STUDENT LEADERSHIP

I am very pleased to introduce to the College community more of our outstanding Student Leaders for 2011.

Art Captains

Melissa Bardwell – A busy year in her schooling sees Melissa studying RE: Social Justice, English, Studio Arts, Visual Communication & Design, Design & Technology – Textiles, and Further Mathematics. This program will guide Melissa towards her goal to study fashion or interior design at university. A former student of St Patrick’s Primary School in Pakenham, Melissa is a dedicated member of our Remar group and enjoys dancing, design and family.

Nicholas Knowles – With studies in RE: Social Justice, English, Further Mathematics, Media Studies, Music and Psychology, Nicholas aspires to completing Year 12 then studying Psychology at university, with a view to becoming a clinical psychologist. Nicholas enjoys horror movies, film-making and playing his guitar. A talented performer, Nicholas was a student at Trinity Catholic School in Narre Warren South.

Sport Captains

Rebecca Magdich – A skilled basketballer and netballer, Rebecca has a love of most sports and would one day like to become a primary school teacher. She sees her mother and father as her main role models in life. A former student of Berwick Lodge PS, Rebecca is now studying RE: Texts & Traditions Unit 3/4, English, Literature, Physical Education and Further Mathematics.

Nicholas O’Sullivan – Our 2010 College Captain, Broderick Selby, has been a major influence in the life of Nick, who is a former student of St Catherine’s Primary School. Nick is a very skilled sportsman and also enjoys music and playing his guitar. His Year 12 focus is upon RE: Social Justice, English, Legal Studies, Music Performance, Physical Education and Further Mathematics.

Debating Captain

Caitlin Talarico – An avid reader, dancer and debater, Caitlin wishes to study Law after completing Year 12. She cites her parents, Susan and Doni, as remarkable influences in her life. Caitlin is undertaking studies in RE: Religion & Society, English, Chemistry, Further Mathematics, Design & technology – Textiles and Literature, having completed Units 3 & 4 of Legal Studies last year. Caitlin is a former student of St Kevin’s PS in Hampton Park.
Yearbook Captain

Courtney Brewster – With studies in RE: Religion & Society, English, Media Studies, Further Mathematics, Visual Design & Communication and Studio Arts, Courtney certainly has a devotion to her artistic and creative skills. She would like to attend Swinburne University and complete a Bachelor of Graphic Arts. Her main role models in life are her parents, Kathryn and Craig, and David Carson.

COMMENCEMENT MASS

We had expected to hold our annual Commencement Mass in our new Gymnasium at the Beaconsfield Campus. Delays caused by a very wet Winter in 2010 have led us to alter these plans. Our students and staff will participate in the Commencement Masses as follows:

Junior Campus Mass: To be held in the Beaconsfield Campus Hall at 10.00am, Wednesday March 30.
Senior Campus Mass: To be held in the Beaconsfield Campus Hall at 11.50am, Wednesday March 30.

Parents and family members are warmly welcome to attend.

SOCIAL NETWORK SITES

I am very concerned by the misuse of social networks sites, such as Facebook and MySpace, by many students. Too frequently we hear of highly inappropriate content and conversations, examples of intimidation and bullying, not only by students for whom we are responsible, but also from other schools and workplaces. Often, students are logging on at times when any teenager should either be at study or asleep. It is imperative that parents know of and monitor the use of these sites by their children. These sites cannot be accessed at school.

SIS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our swimmers put in a sterling performance last Wednesday evening at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre in Albert Park. While placed 4th overall, our competitors improved their results dramatically on recent years. Each is to be commended upon his / her efforts in the water, and I thank those members of the College Staff who have worked with them in preparation over many months. Particular thanks to our SIS Co-ordinators, Miss Siobhan Taylor and Miss Amy Tivendale, ably assisted by Mr Cameron Furlong.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS – Early Dismissal

On Thursday April 7, all students will be dismissed from class at 1.00pm to allow progress interviews to be held with parents. Parents will be informed in the near future of changes to the bus times to facilitate early dismissal. Interviews with teachers are offered on the afternoon and evening of April 7 and the morning of April 8. A timely reminder to all that Friday April 8 is a student-free day.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

• Jeffrey Fitzsimons (Yr 8 Synan House) is really making his mark in water skiing. Jeffrey recently competed in the Moomba Championships and earned a top 10 placing. He is currently competing in Albury and training hard for an international competition in USA in May.
• Charlotte Jagusch (Yr 8 White House) competed recently in the Australian Track & Field Youth Championships in Sydney and was placed 2nd in the U/15 2000m Steeple Chase. A magnificent effort by a very, very committed competitor!
• Ben Kelly (Yr 9 White House) is now a seasoned campaigner in athletics events. Ben travelled to Sydney for the Australian Track & Field Youth Championships and earned a creditable 6th place in the U/16 2000m Steeple Chase.

BIRTHS

Our congratulations go to Mrs Emma Hornby and her husband, Daniel, upon the safe arrival of Archer Benjamin, a baby brother for Charlie.

We are praying 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:

• Mrs Sue Nichols, member of the College teaching Staff, as she recovers from a serious illness.
• Stacey Colebrook of Year 12 as she continues treatment for Leukemia.

