



# Lighthouse

**Volume 37 Number 8**

**23 July 2021**



**Greg Ptolemy**

## A Message from the Principal

Dear Members of the SFX Community,

### **ROLE MODELS**

We live in a country where sportspeople tend to quickly become heroes and role models, whether they deserve it or not. Accolades are received for what is or might be achieved rather than for the depth of character underpinning such achievements.

As a result of this prevailing attitude, I could not resist the temptation to speak at last week's Zoom assembly with the students about the remarkable Ash Barty. Like so many other Australians, I had watched her Wimbledon final into the early hours of the morning and witnessed her authentic humility upon attaining the summit of international tennis achievement.

Yet one senses her real achievement is in knowing what is important. In her post-match interview, she reflected that "it's more important to be a good person than it is a good tennis player. So, I think that's always my priority, making sure that I'm a good human being."

In a world obsessed with outcomes, it seems to me that Ash Barty provides us with a very different definition of 'success' and, in so doing, displays characteristics of a true champion and wonderful role model. As a community, we can only hope to inspire our students to aspire toward prioritising being 'a good human being' – such learning is at the core of everything we do.

### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

While Term Three has commenced quite smoothly at the College, we remain alert to the continual changes in our health landscape, particularly with regards to the risks posed by the latest COVID-19 Delta variant. I would remind all families of the need to exercise vigilance in this domain through physical distancing, ongoing commitment to sanitisation practices, utilising masks, and by remaining at home if you are unwell. While we currently do not have any immediate Covid-19 concerns, there have been a few students present to the College with cold-like symptoms who have been concerned that they are missing too much work. While we appreciate this concern and applaud the commitment to learning, there remains the need to consciously care for the greater good in such circumstances. Please remain home and advise your teachers of the reason for your absence and your desire to not miss any work. It is simply not an appropriate risk to take at this point in time.

## FOCUS ON THAT WHICH YOU CAN CONTROL

While the changing Covid landscape can be a considerable distraction for our students, we have reminded all members of our community to focus on that which we can control. For Year 12 students, this means being dedicated to Trial Exam preparation and completion of major works, while for Year 11 students it will mean establishing effective routines to prepare for their end of course examinations. I was delighted to receive a request from a Year 12 student last week who sought to remove distractions by requesting that we might extend the timeframe of after-school study on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week as we approach exams. As a result of this request, after-school study will now operate until 5pm on each of these days. The number of students utilising this opportunity is growing exponentially and it is wonderful to see.

## CALENDAR UPDATE

The Covid-19 situation continues to create uncertainty in terms of planned events and activities. We have updated the following events on our Term Three Calendar, although we are aware that further changes are possible depending on determinations by NSW Health and the Government. Unfortunately, under current regulations we are unable to have non-essential visitors onsite, although we will continue to adapt according to the available advice.

WEEK	DATES	EVENT DETAILS
<b>Week 4</b>	Monday 2 August and Wednesday 4 August	Year 11 2022 Information Evenings – TBC - Covid-19 regulation dependent
<b>Week 4</b>	Friday 6 August	Year 11 Awards (Students only)
<b>Weeks 5/6</b>	Monday 9 August – Monday 23 August	Year 12 HSC Trials
<b>Week 7</b>	Friday 27 August	McAuley House Day
<b>Weeks 8/9</b>	Monday 30 August – Friday 10 September	Year 11 Examinations
<b>Week 9</b>	Friday 10 September	Year 12 Awards
<b>Week 10</b>	Tuesday 14 September	Year 12 Graduation Mass – Civic Theatre (advice pending regarding the capacity of the venue to host family members of students – Covid regulations will be the determining factor)
<b>Week 10</b>	Tuesday 14 September	Year 11 Pupil Free Day
<b>Week 10</b>	Wednesday 15 September	Last Day Year 12 - Assembly and Clap Out (Year 11 and 12 students only no family members onsite)
<b>Week 10</b>	Friday 17 September	Year 11 Last Day of Term

May God bless.

