Dear St Francis Community,
On Wednesday all students and staff gathered for a special liturgy to mark the beginning of Lent. Lent is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for Christ’s Resurrection on Easter Sunday. During the liturgy in year groups, the Ashes were used to mark our foreheads with a cross to remind us that life passes away but eternal life awaits us. Ashes are a symbol of penance, and they help us to develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of the ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past when Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance and were marked with ashes as a sign of their sinfulness. The ancient ceremony has developed into our present day liturgy when all Christians are invited to receive the ashes out of devotion and as a sign of our need for forgiveness and to forgive. The ashes were made from the palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year and are blessed with Holy Water and scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those with repentant hearts.

A Lenten Prayer for Families

Lord, as we begin this holy season of Lent,
Grant us a change of heart that we might turn away from sin and follow your son’s Gospel.
We ask you to fill us with a hunger for what is just
May our lives become more grace filled through prayer, self-sacrifice and a willingness to share
We ask you this, through Christ Our Lord.
Amen

Last weekend James Campbell, David Campbell, Darcy Creece and Aidan Grace won the schools section of the “Gumi Race” on the Murrumbidgee river in Wagga Wagga. They won $1 000 for the school. The boys flew a home-made school flag from their home made raft and had stiff competition from Forest Hills High but they made up a twenty metre distance to overtake them. Congratulations boys!

Last night we had the “best swimming carnival ever”! More information and photos to follow next week.
**Year 11 Parent and Student Information Evening**

On Tuesday 3rd March all year 11 parents/ carers are invited to attend an evening on stepping into the senior school. The purpose of the evening to set clear expectations for all students around assessment, connect parents with school, work/school balance and working in a digital environment. Invitations will be sent to all year 11 families.

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**OPENING SCHOOL MASS PICTURES**

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**EASTER LITURGY**

This week the school celebrated the beginning of our Lenten journey toward Easter with a liturgy presided over by Year Twelve Catholic Studies class. As always they did a great job leading us in prayer and ritual. Following the liturgies the senior students and Year Ten students were invited to add their name to the letter we are sending to the President of Indonesia to appeal for clemency for the two young men awaiting execution. Students listened respectfully to the content of the letter and were also reminded that the Catholic Catechism and all Christian churches are against the use of Capital Punishment due to the sanctity of life. Many students stayed behind to discuss their feelings on forgiveness and the adage ‘what would Jesus do?’ It proved to be a very thought provoking liturgy for many... Janice Drew
SFC SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will be taken on Wednesday 4 March 2015 for all students and staff. If a family would like a SIBLING PHOTOGRAPH, please ask your eldest child to call to the College Office and collect an Order Envelope.

YEAR 8 NEWS

Year 8 started the week off well. We were lucky enough to have Jacob Townsend & Rhys Palmer come and talk to the Year 8 students on Tuesday and be involved in a ‘specky comp.’ Students were also involved in the Ash Wednesday liturgy, where they were asked ‘what could they do to help others’ during this Lenten season. To continue this theme in Pastoral students will have the opportunity to write down their good deed for the day.

Every Tuesday during Pastoral, students will be reading their accelerated reader book. It is important that your child remembers to pack this book every week.

Don’t forget to ‘like’ the Year 8 at SFC facebook page. I have also included the link for the Year 8 ‘live’ calendar which is frequently updated with upcoming assessment tasks, exams and events.

https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=ww.catholic.edu.au_a64l3o3fdvr1rgtk54s02trj0%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Australia/Sydney" style="border: 0" width="800" height="600" frameborder="0"
scrolling="no"></iframe>

If you have any concerns with your child please do not hesitate to contact me at the College 0269533622 or via email vantc@ww.catholic.edu.au

Clare Vant

Year 8 Leader 2015

SAFER DRIVERS COURSE

This Safer Drivers Course has been designed by the Roads and Maritime Services (formerly the RTA) to establish safer driving practices for learner drivers under 25 years old who already have 50 hours real driving experience.

It will assist young learner drivers to:

- Improve their own levels of safety when driving, by learning how to manage road safety risks.
- Increase current driving skills and acquire new ones through a combination of classroom learning and practical supervised instruction from a professional driving instructor.

After the successful completion of module one and two of the course the learner will receive a twenty hours reduction in their log book (from 120 hours to 100 hours).

NRMA Safer Driving are facilitating Module One of this course on Wednesday March 11th.