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

Hold fast to What is Good
Dear Parents

As mentioned in the last College Newsletter, the Parent/Teacher/Student interviews need to be booked online. This will give you the opportunity to view all available times and to choose those which are most suitable.

Interviews will be held between

2.00pm – 8.00pm on Thursday, April 7 and
9.30am – 1.00 pm on Friday, April 8.

To book interviews for your child simply go to the following web address and follow these simple instructions:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit you. Simply enter the school code listed here and press "Go".

You will be guided through three simple steps and a few moments later you will get an email confirming your interview times.

First enter your name, your child’s name, and your email address.

On the next page, select the teachers you wish to meet.

First select the subject or year and then choose from the list of teachers.

You will see a timetable showing when the teachers are available. Simply click on the times that suit you.

When you have finished, your interview timetable will be emailed to you. You can return to the site and change your interviews as necessary until the close of bookings.

The system will be open from 9.00am Friday, March 25 and closes at 4.30pm Wednesday, April 6.
SOMEBODY – ANYBODY – NOBODY
In her book, ID - The Quest for Meaning in the 21st Century, Professor Susan Greenfield explores the impact of technology on future generations. According to Greenfield the big question is not about how our children might learn with the new technologies, but rather about the kind of people they might become. She also raises the question about individual identity and what shapes it.

Greenfield claims that the personalization of the brain, a person’s unique identity, is lost by things that impair connections in the brain: drugs, dementia or fast-paced environments with strong sensory inputs such as computer games. It is interesting to note that there is evidence to suggest that a range of screen activities are highly addictive, and that World of Warcraft is as addictive as methadone!

On the other hand, the use of words requires the extensive neuronal networking that characterizes the human brain. Moreover, our thinking is best when it is aided by large quantities of oxygen delivered as a result of physical exercise, by repetition and by focusing inputs through activities such as reading, writing and rote learning.

If interacting with a screen is preferable to exercise, reading and writing, what will happen to the thought processes of the next generation? Furthermore, if the immediate pleasure of process (the action) is preferable to the content (the significance of the action) could we develop a mentality dependent on the raw senses and momentary experience which, in turn, diminishes the type of thinking that has a real meaning? The type of thinking that connects us to ourselves and to others. The type of thinking that gives us a sense of who we are!

Social scientists also suggest that the internet will take poorly socialised people to extremes. In Japan it is estimated that over a million individuals, mainly young adult males, are locking themselves away in their rooms to live a screen life. There is even a new term for this withdrawal from all real human contact: hikikomori!

Technology has given us an answer-rich, question-poor environment. What we need to do is to ask more questions!
There is no such thing as “NO HOMEWORK”

Have you asked to see your child’s student planner lately? Did you know that there is some very important information in that planner, including uniform requirements, ICT contract, homework strategies and goal setting activity?

Did you know that this planner is used by teachers to alert you to work which your child may not have submitted on time? Did you know that the office ladies use it to record late arrivals? Are you aware that teachers also use it to write notes – good and bad – and record any behavioural issues?

Are you aware that there is no such thing as ‘no homework’? Each student is expected to record all homework each day and make a note of due dates for all assignments. Over the last couple of weeks we have had a blitz running to follow up some simple requests we have made to students in regards to parent signatures.

Every student at St Francis Xavier College is required to make a commitment to upholding the College’s Information Technology Policy. It also requires that parents take the time to read the guidelines on page 18 of the Student Planner and acknowledge with a signature. Students should not be accessing/using ICT equipment without this signature and many of our learning topics require access at school. Again, it was very disappointing to come across a number of students who were yet to have that acknowledged.

Page 139 of this same planner has been set aside for students to write their three academic goals for each Term. In the first Newsletter of the year, I encouraged all parents to ask their children about the goals and to support them and us by acknowledging this with a signature. It was disappointing to have to call on a large number of students to explain why one or both of the above had not been signed.

Last week I reiterated to all Year 9s our expectations which we explained to them on their first day of school back in February. I asked them to make the commitment to be the best they can be, and that we require them to spend a minimum of 1.5 hours of homework and/or study per night. This may include set homework tasks as recorded in their planners, research and preparation for assignments, reading, logging into http://moodle.sfx.vic.edu.au to complete review sheets, study notes or try sections of the practice NAPLAN papers which are available to them.

Once again we put out the call to you as their first educators to support us in this push to raise the bar. I encourage ALL parents to look through the student planners on a regular basis as this is one of the first channels we use to communicate to you any work which is overdue (a white sticker will be placed on the relevant day – explained in full in Issue 2), or other notes for various reasons. It is a good way to check homework schedules and assist your child in his/her learning journey. Feel free as parents to also use the planner to relay messages to staff.

**St Michael’s Primary School Fete**

March 27, 2011

High Street, Berwick 10am-4pm

The Fete will include rides and amusements, food and beverage stalls and many entertainment stalls including Fairy Stall, Hair Salon, Mystery Jars, Second Hand Books, Show Bags, White Elephant, Silent Auction, Spinning Wheel and Treasure Island. Everyone is most welcome to come along and share in the fun!

**WANTED**

Under 15 players for Narre Warren Junior Football Club

A local business has offered to pay the registration fee for any boy who wants to come and play with the Narre Warren Junior Football Club Under 15s in 2011

Please ring Stephen D’Arcy on 0412 284 844
Liturgy in Lent: Prayers

Lent resonates with the 40 days that Noah was on the boat, the 40 years that Moses wandered in the desert, the 40 days that Jesus was tempted in the desert, and the 40 days of waiting by the disciples for the Holy Spirit.