Greg Ptolemy  
Principal

# SFX MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE

It has been a busy time in our vibrant Music Department! Year 11 are currently preparing two performance pieces, and a Viva Voce for an assessment task due this term. We have been enjoying hearing the repertoire come to life in the lunch time rehearsals! Year 11 will also have their Aural Examination in the Year 11 Examination period to be working towards.

Term 3 is when the Year 12 Music students perform their HSC Performance repertoire and electives. Students are currently working to present their Elective 2 and 3 in Week 5. The official HSC marking will take place from 6 to 10 September. We are awaiting formal notification of the SFX marking days.

In light of the Year 12 Trial Examination period being moved and current restrictions to parents on site, the HSC Concert Performance is currently on hold.

## RESPECT TAFE MUSIC INDUSTRY DAY

On Wednesday 23 June, a group of Year 11 girls attended the RESPECT Tafe Music Industry day. The day was designed for female music students, and guest speakers included Marissa Saroca, Rachelle Schmidt and Amy Vee. The presenters were very generous with sharing their experiences and unique perspectives about being a woman in the music industry. The singers spoke on the following areas:

- Forging an identity/voice through song-writing and music - Amy Vee
- You belong here - Marissa Saroca (focusing on diversity)
- The HEART of Performance: Unlocking Potential for Creativity, Versatility and Confidence - Rachelle Schmidt

The students were also impressed by a variety of performances.



"It was inspiring to hear from women in the music industry that have overcome personal challenges. They shared what they have learnt from their experiences. In sharing these stories, we felt inspired and empowered. They encouraged us to feel comfortable with who we are" - Diami, Amali, Grace, Hayley, Arya.

## ASPIRE 2021 – THE MASKED DJ PERFORMANCE



Our thoughts are with the cast and crew of ASPIRE 2021 which has been postponed to Term 4 due to the current COVID-19 concerns. The students had worked incredibly hard throughout the year, and in the recent holiday period to bring "The Masked DJ" to the Civic Theatre stage. We are looking forward to the rescheduled performances in Term 4, and to see the SFX students in action on stage.





# CAREER NEWS

Julie McLoughlin

Ashley Phillips

Careers Coordinators

E: [julie.mcloughlin@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:julie.mcloughlin@mn.catholic.edu.au)

E: [ashley.phillips@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ashley.phillips@mn.catholic.edu.au)

**Please remember to check  
your emails  
on a regular basis!**

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## UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE – CENTRAL COAST OPEN DAY POSTPONED

A tentative date for the postponed Central Coast Open Day is **Saturday 11 September 2021** and will be dependent on COVID guidelines and restrictions.

Planning is still underway for our Newcastle Open Day on Saturday 28 August.

We encourage your students and school community to continue to [register](#) for our Open Day events to receive updates on the events.

## WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY - HSC TRUE REWARD EARLY OFFER PROGRAM

Applications open now

Western's Early Offer program gives students an early offer into university based on corresponding HSC subject band outcomes in Year 11 and 12, not the ATAR.

[https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward.html?cid=em:EGMT-CAA-hsctr22\\_June21](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/application-pathways/hsc-true-reward.html?cid=em:EGMT-CAA-hsctr22_June21)

## CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

Next round of early offers

Open 26 July – Closes 31 August 2021

Online Info Session 2 August at 6.45pm

<https://study.csu.edu.au/study-options/pathways/charles-sturt-advantage>

## CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

Albury-Wodonga: Sunday 15 August

Bathurst: Sunday 22 August

Dubbo: Saturday 4 September

Orange: Sunday 29 August

Port Macquarie: Sunday 1 August

Wagga Wagga: Sunday 8 August



**Charles Sturt  
University**

## CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY – NEW DEGREE

### Bachelor of Communication

The new Bachelor of Communication includes three exciting new specialisations to choose from, including strategic communication; content creation; and news and media. It will also be condensed into a two-day timetable to enable students to better juggle study, work and life commitments.

