

InProfile



ST PIUS X COLLEGE
CHATSWOOD

Autumn 2023



It is my great pleasure to introduce this Autumn 2023 [IB](#) in
Profile, my first such publication as



Academic Awards Ceremony

Held at Oxford Falls on February 21, the Academic Awards Assembly acknowledged the 2022 Semester 2 academic achievements and congratulated the 2022 HSC High Achievers.

Special guests on the day included Mr John and Mrs Maree Couani, Mr Brad Van Dijk (Father of Tom Van Dijk) and Mr Derald Rose (Grandfather of Tom Van Dijk).



The following Awards for Semester 2, 2022 were presented

Awards presented to 241 Students: 55 Year 7, 46 Year 8, 56 Year 9, 42 Year 10 and 42 Year 11

20 Academic Excellence, 4 Academic Honours, 5 Academic Honours First Class (Year 11)

61 Growth in Learning Awards (Years 7 – 10)

47 Waterford Awards (Years 7 – 11)

20 Blue Academic Colour Awards

6 Silver Academic Colour Awards

6 Gold Academic Colour Awards

Top 2022 Scholarship Recipients. **Middle** Year 9 2022 Academic Award Recipients. **Bottom** Year 11 2022 Academic Award Recipients.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Congratulations Jarred Lam (Class of 2022) and William Grant, Year 10 for being awarded the Bronze Award and Mitchell McGrath for achieving his Silver Award. The College has approximately 40 new registrations for the Award in 2023.

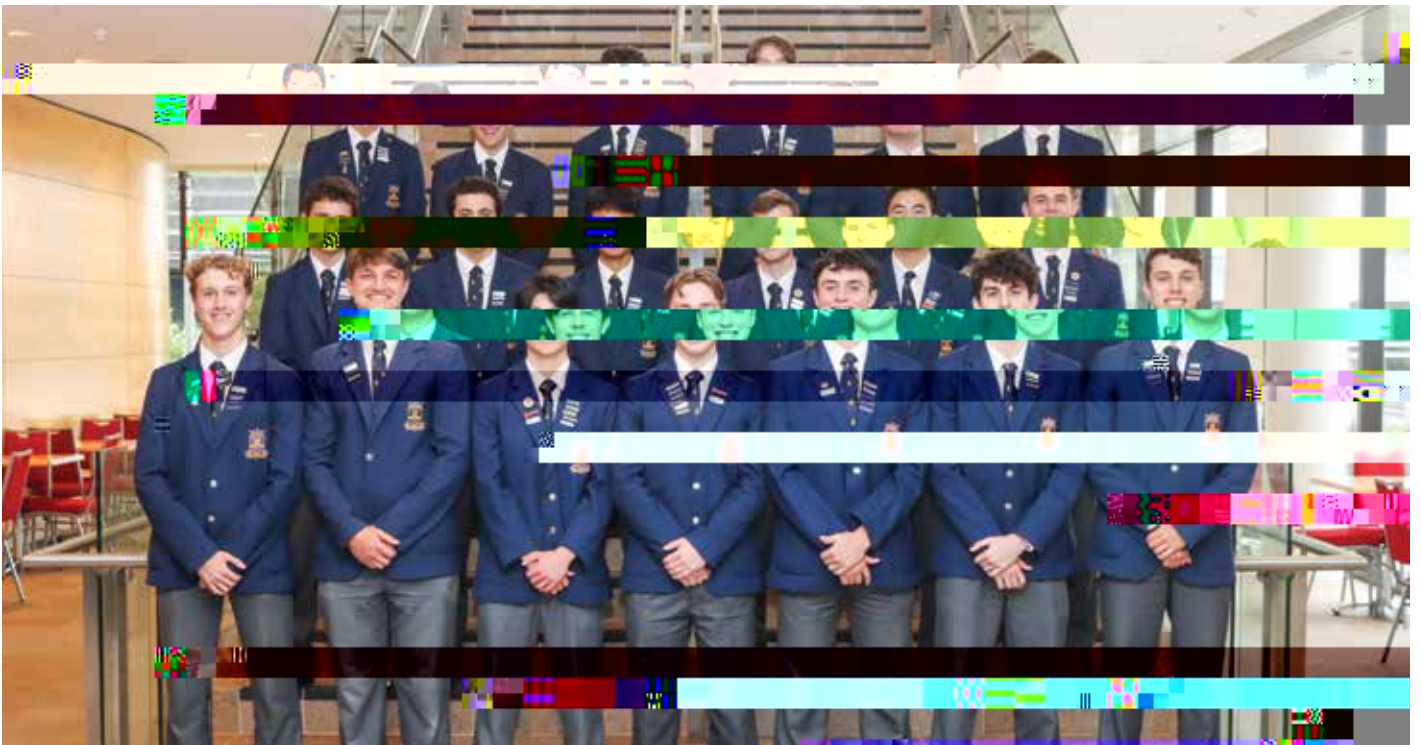
Premier's Reading Challenge

Year 10 students, Lucas Durey, Giancarlo Vincenzo, (pictured) and Freddie Allert were awarded the prestigious Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) Medal late last year. This is the