Lenten Liturgies 2011

At St Francis Xavier in 2011, we have many opportunities to pray during Lent. Our Ash Wednesday prayer service began the day on March 9th in Houses at the Beaconsfield campus and as a campus at the Berwick Campus.

We celebrated Mass at the Berwick Campus on March 16th with Fr Darius, who experienced the minute silence before Mass began, and referred to this practice in his homily.

Mass was held on the year 7 Camp with Fr Brendan Hogan on March 17th, who spoke of his visit to the grave of St Francis Xavier in Goa, India.

Voluntary Mass will be held at the Beaconsfield Campus on March 23rd, again with Fr Darius.

On Thursday 24th March, Fr Mahony will lead the Year 7 Mass at Licola, with the Year 7 students on Camp. The Gospel is the story of Zacchaeus, who Jesus visited and called to hold fast to what is good by treating others with respect.

On Wednesday March 30th we will be celebrating Commencement Mass at the Beaconsfield Campus Hall—10:00am for the Berwick Campus students, and 11:50am for the Beaconsfield Campus students. The Gospel comes from John’s Gospel Chapter 15—I am the True vine, you are the branches. Masses will be celebrated by Fr Peter Slater (10am) and Fr Brendan Hogan (11:50am).

In the final week of school, Remar Gold will present Stations of the Cross at the Berwick Campus on Monday April 4th at 9am, April 5th at St Michael’s Berwick at 7pm, and the Beaconsfield Campus on Wednesday 6th at 9am. Reconciliation will follow in the Chapel at lunchtime on the 6th of April. It is a wonderful time of the year and there are many opportunities to pray for our school community.Parents are most welcome to attend.

Stations of the Cross

REMAR Gold have been preparing Stations of the Cross for the school community. All are welcome to St Michael’s Parish in Berwick to participate in the Stations on the 5th of April at 7pm.

Mass of the Day will begin at 7pm, followed by the presentation of the Stations of the Cross in the Parish hall.

The Stations are conducted in silence close to those present. The script is a powerful and moving recreation of Jesus’ Passion, Death and Resurrection, and our students facilitate connection to this experience in a beautiful and challenging way.
Prayer 1

We go to you through questions, Lord, sometimes in our doubts. Like Nicodemus we often go to you in the night, but you do not mind receiving us then. For with you “the night itself is like the day.” As long as we do not love the darkness, you listen and reach out. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but might have eternal life.”

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Prayer 2: Second Sunday in Lent

Lord Jesus, lead me to that mountainplace of stronger light and surer sound where I may see your glory.

The mountain pilgrims climb, up steep valley paths, their clothes covered with everyday dust, and tired in their bones.

The mountain of truth: “Come, let us climb the Lord’s mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, where God instructs us in his ways that we may walk in his paths.”

The lovely mountain where lowly sparrows feast, and one day outshines thousands elsewhere because you are there, my God.

The mountain close by, within, that I climb everyday; the holy ground I stand on now.

Light and truth, bright as blinding snow, whom Peter, James and John saw, “Lead me on, and bring me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling place.” Amen

Prayer 3

Stations of the Cross Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, take me along that holy way you once took to your death, Take my mind, my memory, above all my reluctant heart, and let me see what once you did for love of me and all the world. Amen

Prayer 4:

Help us see signs like those you saw, Lord, signs so small they may be missed.

Yes, signs are there in our lives and especially as we struggle. Sometimes it’s an outsider whom we never expected to help us at all. Sometimes it’s something unexpected we never thought about before. Sometimes it’s as small as Bread.

You are the God who works great wonders, but mostly you send us simple signs, words, things that seem like nothing.

Amen

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Stations of the Cross

To pray the way of the cross requires only that you meditate before each station. Before each station you may say:
PISA 2012 Field Trail will be conducted at the Senior Campus on Monday May 23, 2011

What is PISA?
PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) is an international survey of 15- and 16-year-olds that takes place every three years. It is one of the largest surveys in the world and it measures reading, science and mathematics skills, and also gathers information on attitudes and interests. It is used to compare the education systems in different countries, and the results help to shape governments' policies on education. If you take part, you will be one of roughly 300,000 students in over 60 countries around the world doing so.

If you have been asked to take part in PISA, or you are the parent of a PISA student, you are probably wondering what PISA is all about. Here I will try to answer the questions that are typically asked by students.

What is the test like?
At St Francis Xavier College, students will be asked to do a test on a computer. The computer test has questions about reading, mathematics and problem-solving. PISA questions are designed to be a bit more interesting than traditional exam-style questions. PISA is not based on the courses you have taken in school, so there is no need to study for it.

Why have I been chosen?
At St Francis Xavier College forty Year 10 students will be selected at random as part of the students chosen to represent Australia in PISA.

What do I have to do?
If you have been selected to take part in PISA, we will advise you of all the relevant details. In any case, all you need to do is turn up on the day arranged for the test. You will take the test along with some other selected students.

The test will take about one hour. After the test, you’ll be asked to fill in a questionnaire about you, your attitudes and interests. The whole thing, including some breaks, will be completed by lunchtime.