<https://engage.csu.edu.au/bachelor-communication.html>

## UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY (UTS) NEW EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

**Applications Open:** August

**Close:** 12 September

The UTS Faculty of Engineering and IT has launched a new early entry program, called Edge. This program will allow students to be assessed on Year 11 results plus Edge Points. Edge points are composed of a portfolio and Year 11 grades in STEM subjects. For questions, contact [FEIT@uts.edu.au](mailto:FEIT@uts.edu.au) or 9514 2666. Learn more at:

<https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology/early-entry-program-edge>

## MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Anxiety and stress is sure to elevate for your Year 12 students so please remind them to apply for *both* our early entry schemes - [Macquarie Leaders and Achievers](#) and the [Schools Recommendation Scheme \(SRS\)](#).

Our [Covid-19 Impact Points](#) (5 adjustment factors) will also be available to all Year 12 students applying for a course at Macquarie Uni in Session 1, 2022.



**MACQUARIE**  
University

## LEADERS & ACHIEVERS WORKSHOPS

We will be running workshops and Q&A sessions to help students with any questions they may have on the application process.

Note: Up to 20 scholarships at \$10,000 per year have been confirmed for the top applicants in the Macquarie Leaders and Achievers Scheme!

**When:** 5pm Wednesdays and Thursdays

21 July – 5 August.

**Mode:** Online (Zoom)

[https://macquarie.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tATwqOPsS3SlikboUQDnAw](https://macquarie.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tATwqOPsS3SlikboUQDnAw)

## CO-OP WEBINAR

Our [three Co-op programs](#) are ideal for high achievers who demonstrate interest in the accounting, actuarial or business analytics professions.

This webinar will go through the features of the programs and the application process.

**When:** Tuesday 17 August at 5pm

**Mode:** Online (Zoom)

**Who:** Students interested in actuarial, accounting and/or business analytics

[https://macquarie.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_WhfugbMSTxuMT8ot0XbU\\_Q](https://macquarie.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WhfugbMSTxuMT8ot0XbU_Q)

## ELEVATE EDUCATION – PARENT SESSIONS FOR TERM 3

### Upcoming Dates

4 August - **Technology devices** and how to stay focused and balanced.

18 August - **Note taking skills** to help your child deepen their revision.

1 September - **Exam Homestretch** and how to support your child in the final weeks.

Register your interest: [https://get.elevatecoaching.info/au/register?state=AUS%20-%20NSW&schools=St%20Francis%20Xavier%27s%20College%20-%20Hamilton&promoformat=schooleventlink&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=140066545&hsenc=p2ANqtz--VGXOuRz3mVzgdUEjVeKrzvE8juFXX6-UXheXYNdj7039JrnVqCNjmDRYS4SIGDz3bLwBebRIOCPRV8XpGGCmNt5GOv22dab4IAhPDrZdWVc0QJBo&utm\\_content=140066545&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://get.elevatecoaching.info/au/register?state=AUS%20-%20NSW&schools=St%20Francis%20Xavier%27s%20College%20-%20Hamilton&promoformat=schooleventlink&utm_medium=email&hsmi=140066545&hsenc=p2ANqtz--VGXOuRz3mVzgdUEjVeKrzvE8juFXX6-UXheXYNdj7039JrnVqCNjmDRYS4SIGDz3bLwBebRIOCPRV8XpGGCmNt5GOv22dab4IAhPDrZdWVc0QJBo&utm_content=140066545&utm_source=hs_email)



## AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE GAP YEAR

The Australian Defence Force offers a number of Gap Year opportunities in the Navy, Army and Air Force. The number of Gap Year roles and eligibility requirements can sometimes be confusing! Our Careers Promotion Team will be holding a virtual information session open to Career Advisors and School Staff across Australia to provide you with all the information you will need to equip and support your students wanting to experience a Gap Year with the Australian Defence Force.

