Principal’s Message

At the start of the year Denis Higgins, a former Director of the Diocese of Sandhurst, worked with our staff at our first Professional Development Day for 2014.

Our staff were asked how they would like to work together as a learning community and contribute to a set of values that would become a charter on how we could best work together. The Leadership Team have summarised these values into five key areas. On reflection we believe that these are the way we would like our whole community to work together.

The whole idea of these values is that they are ways that we want to relate, function and learn as a whole community and not just as a staff group. We prefixed each value with “At My School…….” My School being where I learn (and teach) as a student, I teach (and learn) as a staff member and where my students go to (as and as a parent teach and learn with our own children). The five values highlighted are:

At my school I am learning to be:

◊ Courageous
◊ Collaborative
◊ Compassionate
◊ Challenged
◊ Christ-like

Courageous because we want to be brave enough to take risks and move beyond our comfort zones in all aspects of our every-day life. Whether that be joining a sporting team or delivering a two minute speech to peers or by standing up for what we believe is right.

Collaborative in the way that we work with each other. It is not about us as individuals, it is as a community - we work together to get the best outcomes for all of our students. It is not one person and one classroom - it is many teachers, many classrooms, many students. The same goes for our families - it is not just about my child it is about what is best for all of our students and not just each individual.

Compassionate because that is who we are as a Christian community. It is not about our own needs but the needs of others. As a Christian we care about those around us and give of ourselves in whatever way we can. Whether that be in a school, local, national or international community.

Challenged because we want to improve ourselves and our community. We want to do our best and move past mediocrity or a second best performance. We want to improve ourselves by making better choices and challenge our peers to do the same.
And finally we want to be *Christ-like*. This encompasses courageous, collaborative, compassionate and challenged. In being Christ-like we seek to be more like Jesus with all of these values, but based in love, respect, forgiveness and justice. This last value is the greatest, and most challenging value we face in our community.

Obviously the final part of the statement is why I go to Xavier and that shows a clear choice of why I go to Xavier as a student, staff member and parent community.

As part of this we have had made a short film for our website on how the above fits in at Xavier. A number of our students were heavily involved with this and what Xavier means to us as a community. To see this You Tube clip please go to [http://youtu.be/IvrtpQwpTgQ](http://youtu.be/IvrtpQwpTgQ)

As a community we should be continually called to these key aspects about how we want to be and how we want to live our lives here at Xavier, whether we be a parent, a staff member or a student. I hope you enjoy the video.

NAPLAN finished today. By all reports students have gone about the tests in a focussed and diligent manner and have given their best.

On Wednesday our Year 8 students ventured to Peregrines at Tabletop as part of the Mighty Men and Gorgeous Girls Programs. Days such as this become foundation stones for the school’s pastoral and well-being programs. I believe all staff and students involved in the day had the opportunity to be courageous, collaborative, challenged, compassionate and Christ-like.

Mary-Jayne Boyd, Genevieve O'Reilly, Sally Ryan and Terri-Anne Scott have been selected from across the Diocese to represent the Diocese of Wagga Wagga as part of the World Indigenous Peoples’ Conference on Education in Hawaii next week. Our staff have been selected to present to the Conference our Immersion Program of which we are very proud of. We wish them well as they represent Xavier High School and the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

Our BISSA Cross Country team travelled to Griffith last Monday. There were some excellent performances recorded which saw Xavier finish second overall and with a number of Age Champions. A full report will be available next week. Congratulations to all competitors.

Year 12 are on Retreat next week. The Retreat is a key element in their formation as young faith-filled adults. Students and staff are looking forward to spending time together as a group before the conclusion of their secondary education. We wish them well.

The Xavier High School Council Parent Liaison Group (the PLG is a sub-committee of the School Council) are planning the next parent information night to be held early in Term 3. The evening will focus on supporting our children in their learning. The PLG is keen to gather information from parents on topics and/or subject matter which may be delivered on this evening. Please take the time to complete this (2 min) survey to indicate areas of interest for you and your family. The survey can be accessed at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/xhsplg](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/xhsplg) and should be submitted by Friday May 30.

Applications for Year 7 enrolments have been very strong. Should you have a son or daughter starting in Year 7 2015 please ensure you submit your application form immediately. Interviews will be held on May 28, May 29 and Saturday May 31.

_Gavin Dykes_
Year 11 and 12 HSC Motivational Night

The HSC Motivational Night for Year 11 and 12 students and their parents will be held on Tuesday May 27 at 7:30pm in the Art Centre. The evening will provide a valuable insight into past students HSC experiences and provide opportunity for current Year 11 and 12 students to finalise and/or create study techniques, plans and real goal setting.