Who gets to see my results?
Don’t worry. All results from PISA are totally confidential. This means that not even your teachers get to see your results. You are identified only by a number, not by your name. PISA does not give out information on individuals or their schools.

Why should I take part?
As we said earlier, PISA gives you a chance to represent Australia. That, in itself, is an important reason for you to take part. Your test results and your opinions will help to influence what happens in Australian schools over the next few years. Some students do not want to take part because they feel that it is taking time away from studying or from classes. However, the time involved is only a tiny part of a school year. Finally, PISA gives a picture of what is happening in schools in Australia and what students in Australia think. In order for that picture to be a truthful one, it is very important that students like you take part. Every student that takes part in PISA will receive a certificate.

MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST
Friday May 6 from 7.00am- 8.30am in the Hospitality Centre at the Beaconsfield Campus
The breakfast is open to ALL students Years 7-12 and their mothers/grandmothers or carers

This year’s GUEST SPEAKER is Lauren Burns Gold Medalist in Taekwondo, Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Lauren was one of only three Australian women to win an individual Olympic gold medal at the Sydney games along with Cathy Freeman and Susie O’Neill. Lauren has an amazing story to tell, her triumph was achieved against the odds requiring enormous discipline, commitment and perseverance and teamwork.

Cost of breakfast is $15 each
Tickets are available from Reception at both Campuses – as places are limited it is essential to book early!
N.B. For catering purposes we need to have places finalised by Monday May 2.
Gift Certificates

Have you thought about sponsoring one of our students?

Why not give the gift of Madrid to your child, grandchild or best friend?

The Harvest Gift Certificates make an ideal investment into the faith life of your loved one, whether as a Birthday gift, Christmas present or Graduation reward.

Kick start the pilgrim’s road to Madrid now and make a difference in the life of a young person!

WORLD YOUTH DAY
Mrs Rhonda O’Connor – Pastoral Associate

This is a unique opportunity to participate in an International event and travel with the safety and support of the School and Diocesan Community. The cost is $5400 and includes all expenses.

This is a lot of money, so we are actively fundraising to enable as many students to go as possible. Please support our pilgrims through the fundraisers and through your prayers and encouragement.

LAST CHANCE
TO BOOK

Contact Rhonda O’Connor
NOW if you want to join us

Registrations close early April.

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
The recent Year 11 Information Evening was beneficial for students and their parents. A number of important issues were discussed; these included VCE protocols and processes, careers information, student wellbeing service, the Retreat and Community Service Programs. Thank you to Brooke Riley, Emma Woodlock, Alisha McCabe & Daemon Kater for sharing their experience of the Intermediate VCAL program so far. The latter part of the evening was set aside for students participating in the forthcoming Presentation Balls. Thank you to Mr Philip Macreadie, Chairperson of the College Board, Lynda Moore and Janine Butera for their input.

At St Francis Xavier College we are very proactive when preparing our students for their senior study program across all three year levels. We have invested in resources to provide study sessions facilitated by external providers. The Year 10 students enthusiastically participated in the “Shape Your Destiny” self development seminar. Coach Darren Pereira, of Success Integrated, encouraged our students to embark on a journey of self discovery and commit to making positive changes in their lives. Students were asked to identify their talents and abilities, set goals, utilise strategies and develop an action plan to strive for success. The Year 11 and 12 students participated in study skills sessions facilitated by presenters from Elevate Education. These sessions focussed on study skills, exam technique and time management.

Interim Reports are prepared for each student to provide written feedback on the students’ academic performance during Term 1. These reports will be distributed to students on Friday March 25. Parent/Teacher/Student interviews are scheduled for April 7 and April 8. Please note that all students will be dismissed at 1.00pm on April 7. Parents are encouraged to make appointments with teachers to discuss the progress of their son/daughter. It is vital that communication between students, staff and parents is maintained in an effort to improve the learning outcomes of our students.

UNIFORM

Please note: T-Bar school shoes will NOT be considered appropriate footwear at St Francis Xavier College from 2012. Parents are asked to take this into consideration when purchasing new school shoes this year.

SENIOR CLASSES DURING TERM 1 HOLIDAYS

There will be some Senior Classes and other activities running during the Term 1 holidays.

Senior teachers sometimes run extra classes during the Term holidays to reinforce the material which has been covered during the Term, to prepare students for the following Term or to allow extended times to work on larger projects.

A schedule of classes and activities that will be running during the Term 1 break will appear in the next Newsletter.

Please note that the Beaconsfield Campus Library will be open between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm throughout the Term 1 break (except for weekends and public holidays). Students are welcome to use the Library for quiet study or to take advantage of the other services offered by the Senior Library over the holiday period.

If you have any questions please contact Peter Robinson on 9707 3111.
Year 7 Camp
The first group of Year 7 Campers (March 16-18), with students from Gallagher, McKenna, Synan and White Houses have returned from the Licola Wilderness Camp after having a most enjoyable and successful time away. Students had a range of activities in which to participate, including the Rock Wall, Flying Fox, Giant Swing, canoeing and various other sports as well as team-building activities. Students participated extremely well and really enjoyed the opportunity to meet each other in and out of the school setting.