**Time: 4pm-6pm (AEST)**

**Date: 28 July**

The Information Session will cover:

- The Gap Year Application Process
- Education Requirements and Entry Options
- A chance to chat to current serving ADF Members and ask them any questions
- The Gap Year roles available



Please register: <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/event/QQ3S7RU>

## A GUIDE TO JOINING THE DEFENCE FORCES APTITUDE TESTING

This guide seeks to provide you with an overview of the psychological testing process that you will undertake when applying to join the ADF. The ADF psychological testing process includes:

- A General Ability Test

Depending on the role applied for, you may also be required to sit additional testing, such as:

- Testing for Officer entry
- Testing for Aircrew and Aviation related roles
- Testing for Other Specialist Occupations.

This guide will provide you with an idea of what to expect during psychological testing, and hints and tips to help prepare you for this testing.

file:///C:/Users/garyg/Downloads/Guide-to-ADF-Aptitude-Testing.pdf

## TEACH SCHOLARSHIPS

If your future plans include completing an initial teacher education degree or you are currently studying to become a teacher of mathematics, science (with physics), selected technological and applied studies subjects or special education (K - 12) you could be eligible for the Teacher Education Scholarship. The Teacher Education Scholarship provides financial support whilst studying and a permanent teaching position in a high-demand subject area following successful completion of studies.

<https://teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy/teacher-education-scholarship>

and

<https://teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy>

## LETZ LIVE

Gap Year **2022** - now is the time to submit an application.

Placement opportunities for all programmes; New Zealand, UK, Thailand and Australia. They are currently placing applicants at suitable Boarding Schools for January 2022 intake. It's all systems go for 2022.

<https://forms.letzlive.org/apply-now/>



## BOATING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

The marine industry is dynamic and diverse; a wide range of pathways awaits anyone looking for a career working around boats, of all shapes and sizes, on some of the best waterways in the world. Boatbuilders, marina managers, marine tour guides, superyacht crew, marine mechanics, boat sales and much more. Information about opportunities and current jobs is available at:

<https://marinejobs.org.au/>







St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

## Vinnies Winter Appeal

The College St Vincent de Paul Society group launched our annual Winter Appeal at the end of term 2. Each year, SFX donates non-perishable food items, warm clothes, blankets, and winter essentials to those in need in our local community.

This appeal gives an opportunity for each student to give to the less fortunate in our community during the Winter months which can be a challenging time for people who struggle to find a safe home and don't have access to warm food and clothes like many of us are fortunate to have.

We are very grateful for the generous contributions from our school community, we received lots of great donations which were greatly appreciated by the local Parish Charters who distributed them to those in need.

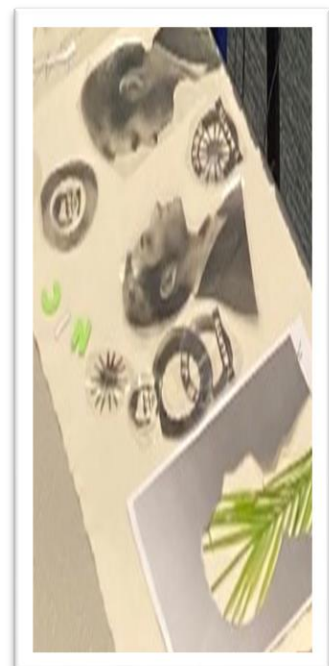
Our Vinnies meetings are every Thursday at the start of lunch and all Year 11's and 12's are welcome!