2023 College Leaders

The 2023 College student leaders were invested on 24 October 2022. Special guest speaker, Assistant Police Commissioner Martin Fileman, addressed the College community focusing on three values of 'professionalism, resilience and integrity'. He also spoke about the value of 'followship', which is the extremely important to the leadership process. This is the willingness to cooperate with others to accomplish a greater common goal by being a committed team player, supportive and excelling at what you are doing without having star status.

In his leadership speech, the 2023 College Captain, Eamon Boyle outlined the year theme of 'Listening to Learn, Learning to Listen' and how this applies to every aspect of school life from faith life together, studies, sporting and cultural endeavours and especially friendships and the care and wellbeing of each other.



2023 Student Leadership Team

2023 College Leaders



Eamon Boyle
COLLEGE CAPTAIN



Joshua Bewley
COLLEGE VICE CAPTAIN



Mitchell McGrath
COLLEGE VICE CAPTAIN



William Sykes
WELLBEING PREFECT



Liam Thomson
WELLBEING PREFECT



Thomas Wilkins
WELLBEING PREFECT



Thomas Ryan
MISSION AND IDENTITY
PREFECT



Luke Sissons
MISSION AND IDENTITY
PREFECT



Daniel Walters
MISSION AND IDENTITY
PREFECT



Henrik Hogg
CULTURAL PREFECT



Aaron Lau
CULTURAL PREFECT



Luke Sarkissian
CULTURAL PREFECT



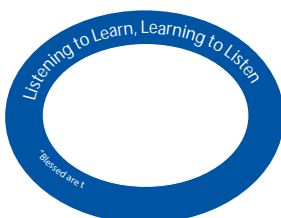
Xander Buckingham
LEARNING PREFECT



Jamie Leong
LEARNING PREFECT



Edward Turner
LEARNING PREFECT



Isaac Byrne
BARRON
HOUSE CAPTAIN



William Pavely
PURTON
HOUSE CAPTAIN



Zachary Flynn
RICE
HOUSE CAPTAIN



Lucas Hamill
TREACY
HOUSE CAPTAIN



Mission and Identity

Commencement Mass

The College Commencement Mass was held on 21 February at Oxford Falls with special guests Mr Ray Paxton, EREA Interim Executive Director, Ms Sarah Gillard, Member of the School Advisory Council and P&F President, and Mr Mark Sullivan, Member of the School Advisory Council. Fr David Ranson, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dolours presided over our celebration and provided a poignant note in relation to our theme – “To listen is to love, to love is to listen.”

The Mass not only officially started the year, but provided the backdrop to formally commission the new College Principal, Mr Michael Ronchetti. Before the entire community Mr Ronchetti confirmed that he would persistently work to ensure the faith formation, educational requirements and expectations of an EREA school leader. These statements of commitment were made before our EREA Interim Executive Director Mr Ray Paxton, Council members Mrs Sarah Gillard