The second Year 7 Camp (March 23-25) with students from Burgess, McDonagh, Schneider and Thomas are still away and reports indicate another very successful venture. I am visiting the campers on Thursday and I am looking forward to hearing the laughter and squeals of delight as students participate in the various activities on offer. Congratulations to our camp Coordinators Miss Amelia Boyle and Mr Justin Meade, House Coordinators and all other teachers, counsellors and education aides who were involved in preparing and running the camps. These sorts of opportunities don’t just happen; there is a lot of work that goes into making these experiences such successful events. Miss Amelia Boyle and Mr Justin Meade have taken on the task of organising these camps, and I want to publicly acknowledge their hard work and tireless efforts to ensure the camps will be a success.

Student Behaviour
Over the last couple of weeks, the teachers and I have been reminding students about some very basic expectations regarding uniform, acceptable behaviour on buses, how we treat each other and inappropriate language. Not only do we strive to give the students in our care a sound academic education, we are also involved in partnership with parents, in teaching our students the skills and behaviours that will make them fine and upstanding members of society. Pride in themselves and their school, and respect and courtesy are all important aspects of this learning. Can I ask all parents to spend a few minutes with your child to go over the Rights and Responsibilities section of the Student Planner which gives students an excellent guide as to what sort of behaviour is acceptable. This shows your child the supportive partnership that exists between school and home and helps enormously in reinforcing the messages we are giving them at school.

Uniform
Most students are to be commended for the manner in which they wear their uniform. Nevertheless, a small number of students have not been adhering to the uniform policy. Students are reminded that the jumper or vest must not be worn as the outer garment while travelling to and from the College. Girls are expected to wear appropriate footwear and socks. Socks with lace trim are not to be worn. Please note: T-Bar school shoes will NOT be considered appropriate footwear at St Francis Xavier College from 2012. Parents are asked to take this into consideration when purchasing new school shoes this year.

Bus Passes
The number of buses we provide for students to travel to and from school are based on applications we receive at the end of the school year that indicate how many seats we need to provide on any given bus route. The buses are operating at capacity or near capacity, and cannot be used by students to attend after school activities, like football training. Students have been given a bus pass that signifies which bus they have been allocated to. Students will not be allowed to change buses or travel on any other bus except the bus they have a pass for, except for extenuating circumstances, or a change of address. A note is necessary, and not all requests can be facilitated.

Library News – Mrs Anne Fuller
Next meeting of the Social Book Club is on May 11, 7.00 p.m. in the Berwick Library. Come with a friend to chat about books and life. Please contact Mrs Anne Fuller on 9707 7963 or afuller@sfx.vic.edu.au.

What's on during the holidays? Here are some suggestions.
- Children’s Book Festival: Free Family day. Sunday 3 April 3 2011, 10:00am - 4:00pm. Free. Library forecourt 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne. Join in the biggest celebration of children's books that Melbourne has ever seen – featuring heaps of our favourite authors and illustrators.
Parish Primary Schools
All current Year 6 students at each of our Parish Primary schools have now been visited and given information regarding enrolment for Year 7 in 2012 at our Berwick and Officer Campuses. Year 7 students Dylan Cavalot and Miranda Ryan returned to Trinity Primary School, Narre Warren South; Adele Jones and Andras Selymes to Mary Mackillop, Narre Warren North; Karla Giuliano and Brendan Matthyss to St John’s, Koo Wee Rup; Sam Collins, Jessica Leed and Lachlan Scheurs to St James, Nar Nar Goon.

All were very positive about their experience of transition to secondary school and in answering the many and varied questions from their Year 6 school friends, and in many cases allaying some anxieties about moving from Primary to Secondary School.

College Campus Tours
At St Francis Xavier, tours are conducted during the course of a normal school day rather than being held on specific Open Days. Prospective parents and students are escorted by Student Tour Guides at each Campus to view College facilities, buildings and activities that are part of the running of our daily program. The following students have been entrusted with this important responsibility in 2011 to represent our College as student role models and College ambassadors.

Year 9 Tour Guides – (Berwick Campus)

Year 10 Tour Guides – (Beaconsfield Campus)
Michelle Bigaignon, Jordan Periera, Tristan D’Souza, Chloe Bow, Celene Prosper, Bradley Cavalot, Adrian Garrubba, Belle Delpirou, Gifty George, Michael Ojea, Amy Skinner, Jamie Sewell, Hannah Rawlings, Callan Tout, Hannah Redmond, Alex De Souza. College Tours can be booked by contacting Reception at either Campus.

Year 7 Enrolment 2012 – REMINDERS
• Parent Information Evening – Tuesday, March 29 at 7.30pm., Berwick Campus Hall. The evening also includes specific information regarding the new Officer Campus in 2012.
• Berwick Campus Tours will be available 6.15 - 7.00 pm prior to the Information evening; leaving from the Hall Hospitality area.