Estelle Carmichael



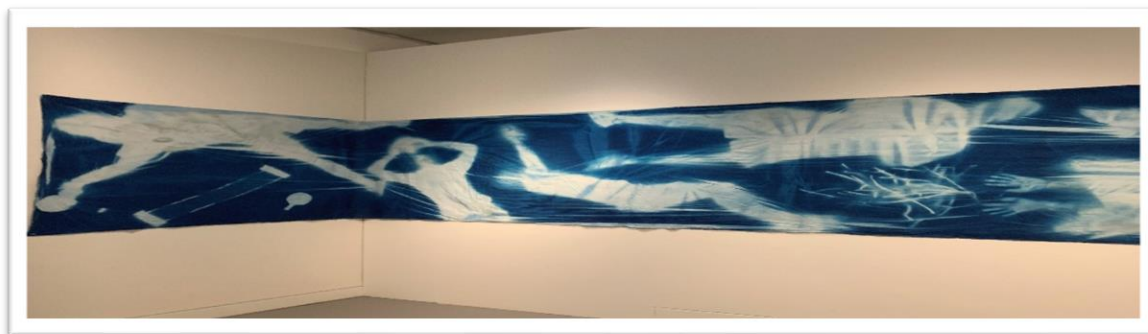
## Work Projects and Community Connections

Life Skills Creative Art's students have been experimenting with the cyanotype "blueprint" process to make designs on fabric and paper. They began gathering objects and arranging them into mandalas and other designed compositions based on the shape, texture and size of the materials. Students were then tasked with assembling photos, objects, drawings or text, to depict an aspect of their own identity. Each given a rectangular wall hanging made from calico, students had to construct their design, expose it to the sun then wash and watch the vibrant Prussian Blue coloured print emerge.

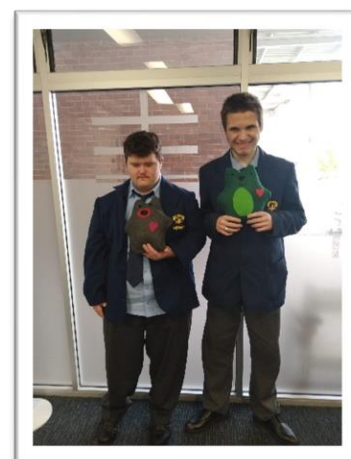
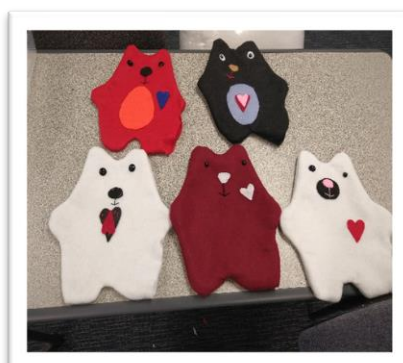




In Week 1, they visited ***"Gammin; story of a mob in Cyanotype"*** an exhibition at Lake Macquarie Art Gallery. It was amazing to see this process at a large scale; a huge fabric and sound installation made by young indigenous students from Clontarf Academy in Toronto, NSW.



Students have also engaged in a practical textiles and design project in Life Skills Technology involving designing and hand sewing a Charity Bear. They were able to choose their design and hand sew a unique felt stuffed toy for a keepsake or to gift to a loved one. Throughout this unit students developed skills in simple stitching, sewing a button, using a pattern, cutting skills, threading a needle and tying a knot. The results were impressive, and all the students were proud of their achievements.



In addition to the practical task, the students attended a 'Yarn Bombing' event to raise awareness for the Deaf and Blind Society in Devonshire Lane Newcastle West. The students assisted the many visitors to decorate the trees and signposts along the Laneway with a variety of yarn creations.



Another achievement last term was for Year 12 Work and the Community students. They practised skills to support their transition from school to work. Through the assignment 'Grab that Job', students learned job application processes of writing letters of application, Resumes, making cold telephone calls about job vacancies and interview skills. This all culminated with the students applying for a job and participating in a Mock Interview for their assessment. Thanks to teachers, Sam Middleton, Monique Williams and Jonathan Hall for giving of their time to be the interview panel and for their positive instructional feedback for the students. Students also appreciated Mr Ptolemy's support in the after interview debriefing sessions.

