is $460 for secondary students.

To be eligible to receive the EMA, you must:

- Be the parent or guardian of a secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- Students turning sixteen during the year will be paid on a pro rata basis up to and including the month they reach the age of sixteen.
- Be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent; and
- Submit your application to the school by the due date.

The first instalment will comprise 70 per cent of the EMA and will be paid from March 2011. The second instalment will comprise the remaining 30 per cent and will be paid from August 2011. This payment schedule recognises that families incur the highest educational costs at the start of the school year.

Applications for EMA strictly close on February 23, 2011. Late applications will be assessed on a case by case basis by the Department of Education and we can make no guarantee payments will be made to families.
It was my pleasure last Wednesday to welcome all our incoming Year 7 students and on Thursday to welcome all the staff and students, new and old, to the 2011 school year. From where I was situated, the students all looked very presentable in the College uniform, and all were most attentive during the course of our Opening Assembly.

At the Campus assembly, new and returning staff to the College were introduced; Mr Desmond spoke of the College theme for 2011, 'Hold Fast to What is Good' in his address to the community; the School Captains came and addressed the assembled, along with the usual start of the year reminders. All in all, it was a fantastic start to the new school year.

Our community relies on the support of our parents to ensure consistent messages are given to our students in terms of expected and acceptable behaviour and standard of dress. Can I suggest that you take the time to go through the Student Record Book, in particular the sections on Uniform Regulations and Rights, Responsibilities and Expectations, with your children as a way of starting off the New Year in the right spirit?

YEAR 7, 2011 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING IS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, STARTING AT 7.30PM IN THE BERWICK CAMPUS HALL
All Year 7 students should have taken a reminder letter home last week to alert you to the information evening and how important it is that you attend. This is a very helpful and informative session for parents to ask their child's care group teacher any questions or to simply meet the staff who will play a major role in your Year 7 child's life for the next couple of years. Students are asked to attend the evening as well, in their school uniform and to bring their student planner with them.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
The following events are coming up quickly and are worth noting:
  Year 7 Swimming Trials and Water Safety Day: February 10
  Junior Swimming Carnival on February 24
  College photographs on February 28
  Year 7 Immunisations on March 7
  Year 7 Camps: March 16-18 or March 23-25

STUDENT RECORD BOOKS
The Student Record Book is a great tool for communication between home and school. Students are encouraged to use this book to assist them in organising their homework and to note important events that are school related. I urge all parents to regularly ask to see the Student record book, as there may be information in there for parents, and it also good to monitor the recording of and amount of homework being given. It shows your child that you are interested in what is going on at the College. Whilst some students might be hesitant to volunteer their record books for parents to see, it is certainly your right to request it! There should be nothing in these record books of a personal nature that would prevent a parent or a teacher from looking at its content.

NEW TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AT THE BERWICK CAMPUS
Ridgemont Drive is now open at both ends and access to the College is now possible from the Grieves Road end of Ridgemont Drive. Please make use of this alternative access point if possible, as it will certainly assist with the traffic flow around the College at peak times.

I look forward to working with you all over the course of 2011 and beyond.

Take care and God Bless!

St Francis Xavier College – Social Book Club
ALL Welcome – you or your relatives or neighbours. Ask a new friend to come and discuss books and issues. Bring a book to recommend and loan to someone OR borrow a book from the Library. A most enjoyable way to spend a few hours. If you arrive tired you leave feeling like it was well worth the effort to come.
When - Tuesday 15th February in the Berwick Library at 7.00 p.m. Looking forward to seeing you there. If you would like more information please phone 9707 7963 or email afuller@sfx.vic.edu.au
Welcome to the many new families who have joined our College community in 2011 which now includes an enrolment of 1947 students and their families together with a combined staff of over 230 across two Campuses and the dawn of a third Campus at Officer in 2012. Apart from the phenomenal growth of our College, the unique character of St Francis Xavier College is one that is characterised by the strength of community that has been established since the College’s foundation in 1978. During the year we seek to build on our community links, share stories of personal achievements, celebrations and keep you informed of events within our large community. Input is welcomed at any time from community members past and present.