ENROLMENTS CLOSE FRIDAY APRIL 8 FOR YEAR 7, 2012

National Youth Week 2011 Activities in Casey
Friday 1 April: Fringe Fest 2011, Cranbourne Public Hall, 6.00 pm-11.00 pm. All ages event. Fully supervised, drug, alcohol and smoke free.
Monday 4 April, Canvas Art. Cranbourne Youth Information Centre, 3.30 pm -5.00 pm. Create a unique canvas! “Own it” and show everybody what Casey is all about through your art work.
Tuesday 5 April: Chill Out /Movie Tuesday, Hampton Park Youth Information Centre 3.30 pm-5.00 pm
Casey 360 Site Visit: Tooradin Skate Park 4.00 pm-5.00 pm, Come and check out Casey 360, equipped with Apple iMacs with full internet access, Playstation 3, Nintendo Wii, music equipment and more.
Thursday 7 April, Canvas Art, Hampton Park Youth Information Centre & Library 3.30 pm-5.00 pm
Friday 8 April: Friday Flick, Cranbourne Youth Information Centre 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm
Casey 360 Site Visit, Endeavour Hills Skate Park 3.00 pm-3.45 pm & Narre Warren Skate Park 4.00 pm-5.00 pm
Saturday 9 April, Rock n Skate 2011 Ray Bastin Reserve, Narre Warren, 10.00 am-4.30 pm. Entry is FREE...Skate & BMX Competitions (12 & Under, 16 & Under, Open and Girls)

Celebrating National Youth Week in Cardinia Shire
Pakenham Youth Fest 11 Sun, April 3 12-6pm. PB Ronald reserve. Activities include: Free BBQ, Footy Kick competition, Face painting, Bungee Run, Jumping castle, Sk8 competition, Live Broadcast from 97.1 as well as Live entertainment from local acts and other free hourly give-aways.
**WARNING SIGNS**

City of Casey School Crossing Unit would like to remind all drivers of the following signs which are often located around schools and nearby. We will be closely monitoring the habits of drivers over the coming months. We would also like to remind you it is an offence to double park near a school. This means you can not legally pull up next to parked cars and let children in or out of the vehicle. We thank you for your co-operation.

*It’s the safety of the children that really matters*

### 40km/h sign

All school speed limits across the State are clearly signposted. Look out for the speed signs near schools and slow down to improve safety for children.

### Children Crossing

When the flags are displayed at a children’s crossing, you must stop for pedestrians who are waiting to cross or who have started crossing. You must remain stopped until the crossing is clear. These rules apply even if there is no crossing supervisor.

### No Parking

It is important that you don’t park in any area where this sign is displayed.

### No Stopping

No stopping means you must not stop at the kerb for any reason.
The Parents and Friends Association of St. Francis Xavier is a great opportunity to hear more about what’s going on at your child’s school as well as meet new people and offer help, ideas and support in a friendly environment. Everyone is welcome so please join us...
Enquiries can be made to Lorraine on 9707 5274.

FUNDRAISING 2011

REMINDER

Don’t forget the ‘Garden Express’ – Bulb Fundraiser forms are due back on or before Friday 1st April. If you haven’t received a brochure and order form they can be viewed and downloaded from the College website via the ‘Latest News’ column or are available from reception at the Senior Campus. For further enquiries please contact Lorraine on 9707 5274.
Thank you for your support.

After the success of last year’s Clover Cottage Fundraiser Dinner, the P&F are going to hold another one later this year. Dates and more information will be confirmed in the newsletter a.s.a.p.

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<th>P&amp;F MEETING DATES FOR 2011</th>
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<td>Wednesday 6th April</td>
<td>Wednesday 7th September</td>
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<td>Wednesday 4th May</td>
<td>Wednesday 12th October</td>
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<td>Wednesday 1st June</td>
<td>Wednesday 2nd November</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3rd August</td>
<td>Wednesday 7th December</td>
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The Journey So Far, 2011
Mr Tim O'Meara

The Journey So Far, now in its fifth year, is an evening of information as well as inspiration, where past students return to speak about their challenges, disappointments, changes in direction and successes and to share their career journeys with our current Year 11 students.

In the words of one presenter, the evening is a way of passing on the wisdom of an older generation to a younger one, and in his family, the way to do this was through a story.

The presence of so many ex-Collegians, from a range of career paths, generously returning to share their time and wisdom with a younger generation is a very powerful message of care and nurturing for our young people.

The Journey So Far in 2011 will be held at the Beaconsfield Campus on Wednesday May 4. Parents are also welcome to attend.

Please keep an eye on the College Newsletter, the College Website and Moodle for further details.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Mrs Rebecca Bradley – College Accountant

EDUCATION FEE ACCOUNTS
Please be reminded that the first instalment of 2011 Education Fees has now been billed. There will be three instalments throughout 2011: Term 1 in February, Term 2 in May and Term 3 in August.

Accounts which do not currently have a payment arrangement or direct debit in place are now past due and must be paid immediately. Payment arrangements and direct debits can be established at any time, by contacting the Finance Department, or downloading a direct debit form from www.sfx.vic.edu.au.

Fee concessions may be granted in cases of financial hardship or where other special circumstances exist. If you are experiencing difficulty paying your account we ask that you contact Mrs Rebecca Bradley, College Accountant, to confidentially discuss your account.

TRAVEL CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
Students who travel more than 4.8kms to the College by way of Private Bus (provided by St Francis Xavier College), Public Transport or Private Car, may be eligible for Travel Conveyance Allowance.

Private Car and Public Transport claims which are deemed eligible by the Department of Education will be credited against Education Fee Accounts. Parents of students who utilise Private Bus services provided by the College will not receive a reduction in Education Fees. The amount of the travel reimbursement in these cases is retained by the College to offset the considerable cost of providing the private bus services.