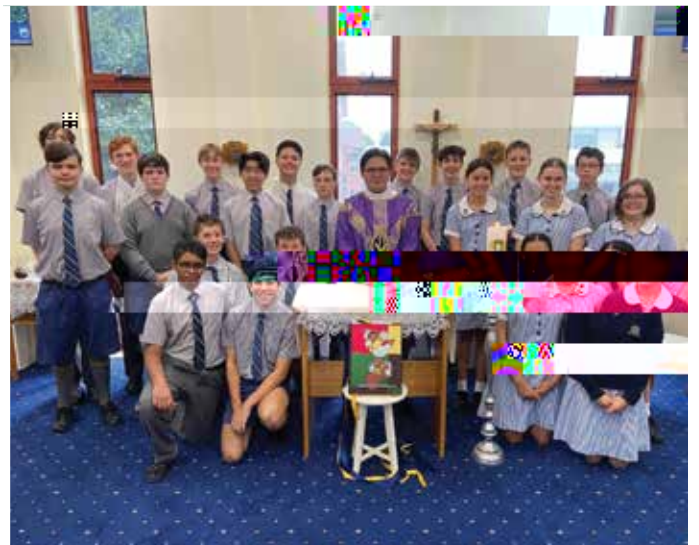
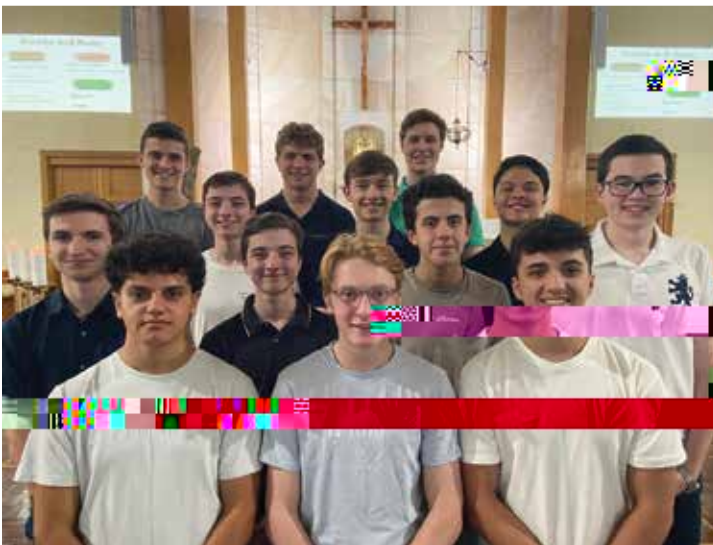
and Mr Mark Sullivan, parent and teacher Mrs Joanne Schuster and College Captain Eamon Boyle. Mr Ronchetti symbolically accepted the leadership of the College community by receiving the College candle from the College Captain.

Year 10 Eucharistic Ministers

Congratulations to the Year 10 students who completed their training to be a Eucharistic Minister late last year: Joe Lonergan, Cooper Anderson, Sam Cummins, Dominic Mitchell, Jose Monk, Riley Seeto, Lenox Makarewicz, Spencer Anderson and Liam Boswell.

Chapel Mass

Each fortnight Year 9 Religious Education classes take turns hosting the College’s Chapel Mass. It has been great to see students from Mercy College once again joining in this celebration this year.



Top left Whole school Commencement Mass at Oxford Falls. **Top right** Mr Ronchetti symbolically accepts leadership by receiving the College candle. **Bottom left** Year 10 Eucharistic Ministers at the Youth Mass. **Bottom right** St Pius X and Mercy College students at Tuesday’s Chapel Mass.

Social Justice

Remembrance Day

The College remembers all those men and women who have served, especially those St Pius X College ex-students who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Special guests at the College's November Remembrance Day ceremony were: Major Rod White AM, Mr Jim Fitzgerald, Mr Peter Ho man and his wife Deborah, Mr Ted Myer, Members of the De Sisto family - Mrs Maria Barrett, Mr Jon Barrett, Ms Julia Taranto and Ms Claudia Taranto as well as Mrs Barbara Brannan and her daughter Bernadette.

In addition to the College assembly, St Pius X students attended the Remembrance Day Service hosted by Chatswood RSL and supported by Willoughby Council. The Occasional Address was given by Year 5 student Rory Rapa in the Chatswood Rose Garden.

Mayor Taylor wrote: "Young Rory, delivered an amazing speech reflecting on the life and service of Lieutenant Colonel Hyacinth Ralph Honner, a distinguished Australian soldier who served during the Second World War. Rory's address was beautifully executed - both in prose and delivery. We are safe in the hands of young leaders such as Rory who will continue to express gratitude and respect for those who have served."

Christmas Giving Christmas Givingdhristmt.

Student Wellbeing



Top left Year 5 Camp. Top right Year 7 Camp. Bottom left Year 6 Canberra trip. Bottom right Year 9 Ceroc Dance Workshop with Year 9 Brigidine College.

Year 5 Camp to Milson Island

Year 5 enjoyed magnificent weather on their three-day camp to Milson Island in March. Accessible only by boat in the middle of the Hawkesbury River, Milson Island's recreational program provides students with opportunities to enjoy team-building activities including archery, raft-building, canoeing, re-starting and damper cooking whilst making new friends and forming lasting bonds with their classmates.

Year 6 Excursion to Canberra

Year 6 students enjoyed a return to Australia's capital, Canberra where they learnt about the nation's history, government, and culture. The tour included visits to Parliament House, the Australian War Memorial, the National Museum of Australia, the Mint, Questacon, and the Australian Institute of Sport. The tour was an enriching experience that complemented the students' HSIE studies.