The course will be held at the Leeton Shire Library for a total cost of $140.

Course numbers are limited to twelve people with a minimum of nine people required to run the course.

For further information and booking visit the NRMA Safer Driving website at: http://www.nrmasaferdriving.com.au or contact the Leeton NRMA office Ph. 6953 2337.
BUS SUBSIDY APPLICATIONS

PVC Applications are available through the College Office. All new students to SFC will need to complete an application for private vehicle conveyance or any family who have changed addresses and/or bank account details.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT. I request all completed forms TO BE RETURNED to me at the College Office for verification and copying before sending to the Ministry of Transport. This helps me to answer questions on your behalf by the Ministry if I have a copy of your application on hand… thank you, Mrs Deidre Briggs

ONE STOP TRAVEL OFFICE!

All bookings/ travel variations for boarding students must be made through the College Office.

All students are requested to submit/advise ALL TRAVEL variations to the College Office (C/- Mrs Briggs) no later than 4pm on a Monday for the following weekend’s travel. A LATE VARIATION to normal routine will be accepted in the case of an emergency only.

We have a duty of care to our students and in conjunction with the support of all families can we ensure that travel arrangements are correct at the time of our students departing and returning to the College on a weekly basis. Therefore it is expected that students and/or parents/carers take the responsibility of notifying the College Office to advise of any changes to the normal routine of weekly travel.

The best method for this is via a written note, Boarding Students’ Travel Variation Notice, either in person, via fax or through email. Phone notifications will be accepted with a written notification to be forwarded.

If a change happens over the weekend for a Monday travel, please email Mrs Briggs at the College Office briggsd@ww.catholic.edu.au. If you have a query or you are uncertain of the term “VARIATION TO NORMAL BUS ROUTINE” please don’t hesitate to contact Mrs Briggs at the Office.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM THE COLLEGE WEBSITE

www.sfcww.catholic.edu.au

You will find information about our school, learning and teaching, a virtual tour, Pastoral Care, services we provide, forms and policies, Boarding School information, employment and fee paying options.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

We encourage families to receive the Weekly Newsletter electronically (via email) or view the College Website as we copy a small number of newsletters only each week. If you wish to have the newsletter emailed to your email address, log on to college website and subscribe for newsletter on that page. You will then automatically receive a newsletter each week. If you don’t have internet access please ask your child to collect one from the College Office. Newsletters are available on Fridays.

CLAIM THE DATES

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 February</td>
<td>Biology Excursion to Cocopara National Park</td>
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<td>Thursday 26 February</td>
<td>YEAR 11 RYDA PROGRAM</td>
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<td>Friday 27th February</td>
<td>CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY – Period 5</td>
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<td>Tuesday 3 March</td>
<td>Year 11 Parent/Student Information Evening – 7pm in Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3 - 5 March</td>
<td>Year 12 Geography Excursion to Kosciuszko</td>
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ATTENTION CURRENT & NEW PARENTS : CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!!!!!!!!

Canteen Volunteers from all families associated with St Francis are urgently needed. The St Francis Canteen is for the convenience of the students and is run by volunteers under the guidance of Canteen Leader, Ms Lyn Vant. **Canteen Hours are from 9.30am to 2.30pm (school days only)**. If you are able to help out for a day a term or even two days per term please contact Lyn on 0407 205822 or email vantl@ww.catholic.edu.au Or during school hours please contact Lyn Vant directly on 6953 3622, Extension 219.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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<tr>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Kelly Williams</td>
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<td>Eva Lu</td>
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<td>Pauline Mallon</td>
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**LEETON SHIRE NOTICES**

**GLS Workshop**
*When:* Tuesday the 3rd March 2015 6.30pm-8.30pm  
*Description:* Leeton Shire Council is conducting a free workshop for parents and supervisors of learner drivers. The two hour course, Helping Learner Drivers Become Safe Drivers, offers parents and supervisors hands-on advice on how to provide the most effective driving practice for learner drivers.  
*Location:* Leeton Shire Library  
*Contact:* Council’s Road Safety Officer on 0448 623 049

**Child Restraint Checking Day**
*When:* Saturday 28th February 2015 9.00am-12noon  
*Description:* Leeton Shire Council is conducting free Child Restraint Checks at Leeton Market Plaza. Parents and carers of young children are invited to come along and find out more about the child restraint laws and to get their child restraints checked for correct installation by qualified Roads and Maritime Services approved fitter on site.  
*Location:* Leeton Market Plaza  
*Contact:* Council’s Road Safety Officer on 0448 623 049

**ST JOSEPH’S PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT:** Get a group of friends together for a fun night out to celebrate the first official function in Madonna Place with the NEW KITCHEN! Sat 28th February 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. To book a table, please ring June Di Lorenzo on 0429 017493 or the Presbytery on 69532099. All proceeds to Madonna Place.
Interested in Playing Basketball??