**Marriage Congratulations:** Congratulations and best wishes to past students Christopher Bertoncello and Loren Biemans who were married last weekend at St Michael’s Church Berwick. Loren and Christopher completed Year 12 in 2006 and join a growing list of marriages among past students that we are aware of.

**Year 7 Enrolments 2012**
St Francis Xavier College was established as a Catholic Regional college to provide Secondary education for students in the surrounding parishes of our region. In 2011 this a total of nine Parish Primary schools. **Berwick:** St Michael’s, St Catherine’s and St Brigid’s, **Officer,** Narre Warren: Don Bosco, Mary MacKillop and Trinity, Koo Wee Rup: St John the Baptist, Nar Nar Goon: St James and Pakenham: St Patrick’s. In the next few weeks Grade 5 & 6 students at the Parish Primary schools within our community will be presented with information regarding enrolment for Year 7 in 2012. A College Prospectus and enrolment information may also be obtained from the College Office at both Campuses.

**A Parent Information Evening** for families seeking enrolment in Year 7, 2012 will be held on Tuesday March 29 at 7.30pm in the Hall at the Berwick Campus. All enrolment queries can be directed to Mrs Tricia Randle or myself. Final closing date for Applications for Year 7 enrolments (2012) is **Friday April 8, 2012.**

**Casey Creations Arts Competition**
The City Of Casey celebrate National Youth Week 2011 with the Casey Creations Arts Competition. There are two categories: Visual Arts and Photography. Entries close Friday March 4. For further entry forms visit City of Casey website: [www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au](http://www.insideinfo.casey.vic.gov.au)

**Windermere Adventure Challenge**
Ann Selby mother of two of our past students and indeed College Captains – Fraser and Brody – is taking part in this year’s inaugural Windermere Adventure Challenge. Ann will be joining 20 people cycling 320 kilometres across Cambodia in June, a physically demanding fundraising event – an exciting but difficult challenge. See flyer below. Your support would be appreciated.
Second Hand Book Sales
Funds from the sale of second hand books will be credited to school accounts.

Meetings are held at the Junior Campus in the Staffroom at 7.30pm. Any enquires can be made to Lorraine on 9707 5274.

We welcome anyone interested in coming to our meetings. Come along meet some new faces, bring along any fundraising ideas you have for 2011.

Meeting dates for 2011:
- 2 March
- 6 April
- 4 May
- 1 June
- 3 August
- 7 September
- 12 October
- 2 November
- 7 December

SFXOC FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS

www.sfxoc.com.au

The St Francis Xavier Old Collegians Football Club is getting prepared for season 2011 in the Victorian Amateur Football Association (VAFA). With a new coach and committee there is lots of excitement around the club. The club is in need of the following positions to be filled for season 2011:

Reserves Umpire and Certified Sports Trainer: Home games are at the Beaconsfield Campus and away games are within Melbourne’s Eastern suburbs on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. Pay is negotiable.

Canteen Manager: Would suit someone with food handling experience. This is a good opportunity for Hospitality students to get some work experience or for parents and friends to get involved in the school community. Games are on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm on only 9 home games during the season. Pay is negotiable.

If you are interested in any of the above positions please contact the SFXOC President: Chris Seuren on 0414 983 176 or email president@sfxoc.com.au.
Careers News will be published in the Newsletter every two weeks and will have information relating to University and TAFE Courses, Employment Opportunities, University and TAFE Open Days, Work Experience for Year 10 students and Career Wise Testing.

**CAREERS ROOM** is open at lunchtime and during Care Group time. It has information related to University and TAFE Courses. Students can also make a time for interview related to careers and courses. Parents can also book a time with me during or after school to talk about subjects, courses and career planning. I can be contacted on 9709 2124 or at papperley@sfx.vic.edu.au.