Year 7 Great Aussie Bush Camp

Year 7 Pastoral Care Camp took place during March at the Great Aussie Bush Camp, Tea Gardens. It was a positive time of team connection and challenge experiences had by all on the ying fox, sea kayaks, climbing, raft building, archery, survivor and ropes activities.

Year 9 Ceroc Dance Workshop

After the success of the Year 9 Pastoral Care Camps which focused on the year theme of being "Respectful Men of Honour" Year 9 hosted Brigidine College St Ives at the Oxford Falls Campus on 18 November for an afternoon of Ceroc dancing.

The nervous energy of learning new dance skills and making social connections culminated in an animated and well supported dance. The students enjoyed making new friends, listening to others, and interacted positively throughout this enjoyable event.

School Support Dog

The Counselling Team have introduced a School Support Dog into the College 1-2 days per week on a trial basis. The Support Dog has been specially trained and accredited to provide Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) within the school.

Research indicates the many benefits to therapy dogs in school settings in supporting students' well-being, promoting a sense of belonging, reducing stress and anxiety, and even facilitating learning.

Kobie is an 18-month-old Labrador retriever cross English Spaniel, owned by College Counsellor, Ms McCarthy. He will attend the College each Monday, be housed in the Counselling area and kept on a lead at all times. Kobie has been a great success so far and we look forward to seeing the positive outcomes.

Smashed Australia Alcohol Awareness

Year 9 and 10 students participated in an Alcohol Awareness presentation in March. The fun and lively performance highlighted some of the risks associated with alcohol and provided the opportunity for open discussion.

Year 11 Snowy Hike

Sixty staff and students attended the annual College Year 11

Sport Success

Swimming Carnivals

Congratulations to Treacy House who won both the Senior and Junior School Swimming carnivals this year!

The Senior School Age champions were U12 – Gavin Bae, U13 – Luca McCarthy, U14 – Jayden Law, U15 – Archer Ferguson, U16 – Derek Jung, U17 – Nicholas Gladen and Opens – Aaron Lau. Well Done.

A special mention for Nicholas Gladen – Year 11 who broke four long standing St Pius X records this year : the 50 Freestyle (record from 2001), 50 Breaststroke (record from 1997), 50 Backstroke (record from 2016), and 50 Fly (record 2000).

Summer Sports Results

Basketball

The end of season Basketball saw six St Pius X teams in the finals with the 14C, 15A and Open F teams taking home the championships on the day.

Congratulations to: 14Cs coached by Mr Matthew Wall, 15As coached by Mr Jack Garrett and the Open F coached by Mr Paul Ticli.

Runners Up: 13 Development coached by Mr Ryan Johnsun, 15D coached Mr James Miller, Open C coached by Mr Fernando Mendez.

Cricket

The U14 Division 1 and U13 Division 2 Cricket teams won their MWJCA Premierships.

Tennis

NTSA Tennis saw 15 teams make the finals and 10 of those teams placing first in their divisions.

Well done to SPX 3, SPX 8, SPX 10, SPX 12, SPX 13, SPX 18, SPX 20, SPX 23, SPX 26 and SPX 27 Tennis Teams.

Squash

Summer squash saw two teams finishing second in their division.

Congratulations to Liam Spatof.4r

College Old Boys (Class of 2022) Charlie Zwart, Peter Nastys, Aram Zarigian and Leo Blane were at the opening of Smart Expressions at Art Space on the Concourse in March where their HSC artworks were on display. Smart Expressions is an exhibition of local artists.

Teaching and Learning

New Sta

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Retirements

We farewell the following sta who retired at the end of 2022 after significant time working at the College. We wish them all the best in their retirement.

Mrs Melissa King, Registrar, worked at the College for 29 years.

Mrs Julie Collings, Mathematics Teacher, 13 years at the College.

Diverse Learning

The Diverse Learning department is a Year 5-12 faculty that oversees students with diverse learning needs, ranging from specific programs for support, to gifted and talented, and English as an additional language. These programs enable a personal freedom and confidence to aspire and achieve excellence.

Science Club

Is on again this year during lunch, every second Thursday and is primarily for Year 7 and 8 students who have a keen interest in Science. The main goals of Science Club are to provide an opportunity for students to learn more advanced Science, do fun experiments and activities and discover their favourite branch of Science.