Narrandera Basketball are about to commence their junior autumn competition. The association takes single nominations and places children into teams. Players names and year at school are required please message Lee on 0409443711. Narrandera Basketball has a face book page you can message or email lee.longford@bigpond.com.au. Or contact the above mobile for more details.

Age groups are Juniors Div Yrs 1, 2 & 3, Intermediate Div Yrs 4, 5 & 6 & Senior Div Yrs 7 +. Junior Div games at 5.00pm, Intermediate Div games at 5.50pm & Senior Div games at 6.40pm concluding at 7.30pm.

Boys will play Wednesday afternoons and Girls will play on Thursday afternoons. Registration cost is $50 per child and games fees are $3 per week.

Names to me by the above methods by Friday 20th February 2015. Looking forward to a new season of basketball.

Aussie Hoops

Aussie hoops is a basketball program for children from Kindergarten and above who haven’t played basketball before. This will be held on Thursdays from 4pm - 4.50pm and will commence on the first Thursday in March. Fees are $15.00 rego and $3.00 each week. Just turn up on the day to register.

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LEETON UNITED FOOTBALL (SOCCER) CLUB
REGISTRATION DAY FOR LOCAL & GRIFFITH COMPETITION
SATURDAY 21 February 2015
MCDONALDS RESTAURANT
10AM TO 1 PM
GRIFFITH U/12, U/14, U16, U18, WOMEN, ALL AGE SENIORS
LOCAL JUNIORS 4-15 YEARS
DETAILS FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
www.leetonunitedfc.org.au
ENQUIRIES: Rod Harrison 0417 450 546
Shane Dunn 0428 649 481
Lena Porcu 0418 652 075

REMEMBER TO YEAR 7 PARENTS AND NEW PARENTS TO THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY ........
TO ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER IN YOUR EMAILS WHICH IS THE EASIEST WAY TO ACCESS THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE LOG ONTO THE COLLEGE WEBSITE

www.sfcww.catholic.edu.au

THEN WHERE INDICATED SUBSCRIBE TO THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER BY ENTERING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS AND FOLLOWING THE PROMPTS.

THANKS

COLLEGE FRONT OFFICE
Leeton Phantoms Junior Rugby Club

COME ONE, COME ALL YOU
BOYS & GIRLS TO THE RUGBY

REGISTRATION DAY

WHEN: Saturday 21st Feb
WHERE: Jarrah mall
TIME: 9am to 12noon

Ages from the year you turn
5 years old up to 17 years old
All new players need to bring birth certificate

For all enquiries please contact Grant Johnstone
grant.mitre10@westnet.com.au 0427127690
Or call Quinten Longhurst 0488535247

Riverina Rush Event Program

Bendigo Bank Narrandera Cycle Classic
Sat 28th February Bendigo Bank Twilight Critérium (Grade & novice events)
Sat 1st March Bendigo Bank Narrandera Road Cycling Classic
Stage 1 of "Tour de Riverina" Interclub Championship

Bendigo Bank Multisport Festival
Sat 14th March CSTR Long Distance Open Water Swim (2km, 5km & 10km courses)
Dolymovement Long Distance Run (60km, 10km & 3/4 Marathon)

Sun 21st March Bendigo Bank Triathlon (Junior, Enticer & Sprint)
Final event in the Riverina Tri Series Championship

for more information go to: www.riverinarush.com.au

Narrandera’s Farmers Market®

Held 1st Sunday of each month
1st March 2015
at The Shady Gum Nursery Car Park
9am - 12noon

Breakfast & Coffee Available

LION TRAIN SHUTTLE
ON THE HOUR (SEE MAP FOR ROUTE)

All produce home-grown by local
Cooks & Gardeners
All craft goods handmade

Vendors welcome contact; Annie on 02 6959 1780