All parents who are eligible for the travel reimbursement must complete an application form at the beginning of each school year regardless of whether they directly receive the reimbursement or not.

If you would like further information in relation to the travel conveyance allowance please contact the Finance Department at the College.
We have now passed the half way point for Term 1, with so much already completed this Term and yet so much still to come. In the past few weeks we have seen many sporting teams representing the College. SIS swimming was undertaken, Rugby training has commenced, lunch time sports have come to a close and students are preparing for Cross Country.

**SIS Swimming**

On Wednesday March 16 students from all year levels travelled to Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre to compete in the SIS Swimming Carnival. The students travelled from each Campus and met at Albert Park to share a meal prior to the carnival. After some food to prepare them for the carnival the students walked to MSAC. On arrival the music was pumping, an electric atmosphere, the tone was set for a great Carnival. Students jumped in the pool for a few warm up laps, swimmers were called to the marshalling area, the gun sounded and we were off and racing. The night was successful for our College which finished in fourth place overall. We had 9 third places, 7 seconds and 2 first places. This was a great team effort. In a wonderful individual achievement Alexandra Collingwood broke the SIS record in the U17 50 metre Breaststroke, the previous record was held for seven years. Well done to all students who participated to make this year’s Carnival such a great success.

**Lunch time sport**

This week the Grand Finals of the inter-House netball competitions were held for Year 10, 11 and 12 students. The games have been hotly contested this year, with many games going down to the wire. As we all know only the two best performing teams can make the Grand Final. This week features the Year 10 Grand Final being contested between McKenna and Burgess, Year 11 Grand Final will be played between McKenna and Gallagher and the Year 12 Grand Final will be played by Burgess and Synan. Good luck to all teams and students involved.

**House Cross Country**

House Cross Country will be held on the final day of this Term, Thursday April 7 at Lysterfield Lake. This year, for the first time, students from the all year levels will be competing. In preparation for the SIS Cross Country competition which will be held at Baxter Park on the June 1 and training will start this week. Training will be held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons as well as Thursday mornings. Morning sessions will run from 7.40am – 8.40am and the afternoon sessions from 3.30pm until 4.30pm. All training will be at the Beaconsfield Campus.

Finally, good luck to all teams playing in SIS weekly sports this Thursday and Friday, also to the boys’ Rugby team who are in preparation for their season and are heavily into training and participating in a boot camp this weekend.
HOST FAMILIES 2011

Are you interested in hosting a Japanese student? Well, here is your chance. St. Francis Xavier College will be hosting Japanese students from our sister school in Tokyo, Japan in two blocks this year. We are also lucky enough to have students from another region of Japan (Shikoku) visiting us for 2 nights/3 days.

2 nights: between 26th July – 1st August (Shikoku)
1 week: 26th August – 31st August (Tokyo)
1 month: 24th July– 20th August (Tokyo)

A host family is required to provide a bed and meals to the student. All other activities etc are organised by the College. If you are interested please return the bottom of this form, with your details to your Japanese teacher as soon as possible.

Kind Regards
Miss Kate Buttigieg
Learning Area Leader - LOTE

Please return this slip to your Japanese teacher.

I ___________________________ of ________ Care Group am interested in
First and last name
hosting a Japanese student.

(Please circle the length of time you would like to host a student for)

- 2 nights
- 1 week
- 1 month

Contact details:
Parent Name: ___________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
REMININDERS...

• **Year 12 Tertiary Information Session** well be held at Monash University Berwick Campus on the morning of June 2. This session will be conducted by VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre). more details will be published in the Newsletter during Term 2.

• **National Careers & Employment Expo**, 9.00am-4.00pm, Fri 25 March & 10.00am-4.00pm, Sat 26 March; Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Southbank; [www.eocexpo.com.au](http://www.eocexpo.com.au), 1300 667 121 for info.

• **University of Melbourne Veterinary Science** Open Day - Sun 27 March; 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee; [www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday](http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday)

• **Engineering Careers Expo** – 2-7pm, Thurs 31 March; Etihad Stadium, Enquiries: Noel Dos Santos, 9321 1726; Register: [www.engineeringexpo.org.au](http://www.engineeringexpo.org.au).

SO YOU WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN? After hours of practice it’s a musician’s dream to play to an audience and to share their passion for music – but how do you get there? Learn skills to be a professional musician and how Flinders Quartet set up their concerts, from registering a name to front of house to registering with AbaF. Flinders Quartet is a long running chamber group. Get insights into the workings of a professional group, how to put on a concert and gain a career in classical music. Register: admin@flindersquartet.com. Info.: [www.flindersquartet.com](http://www.flindersquartet.com).

CHECK OUT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY – The first ‘Talk and Tour’ for 2011 is in the coming school holidays. This will be a great opportunity for Year 10-12 students/parents to find out about courses; see the university; have your questions answered. *When*: Fri 15 April; *Where*: La Trobe, Bundoora; Register: On-line (details soon).