Chinese Club and Lunar New Year Celebrations

The Year of the Rabbit was welcomed in with great enthusiasm with Chinese traditions in the Junior School during February. Celebrations included a song sung in Chinese by several students before the invited Chinese dragon blessed the classrooms. The dragon, which is an essential symbol of Chinese culture, symbolises good luck, prosperity, and happiness. The dragon made its way through to the junior classrooms accompanied by traditional Chinese music. Blessing and bringing good luck to students and teachers alike. It was an unforgettable experience for all who participated and for those of us in the audience.

Chinese Club runs every Wednesday Day 3 and Thursday Day 9 in D1 from 1.00 pm and is open to Year 7 – 12. Term 1, the focus was on Chinese arts and crafts.

Robotics Club

Robotics is a dynamic club where more than 90 Year 5 – 12 students come together after school to share their passion for mechatronics and coding. Skill development is a key focus with students learning problem solving, planning, management, costing, teamwork, competitive strategy, and resilience. 2022 projects included a first-person view drone, a functional artificial arm built only with LEGO, robots for RoboCup 2023, various Arduino projects and a Boston Dynamics inspired robotic dog.

The Year 5 Introductory program, offered in Term 4, had over 30 participants. With some new changes to the software being introduced by LEGO posing new challenges for the boys and their coaches.

Year 6 students have been focusing on coding and construction of EV3 robots. These skills were then put in place in the Term 4 internal FLL competition.

Year 7 students completed programming of their EV3 LEGO robots using Python. Year 9 and 10 iSTEM students also used this time to work on their class-based projects.

College Old Boys

Mrs Carolyn Watkins

19 October 1955 – 5 March 2023

The College extends its deepest condolences to the extended Watkins family on the passing of Carolyn Watkins on Sunday 5 March 2023 following a long illness.

Mr Anthony Timmins 31 March 1967 – 17 October 2022

It was with deep sadness that the College woke to the tragic news that Mr Anthony Timmins, Performing Arts Coordinator, suffered a serious medical episode and as a result passed away on Monday morning, 17 October 2022.

Anthony was a most loving and dedicated husband to Catherine, and father to Bridget and Daniel. The Timmins family have had a long connection with the College and the local community.

Anthony's incredible talent as a musician, and his expertise as a College leader will be sorely missed. We have certainly lost an extraordinary teacher, leader and friend. Anthony was an Old Boy of the Class of 1984. He was College Vice-Captain and an all-rounder – good at academics, sport and music. He served as a member of College staff, a Band Conductor and teacher, from 1989 until 1995. He returned as the Music Coordinator from 2003 until 2007. Anthony again rejoined the College in 2020 as Performing Arts Coordinator.

The news of his passing brought much sadness to the College as well as the many other bands and schools for which he worked.

Anthony was a fine man, a wonderful musician and a loyal friend. His loss was keenly felt by many people.



Old Boys Gala Day Football Teams.

Old Boys Gala Day

The Annual Old Boys vs Open students Gala Day was conducted Sunday 26 March at Oxford Falls.

The Old Boys Won the Trophy over the 2023 Open Students 2 rubbers to 1 tie!

The 1st XI football took on the star studded Old Boys XI of Mr Quilty's past captains led by Sevan Hanimyan (Class of 1995). The Old Boys prevailed 3-0 courtesy of 2 goals to Claudio Rossano, and 1 goal to Oscar Martin whom, Mr Quilty reports, are the two highest SPX goal scorers ever.

In Basketball the newly appointed SPX Convenor Danny

Garrett led his Old Boys team to an 86-62 point win over the students in which Liam Calleja, Nick Biefeld, Matt Watts, James Shahinian and James Brannan showed their experience and class and shared the court with Billy Sykes, Isaac Byrne, Tom Dixon, Nick Schuster, Jake Brown and Charlie Arena.

The points were shared in the Rugby as both teams were unable to play on the day. The Open Rugby Squad 1st XV were at a pre-season camp at Workul Koo on the Central Coast while the Brothers Rugby Old Boy Club were on a country tour in preparation for their NSW Suburban Rugby season.

The day culminated with a shared BBQ hosted by SPX Old Boys Association President Je Clarke (Class of 1986).



Open Day

What an amazing Open Day! The sun was shining, the College was looking its pristine best and students and staff welcomed visitors, musical performances entertained, sports stars over 1300 guests showcasing what is the wonderful community and school of St Pius X College. The outstanding P&F fuelled students and guests with a sausage sizzle and young men of St Pius X conducted tours and assisted staff and old drinks, and fun displays in science and robotics kept all visitors superbly on the day.





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