This evening is an opportunity for HSC preparation for both parents and students. For any further enquiries, please contact Dale Gleeson gleesond@ww.catholic.edu.au

Last Friday evening Ms McKinley and Ms Aranda took eleven students from our school to the Stronger Rally in Echuca. They converged with over 150 students from the Sandhurst Diocese and beyond to celebrate their faith through song, worship, prayer, relaxation and fun. It was a time to realise that you are not alone, and a time to be nourished, encouraged and equipped on our walk with Jesus.

With a lot of buzz and excitement the Rallies are always fun and faith-filled occasions, At the Rally, Fr. Rob and various other young musicians put on a concert with everyone joining in the singing to some very beautiful and inspiring songs. There was dancing and smiling and the icebreaker games were rather entertaining. Some people would share a story of their own faith with the group.

These stories were amazing and it was wonderful to see the courage of young people in our community stand up in front of so many others, many of whom are strangers, and share stories which are sometimes quite personal to them. Fr. Rob also shared some of his stories with us, and each time we were mesmerised by what he said. I have never met someone who can speak with so much passion and trust in God. These were the stories which could strengthen anyone’s faith!

Another highlight of the evening included a panel discussion where young people were able to SMS questions about their faith for the panel to answer. In addition, a testimony was shared by a young person and something new for Stronger was revealed on the night!

The eleven Xavier students who attended definitely had a faith enriching experience. They networked with many Catholic youth from a neighbouring Diocese, and worshipped and prayed while singing and dancing loudly. It was a grace-filled evening.

The next Rally will be held on Friday August 8, in Mooroopna and will provide an opportunity for young people to celebrate their faith in a fun environment. The Rally will include praise and worship with Stronger chaplain, Fr Rob Galea and a talk on this year’s theme The Truth Will Set You Free’ (Jn 8:32). This is an invitation to all Xavier students to join in these amazing events!

For more information please talk to Ms McKinley or Mrs Milthorpe.

Maria Aranda, RE Teacher

Our Chromebook roll out has been successful. However we believe that some students are not abiding by their signed Chromebook Agreement, particularly regarding Chromebook Care outlined in Section 1. There will be an audit on all student devices over the next few weeks. Students who are in breach of their Agreement will be requested to pay for any maintenance/repairs required.
From The Music Department

A reminder to all students and parents that private music tuition is available at Xavier on a wide range of instruments - Voice, Piano, Guitar, Bass, Drums, Saxophone, Violin, Clarinet and Flute. The lessons are one on one, a half hour in duration and can be organised at different times throughout the day. Please talk to one of the music teachers for more details or email: haymesg@ww.catholic.edu.au

Geoff Haymes, Music Teacher

The Simpson Prize is a national competition for Year 9 and 10 students. The competition encourages participants to focus on the significance of Anzac Day and to consider what Anzac Day means to them and to Australia.

The student winners, runners-up and teacher chaperones enjoy a two-day trip to Canberra where they visit several of the capital's museums and institutions, attend the presentation ceremony at Parliament House, and enjoy a formal dinner at the Royal Military College, Duntroon.

Eight prize-winners will then travel to Turkey for the opportunity of a lifetime! They will embark on a twelve-day exploration of Istanbul and Gallipoli, and take part in the commemorative ANZAC Day ceremonies at various sites on the Peninsula.

Entries close October 17 2014

Please read daily announcements for more information

Ms P. Gleeson,
Acting HSIE Co-Ordinator

NSW
History Teachers’ Association of New South Wales
PO Box 219, Annandale
NSW 2038
Contact: Maria Dos Santos-Lee
T 02 9518 4940
F 02 9518 8231
htansw@tpg.com.au

There is an App for that!

After a full term of students in Years 7 to 11 taking advantage of using a Chromebook with Google Apps For Education (GAFE) and all that it offers, it is time to start exploring what the Chromebook itself can do for our students.

A great place to start is the well supported Chrome App market where anyone using a Chrome Browser can find and download an App or Extension.

The main difference between those two are only in their use, an App is treated like a program and can offer a dedicated purpose such as creating a Mind Map. Whereas Extensions are designed to support the user, integrated into the Chrome browser.