APPEARANCE		Poor	Fair	Average	Good
Neatness					
Communication Skills					
Active Body Language - eye contact					
Speech - tone, clarity, pronunciation, eye contact					
Listening Skills - Active Listening, eye contact					
Composure - prepared questions, clear and well thought out					
Interview Etiquette					
General courtesy/positive attitude					
Appropriate greetings - hand shake etc. eye contact					
Overall manner					
Preparation and Interview					
Preparation for job					

***"I was a bit nervous at first, but I knew it would be a good real-world experience for me. After the interview, I felt happy with how it went. The questions were good because they were not just the questions we prepared for; there were different surprise ones which I had to really think about how to respond"*** Laura Malone Year 12

***"I found this assessment ok, and it was good for the comments on how I achieved in the interview. This will help me in future when I plan to go for retail and postal work jobs after school"*** Aidan Barlow Year 12

# ENROLMENTS FOR YEAR 11, 2022

## *Now Open*

### St Francis Xavier's College Hamilton



To apply for  
2022 Enrolment  
into Year 11

Year 11 2022 enrolments are now open. Should you require an enrolment package please email [admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au) with the following information:



- ✓ **Student's Name**
- ✓ **Student's Date of Birth**
- ✓ **Student's Current School**
- ✓ **Parent/s, Carer/s Name/s**
- ✓ **Parent/s, Carer/s mailing address including post code**
- ✓ **Parent/s, Carer/s mobile phone number**
- ✓ **Parent/s, Carer/s email address**



## 2021 Important School Dates

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### ***Term 3***

Friday 23 July	<b>MacKillop Day House Celebrations</b>
Friday 6 August	<b>Year 11 Awards Ceremony (students only)</b>
Monday 9 August	<b>Year 12 Trial HSC begins</b>
Friday 27 August	<b>McAuley Day House Celebrations</b>
Monday 30 August	<b>Year 11 Final Assessment Period</b>
Friday 10 September	<b>Year 12 Awards Ceremony</b>
Tuesday 14 September	<b>Year 11 Pupil Free Day</b>
Tuesday 14 September	<b>Year 12 Graduation Mass – Civic Theatre</b>
Wednesday 15 September	<b>Year 12 Farewell Day</b>
Friday 17 September	<b>Year 11 Last Day Term</b>



## St Francis Xavier's College

Address: 286 Parkway Avenue, Hamilton  
Office: Hebburn Street, Hamilton  
Postal: PO Box 300, Hamilton NSW 2303  
Telephone: (02) 4961 2863  
Email: [admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@hamilton.catholic.edu.au)  
Web Site: [www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au](http://www.hamilton.catholic.edu.au)

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### Student Services

Hours: 8:00 am until 3:10 pm  
Telephone: (02) 4961 2110  
Email: [hml-studentservices@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hml-studentservices@mn.catholic.edu.au)

*All student related phone calls can be made directly to Student Services.  
If the phone is unattended please leave a message.*

### Switch/Reception

Hours: 8:00 am until 3:30 pm

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### Finance Office

Hours: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Email: [hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hml-finance@mn.catholic.edu.au)

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### Uniform Shop

Telephone: 0413 474 519  
Email: [stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au](mailto:stfrancisxaviers@alinta.com.au)

**Uniform Shop opening hours during school terms are:**

**Tuesday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**  
**Thursday 10:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Payments can be made direct to Alinta Apparel in the form of cash, credit card, or debit credit card.

Shop Online at [www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au)





# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

# VOLUNTEER TODAY

St Vincent De Paul Society

**Referral Centre** is at the heart of connecting our community with emergency relief services in the Maitland Newcastle region.

Volunteering is a great way to gain work experience, and new friends while giving back to your local community.

Do you have empathy, patience and a calm phone manner?

Are you available 1 day weekly or fortnightly 8:30am—12:30pm M-F?

**Register your interest** by contacting Teresa King on 0473 002 729 or email : [teresa.king@vinnies.org.au](mailto:teresa.king@vinnies.org.au)



St Vincent de Paul Society  
NSW

*good works*