ART AND DESIGN AT SWINBURNE – Swinburne is holding an Art and Design Discovery Day at their Prahran campus in the coming school holidays. Find out about courses and careers. *When*: 9am-3.30pm, Thurs 21 April; registration: [www.swin.edu.au/artanddesign](http://www.swin.edu.au/artanddesign); Questions: Montana Daknach, 9214 8904. Swinburne Prahran at 144 High St has a great range of certificate, diploma and degree courses in design.

BOX HILL INSTITUTE – Two courses on offer for school students:
- Cisco IT Essentials (CompTIA A+) - Learn to build/repair computers; hardware, peripherals, operating systems. Covers Cert 1 plus credit to a Cert 11.
- Cisco CCNA - Learn to design, build, configure networks. Covers Cisco switches and routers. *When*: Term 2, once per week, 4-7/8pm over 2 terms; *Who*: Yr 9 and up; *Info*: Wayne Gibson, 9286 9815, w.gibson@boxhill.edu.au.

HOLMESGLEN – See the new Holmesglen website at [www.holmesglen.edu.au](http://www.holmesglen.edu.au); the video gallery includes a number of short videos. Go to the ‘Ask Holmesglen’ function and type in questions or select a quick link to find information. Holmesglen has campuses at Chadstone, Waverley and Moorabbin, and is a leader in vocational and higher education. Prospective students can contact Melinda on 9564 2608, Melinda.driedzic@holmesglen.edu.au.

THE AGE VCE AND CAREERS EXPO 2011 – Expos provide a great opportunity to collect information, ask questions and explore options at one location. *The Age* VCE and Careers Expo is one such opportunity. Universities, TAFEs, independent colleges, employer groups, defence forces and others will be represented. There will be a range of seminars that you can book into as well. *When*: 10am-4pm, Fri 6, Sat 7 and Sun 8 May; *Where*: Caulfield Racecourse.

COMPUTER GAMES BOOT CAMP – Are you interested in becoming a professional gamer, building and designing games or simply playing games? If so, this event is for you. The Monash University Computer Games Camp is run by the Faculty of Information Technology and is aimed at Year 9 - 12 students. *When*: 9 - 15 July, 2011; Register: NOW at [secure.monash.edu/infotech/promotion/games-boot-camp/register-interest-form.html](http://secure.monash.edu/infotech/promotion/games-boot-camp/register-interest-form.html).
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  5th April
Tuesday  3rd May
Tuesday  24th May
Tuesday  21st June
Bedroom Discovered in Lost Jungle

Experts today uncovered the remains of what appears to be a young person’s bedroom dating from the early 21st Century.
This historical find has shaken the myth that dirt and mayhem as a feature of the teenage bedroom was solely a mid-21st Century phenomenon.
An archaeological dig at the site has uncovered many objects of obscure purpose plus treasured posters and strange condensed clumps of food, magazines and clothing.
Historian and mother of four, Mrs Marjorie Hindbott, said, 'This is one of the most gruesome discoveries of my career. I thought my own kids were bad but I've never seen anything like this!'
Along with the piles of unwashed clothes and illicit substances appears to have been a teenager, who emerged dazed, unwashed and bewildered.
On being told that he had overslept by at least 20 years, the teenager's first comment was, 'Typical - they always forget to wake me.'

The Typical Teenage Bedroom

An analysis of the typical teenage bedroom includes many unidentifiable substances. Just as in the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', things just seem to keep gathering:
When I went into my teenager's bedroom, what did I see?
12 teenagers mumbling, 11 posters drooping, 10 lads a-langishing, 9 girls a-giggling,
8 undies breeding, 7 socks a-stinking, 6 greasy plates, 5 maudlin poems, 4 crawling nerds,
3 dreaded friends, 2 purple gloves and a bar fridge full of Jim Beam.

ANSWER TO DIRT DILEMMA FOUND

Here it is! The most valuable piece of advice I've ever received about bedrooms.
One mother discovered a fail-safe method for dealing with teenagers' bedrooms. What you do is devilishly simple.
• First, clean the bedroom once. Once! Make it spotless.
• Then take a photo of the spotless bedroom in all its glory.
• Then take the film down to a developer with a special deal on poster-sized photos.
• Bring the poster-sized photo home and stick it on the outside of the bedroom door.
• Close the door and pretend that is what it looks like.
(If you like, before-and-after photos on the door can make a nice touch.)

TODAY'S WORD:

CLEANLINESS
DEFINITION:
By Parent: Bed made. Clothes in laundry basket or folded and put in wardrobe. Plates and food returned to kitchen.
By Teenager: Bed covered. Clothes stuffed into drawers or left on floor ready for next use. Food supplies and emergency rations near to hand.

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Join a forum to discuss these issues on www.andrewfuller.com.au

St. Francis Xavier College, 2011 – Hold Fast to What is Good
Tickets on Sale Soon!!
See next Newsletter for details

WeSt Side StoRy

Thurs. 5 May, Fri. 6 May, Sat. 7 May - 7:30pm
St. Francis Xavier College
Arts Faculty presentation
Tickets: Adult $20
Concession $18, Family of 4 $70

Based on a conception of JEROME ROBBINS

Book by ARTHUR LAURENTS
Music by LEONARD BERSTEIN
Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM
Entire Original Production Directed
And Choreographed by JEROME ROBBINS

Originally produced on Broadway by ROBERT E. GRIFFITH and HAROLD S. PRINCE
By Arrangement with Roger L. Stevens