**YEAR 12 INTERVIEWS** will commence this Term. They will be 20min in duration and done in House order. These interviews are to talk about student plans for 2012 and set goals for 2011-12.

All Year 12 students will then attend a Tertiary Information Session conducted by VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) at Monash University Berwick Campus. All the Universities, TAFE Institutes and some Private Providers will be in attendance for students to collect information about courses for 2012. This day will be on Thursday, June 2 and students will travel by bus to Monash Berwick, more details regarding this session will be published in this Newsletter closer to the date.

**CAREERS AT BERWICK – Mrs Jane Watkins**
The Careers Room at Berwick is ready for students! At this stage of the year, it is open to students on:
- Thursday (Day 4) – all day
- Thursday (Day 9) – all day
- Friday (Day 5) – from 11am
- Friday (Day 10) – until 1pm

It is open during Recess and Lunchtime. Students can access the Careers Room through the Library. To make an appointment to discuss careers, subjects, Safe@Work or other issues, students can either speak to their Care Group Teacher or House Co-ordinator, who will pass on their information, or come to the Careers Room during the day and organise an appointment. I look forward to working with you throughout 2011.

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**COLLEGE PHOTOGRAPHS**
Mr Peter Robinson – College Organisation Co-ordinator

College photographs will take place on **Monday, February 28**.

Students must wear full summer uniform, however boys are to wear their College tie. **All students MUST wear their blazer for the photographs.**

Order envelopes will be distributed prior to the photograph day. If you wish to purchase photographs students should **hand their envelope to the photographer** on the day of the photographs. Please ensure that the correct money or cheque is enclosed or that the credit card details have been completed.

If you have any questions please contact me on 9707 3111.

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**YEAR 10 IMMUNISATIONS**
Mr Peter Robinson – College Organisation Co-ordinator

Year 10 students have the opportunity to receive their Boostrix vaccination for Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Whooping Cough) at school on Monday, February 21.

Consent cards have been distributed to students. These need to be returned to Care Group Teachers or to Student Reception by Friday, February 11.

If you have not received a card, your son or daughter can collect one from Student Reception.

If you have any questions about the immunizations please contact the Health Department at Cardinia Shire on 5945 0409 or the St Francis Xavier College Campus Nurse on 9707 3111.

Please contact the Campus Nurse if your child has ever had an adverse reaction (including fainting) after an immunization.

If you have any questions about the organization of immunizations please contact me on 9707 3111.
Students from both Campuses have made an excellent start to 2011. It is pleasing to see that the majority of senior students have completed their holiday homework. It is vital that all students keep up to date with the readings and activities set for them by their teachers.

Year 12 students will sit their first School Assessed Coursework task under examination conditions on Thursday March 3, 1.40 pm - 3.10 pm. Students are currently preparing for this task by completing focus questions and practice essays on their text, A Christmas Carol. Berwick students began the year with a series of literacy tests that will assist teachers as they develop programs to meet individual and whole class needs.

The Wide Reading Program will again be a major part of the English curriculum from Years 7 - 10. Students are expected to read and report on literature of their choosing outside of the set class texts. This allows students the opportunity to engage with literature of personal interest to them. We encourage all students to read as much as they can and to love what they read. Students are most welcome to discuss book choices with their classroom teachers and friendly librarian teachers. If you have any questions about Wide Reading, please contact Mrs Anne Fuller or Mrs Nicole Robinson.

In addition to Wide Reading, the explicit teaching of grammar, punctuation and spelling is also a major part of the English curriculum for Years 7 - 10. As part of this program, students will regularly complete revision tasks and be tested on their language skills.

We encourage all students to involve themselves in extra-curricular activities this year. Activities on offer will include Debating, Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition, City of Casey Young Writers Fresh Words Competition, English Week and may more. Please check the Newsletter and Daily Bulletin for information regarding upcoming events.

