Dear Parents/Guardians, Students & Friends of SFX

Over the past few weeks the people of the Hunter, and the people of Nepal, have been confronted with the devastation that can be caused by nature. Nature has unleashed its fury and caused destruction in its wake.

Let us especially remember those who live in the shattered country of Nepal. These people, who have little real wealth, have been confronted with an earthquake that has claimed thousands of lives and destroyed countless homes. They are crippled with the absolute destruction that surrounds them. They cannot escape the devastation and are struggling for help to begin rebuilding their homes and their lives.

Catastrophic events such as these remind us bluntly of our own vulnerability in the face of nature. Whether it’s bush fires, tempests, earthquakes, avalanches or droughts, nature has the power to destroy lives and destroy property. I guess that it is during times like these that we need each other.

People helping people can also have great power too. In the wake of these events, the efforts of people can be an enormous source for good and restoration. I recall that at the time of the terrible Boston Marathon bombings there was TV footage of people actually running towards the site of the explosions. These people were not confused or gawking at what happened they were actually trying to help. They had no way of knowing whether there would be more explosions. They saw an urgent need, and they responded.

The same generous support and response was also evident from the people of the Hunter and is still evident by the people of Nepal.

Of course there is much to worry about in the way that we can treat each other. People can also cause damage and destruction. But it is during times of great catastrophe that we can also see the best in many. Let us be thankful for the goodness, care and support that have been apparent and use these opportunities to renew our belief in our human nature.

Br Robert Sutton, fms
Principal
Vinnies Day

Thursday, 14 May will be the College’s annual St Vincent De Paul day! On this day we ask all staff and students to raid their local Vinnies store in order to create their best op shop creation with prizes awarded to the best dressed.

Pizza slices for $1.50, cans of soft drink for $1 and cups of hot chips for $2 will also be sold during the lunch break. This money, along with an out of uniform gold coin donation from each student, will be donated to a number of worthy causes, including The La Valla School for disabled children in Cambodia and the Matthew Talbot Centre at Wickham which supports homeless men in our community.

So please, rock your favourite second-hand attire and support Vinnies!

Thank you,
Lara Fuller
Support our fundraiser for the La Valla School, Cambodia by purchasing an Entertainment Book through the College. You can purchase a hard copy of the book through the College Finance Office or you may prefer to try the new digital book! Books can be bought online at https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/3484k6 or contact the Finance Office 4961 2863 or Cassie Mowbray cassie.mowbray@mn.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your support!

Year 11 students who will be participating in the 2015 Cambodia Immersion are:

Tovah Agresti
Desai Gordon-Lane
Matthew Kakkavos
Rachel Macneill
Kristen McSpadden
Hannah Simmons

St Francis Xavier’s College commemorates ANZAC Day
“They served” – WW1 Australian Army Nurses from the Hunter

Selected experiences of Newcastle and the Hunter Army nurses’ service during WW1 in the hospitals and casualty clearing stations, which were hastily erected, to support the wounded and sick soldiers.

Based on “Sisters of the Valley – First World War Nurses from Newcastle and the Valley” by Christine Bramble.
Charles Sturt University representatives will be at the College on Thursday, 7 May. In the Theatrette at lunch time! If you’re interested in Paramedics, Nursing, Communications, Criminal Justice, Animal Sciences, Vet Sciences or Agriculture then come along and ask questions!

**Cadetships in Business, Engineering and Technology**

**Engineering “Girl’s Talk” … just for the girl’s …**
Engineers Australia is hosting a free information evening of “Girl’s Talk... just for the Girls” on Thursday, 21 May 2015 in the Auditorium of Engineers Australia, 122 Parry Street, Newcastle West from 5:30-7:30pm.

Guest speakers will give informative power point presentations on what it is like to be an engineer, what they do and how they got started.

Representatives from the University of Newcastle and Hunter Institute of TAFE will be available to provide course information. Registration is essential for catering purposes as light refreshments will be served; Registration site or call 02 4911 7310 Helen Wilson.

**College Library**
There is reading material available in the school library on the carousel “Careers” which has been updated. It contains information on UAC, Defence Forces and different Universities.

**RSA / RCG**
A reminder of dates: Monday and Tuesday 4 & 5 May AND 11 & 12 May OR Saturday 9 & 16 May

All sessions are in the Theatrette. On the weekdays it will start as soon as school is dismissed and finish at 6:15pm- for both days.

Weekend sessions start at 9am **promptly**. The trainers have every right to refuse you entry if you are late, as you must complete the required hours to qualify.

**Careers Expo Newcastle 2015**
Year 12 students are invited to the Careers Expo on Thursday, 21 May at the Broadmeadow Jockey Club. The cost will be $5 and you will need to have paid this before the day and receive an arm band from Mrs Mac to be allowed entry. This is a pupil free day therefore it will be your responsibility to make transport arrangements.

**Police Recruitment 2015**
The NSW Police Force is highly competitive and the process has changed from January 2014. The NSW Police Force recruits, selects and trains future police officers through a collaborative arrangement with Charles Sturt University. Potential applicants need to meet a multitude of academic and personal criteria to be placed in the eligibility pool to be selected for a place in the recruit training program. There are generally three intakes per year in January, May and September.

If you are considering a career as a police officer with the NSW Police Force you must be:
- a minimum of 18 years and 4 months of age
- have a clear driving behaviour record and received no driving offences for 12 months prior to submitting your professional suitability application with the NSW Police Force
- as a minimum, hold a current NSW Green Provisional license
- an Australian citizen/permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen with Special Category Visa
- Meet the requirements of the Body Art and Body Modification Policy.

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**Mrs Julie McLoughlin**
**Careers Coordinator**
P: 02 4961 2863  
F: 02 4961 2384  
E: julie.mcloughlin@mn.catholic.edu.au
If you intend applying for a future career with the NSW Police Force the process/requirements include (but are not limited to) the following:

**Stage 1** - Academic eligibility assessment with Charles Sturt University

**Stage 2** - Lodge an on-line Police Application (professional suitability)

**Stage 3** - Literacy / Reasoning Assessment

**Stage 4** – Detailed Background Checks

**Stage 5** - Physical Capacity Assessments

**Stage 6** - Medical Assessment

**Stage 7** - Face to Face Interview

**Stage 8** - Eligibility Pool

**Additional mandatory certificates you must provide?**

1. Keyboarding Skills Certificate - evidence of achieving the minimum typing standard of 25 words per minute with 98% accuracy
2. Apply First Aid + Pocket Mask Certificate
3. Aquatic Rescue Sequence Certificate

**What is the eligibility pool?**

Applicants are ranked and placed on the eligibility pool list. The eligibility pool list is dynamic; meaning an applicant’s position in the pool will fluctuate as additional applicants are scored for inclusion into the eligibility pool AND as other applicants are selected from the eligibility pool list for an offer into the Associate Degree in Policing Practice. As a result, an applicant’s position is not fixed and may move up or down during the year.

Go to: http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment for full details and links to application resources, videos, instructions and other relevant information.

**My advice has remained consistent on this application process. You will increase your chances if you are OLDER; MORE MATURE; HAVE SOME LIFE EXPERIENCES; and have achieved some SKILL BASE.**