Some great examples that you and your children may like to look at are:

Apps:
- Pixlr Editor – An excellent Photo editor
- PowToon – A fun and creative way to create Presentations and Animations
- Lucidchart for Education – A great Mind Mapping/Brainstorming application

Extensions:
- StayFocused – A great way to self-monitor and regulate access to distracting websites
- myHomework Student Planner – A digital Student Planner that helps to stay organised
- Save to Google Drive – Allows students to quickly save information to their Google Drive

From The Music Department

A reminder to all students and parents that private music tuition is available at Xavier on a wide range of instruments - Voice, Piano, Guitar, Bass, Drums, Saxophone, Violin, Clarinet and Flute. The lessons are one on one, a half hour in duration and can be organised at different times throughout the day. Please talk to one of the music teachers for more details or email: haymesg@ww.catholic.edu.au

Geoff Haymes, Music Teacher

Milo Maths runs in Term Two from Monday May 5 through to Monday June 16. Milo Maths is a service provided by the Mathematics Department for students who would like assistance with their homework, schoolwork etc. A permission form must be signed by a parent/guardian before students are able to attend and this form is then valid for the entire year. Each session runs from 3:30pm till 4:30pm and is staffed by a number of Math teachers. Students of all year levels are welcome.
**Dates to Remember**

- **Wednesday May 21** - Bushrangers Cup hosted at Xavier
- **Wednesday May 21 to Friday May 23** - Year 12 Retreat
- **Friday May 23** - Year 8 CSIRO Science visit
- **Thursday May 22** - Vaccinations for all Year 7’s and Year 9 Boys
- **Monday May 26** - National Reconciliation Week begins
- **Tuesday May 27** - Year 11 and 12 HSC Motivational Evening
- **Wednesday May 28 & Thursday May 29** - Year 7 2015 Interviews
- **Wednesday May 28 to Friday May 30** - Justice Matters Camp
- **Saturday May 31** - Year 7 2015 interviews

---

**Monster Garage Sale**

**When:** Saturday, 31st May  
**Where:** Xavier High Teacher car park  
**What:** Community garage sale to raise funds for 2014 Immersion Experience.

Clean out your cupboards and bring unwanted items into school to sell at the sale from the first week of Term 2. You’re also more than welcome to bring your car boot along for an additional price of $10.

For any queries or bookings for car boot sale please contact:  
**Michelle Aldrich:** 0438 003 203

---

**Bishop Hanna is hosting a Men’s Conference in Wagga Wagga** on Saturday May 17. All men of good will are invited to attend this incredible opportunity to build up faith with Jesus Christ. For more information and to register, go to:  

The event is free, but registration is essential for catering purposes.  
Register today!

---

**The Australian Army Cadets** is a leading national youth development organisation with the character and values of the Australian Army. The Australian Army Cadets provides activities and experiences set in a military like structure that develop skills and confidence in young people. It teaches young Australians both male and female, aged between 12 and 19 years, the values of friendship, self discipline, respect and a spirit of adventure.

As a Cadet you will:
* Make new friends  
* Be part of a team  
* Learn to take responsibility  
* Gain leadership skills  
* Understand and apply self discipline  
* Uphold values such as courtesy, respect and integrity when dealing with others.  
* Learn skills like communications, field craft, orienteering, map reading and cooking  
* Undertake adventure training and go bush, use Defence firearms and attend annual camps and activities during school holidays and on weekends.


**Terri-Ann Scott**  
Careers Advisor

---

**Canteen Roster**

- **Friday May 16** - Carmel Duck, Mary Purtil, Janice Williams
- **Monday May 19** - Kate Kennedy, Judy Kenny
- **Tuesday May 20** - Leanne Gerecke, Brenda Lade
- **Wednesday May 21** - Sharon Riley, Michelle Hensel
- **Thursday May 22** - Liz Keogh, Judith McDonald
- **Friday May 23** - Kim McLeod, Michelle Aldrich

**Volunteers needed**

*If you are rostered and unable to attend please contact the canteen.*

**Debbie Hayes**  
(0429 806 233)

**Heather Yensch**  
(0412 354 043)

---

**Monster Garage Sale**

- **Carmel Duck**
- **Mary Purtil**
- **Janice Williams**
- **Kate Kennedy**
- **Judy Kenny**
- **Leanne Gerecke**
- **Brenda Lade**
- **Sharon Riley**
- **Michelle Hensel**
- **Liz Keogh**
- **Judith McDonald**
- **Kim McLeod**
- **Michelle Aldrich**

---

**Terri-Ann Scott**  
Careers Advisor
MONSTER

GARAGE SALE

Saturday 31\textsuperscript{st} May

8am-2pm

Xavier High School, car park
Currawong Street

All funds raised go towards the 2014 Xavier High School Immer-
sion Experience. 24 Students will be travelling to Aboriginal
Communities across NT and NSW to immerse themselves in the
aboriginal culture.

Your support and generosity is gratefully appre-