On behalf of the English Learning Area, we wish all students and parents every success for 2011.
Welcome back to St Francis Xavier College, in what is set to be a huge year in the Sports Department. Once again we have a great variety of sports and activities for all students to get involved in this year.

**SIS Weekly Sport**
This Term is jam-packed with SIS weekly sports at both Campuses with four teams from Berwick and eight teams from Beaconsfield set to represent the College. The SIS sports which will be played this Term are:

- Senior Girls Basketball
- Senior Girls Soccer
- Senior Boys Soccer
- Senior Boys Cricket
- Intermediate Girls Handball
- Intermediate Girls Volleyball
- Intermediate Boys Handball
- Intermediate Boys Cricket

**House Swimming Carnivals**
Our House Swimming Carnivals are again fast approaching with the Senior Carnival being held on Tuesday February 22 and the Junior Carnival to be held on Thursday February 24 at the Monash Aquatic Centre, Waverley Road. All parents are welcome.

**SIS Swimming**
Training for the SIS Swimming competitions will commence on Tuesday February 15, with training from 7.30 am until 8.30 am. The major competitions are:

- Noble Park Relay Carnival on Friday February 25 – 5.00 pm until 7.30 pm
- MSAC Championship on Wednesday March 16 – 5.00 pm until 9.00 pm

**Cross Country**
This year for the first time all year levels will participate in the House Cross Country. With Year 7 to 12 running the track at Lysterfield Park. The event will be held later in the Term so watch this space for more information.

**Rugby**
Rugby training will commence late this Term in preparation for the season opener in Term 2. For more details see Mr Coggins and read the Newsletter.

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**PARENT CONNECT**

**Mrs Rhonda O'Connor – College Pastoral Associate &**
**Mrs Paula Carr – Student Counsellor**

This is an opportunity for Parents (new & old!) of St Francis Xavier College to connect, support and encourage each other. This is particularly important when someone in the family is dealing with illness or disability. For the first meeting of the year, we will have a special focus on supporting families dealing with physical or mental illness. If you or someone in your family is in this situation, please join us.

All parents and carers are welcome! Tea and coffee provided. Please call Rhonda O'Connor, Pastoral Associate on 0408 562 324 for any enquiries. Meetings will be held 1.45 - 3.15pm at the Berwick Campus

Tuesday 15th February
Tuesday 15th March
Tuesday 5th April
Tuesday 3rd May
Tuesday 24th May
Tuesday 21st June
Both the Remar Blue (Year 11) and Gold (Year 12) caravels gathered at Log Cabin Ranch the week before school commenced for their respective 2011 embarkation camps. For the Gold caravel it was a somewhat sad occasion in that their helm of the last two years Mrs Rose Farrel had to bid farewell to the caravel as she now had a Grade 5 class at St Agatha’s in Cranbourne and could no longer helm the group. Rose will be missed for her vibrant energy, musical talents and practical faith she engendered into the caravel. However she will remain in constant touch to follow the exploits of “her babies”.

The ‘Golds’ will be co-helmed this year by Mr Cameron Furlong and Mr Cooke.

Jake Stewart from the 2010 St Francis Xavier Gold caravel has joined the Remar Ministry Team. Jake will do a gap year with Remar Australia with four other gap students from all over Australia. He was a welcome addition to our embarkation camps with the way he lead sessions and positively encouraged students to move out of their comfort zones. There will me more on our embarkation camps in the coming weeks

ST FRANCIS XAVIER TABLE TENNIS

An invitation goes out to all students, young or old, past or present, parents and staff, to play Table Tennis on Monday evenings in the Beaconsfield Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m. All equipment supplied.

Game fees are $2.50 per person per night and all proceeds support charity, i.e. Africa Appeal or the Kimbe Project in PNG.

Any enquiries please call Glen 9704 6392.
St. Francis Xavier College, 2011 – Hold Fast to What is Good
It's still public. Even if your profile is private you can’t control when your friends do with the information you post. It’s important to guard your privacy – don’t post information or photos that you wouldn’t want everyone to see.

Remember, not everyone is as they claim to be. Although it’s great to have online friends, including them on your “friends” list allows people you don’t know to learn all about you. This information could be used for a scam, to steal your identity or worse.

Keep your online friends online. If you do want to meet someone that you haven’t met far in person, ask a parent or another trusted adult to go with you and always meet in a public place, preferably during the day.

Say no! Free offers are usually too good to be true and can end up costing you a great deal.

Be considerate. Only post comments you would be happy to receive yourself. Don’t post photos of other people without their permission. Remember, when you post photos you might be impacting the privacy of your friends too.

Don’t respond if someone sends you unkind or bullying messages or invites you to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable. Instead, tell your parents or another adult you can trust.

If you would like to talk to us in your own language, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450.

Italiano
Se desiderate parlare con noi in italiano, siete i nostri accompagnatori tolleranti all’Interpretazione telefonica (Telephone Interpreters Service) al numero 131 450 e ci contatteremo per voi.

Việt Nam
Nếu quý vị muốn nói chuyện với chúng tôi bằng tiếng Việt, xin đến số điện thoại Dịch vụ Thượng đẳng có điện thoại (131 450) và hẹn thời gian quý vị liên lạc với chúng tôi.

Greek Ελληνικά
Αν θέλετε να μας μιλήσετε στη γλώσσα σας παρακαλούμε να τηλεφωνήσετε στην Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Ανάκλησης στο 131 450 και να ζητήσετε να επικοινωνήσουμε με μιας σας γλώσσας σας.

العربية
إذا كنت ترغب في التواصل عبر اللغة العربية، فندع المترجمة على الرقم 131450 في وقت محدد من قبل خدماتنا على اتصال فورًا بنا.

Traditional Chinese 繁體中文
如果希望與我們聯繫並獲得幫助，請拨打31450電話連絡我們。我們會提供粤語和粵語版本。

For more information contact: 
Australian Communications and Media Authority
Cybersmart program
Cybersafety Contact Centre
Telephone: (1300) 363 179
Email: cybersafety@acma.gov.au
www.cybersmart.gov.au

St. Francis Xavier College, 2011 – Hold Fast to What is Good
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Italian Italiano
Se desiderate parlarci con noi in italiano, fateci sapere e renderemo disponibile un interprete italiano.

Vietnamese Tiếng Việt
Nếu quý vị muốn nói chuyện với chúng tôi bằng tiếng Việt, xin kiên nhẫn điều liên hệ đường dây 131 450 và sau cùng quý vị liên lạc với chúng tôi.

Greece Ελληνικά
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Arabic العربية
إذا كنت ترغب في التحدث إلى علينا باللغة العربية، فسندلك باللغة العربية عامل طويل، حدد رقم 131 450 وقم بالطلب للاتصال بيภาษา عربية.

Traditional Chinese 繁體中文
如果您希望用您的语言与我们交谈，请拨打131 450并请求翻译人员在场，我们的翻译人员将与您通话。

For more information contact: Australian Communications and Media Authority CyberSmart program CyberHelpline Contact Centre Telephone: 1800 88 1800 Email: cyberhelp@acma.gov.au www.cybersmart.gov.au

If you think your child is being cyberbullied:
- Discuss any changes in mood or behaviour with them. If you are concerned, help your child to stay connected to friends and family that they trust.
- Notify the police immediately if you have serious concerns for your child’s safety.
- Work with your child to avoid evidence of cyberbullying behaviour—it may need to be followed up by the child’s school, Internet Service Provider (ISP), mobile phone carrier or the police.
- If you need to involve your child’s school, ask them to thoroughly explain their processes so that you can work towards achieving a positive outcome.
- Cyberbullying won’t stop if it’s ignored—you can help by listening to your child and working with them to take control of the situation.

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