

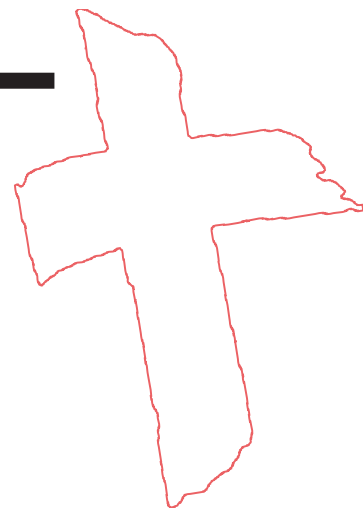
TERM 3 | 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

# COMPANION QUARTERLY

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EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL LEADER

Dear parents, guardians and friends of Xavier College,

As always, term 3 has been a remarkable term of learning and teaching at Xavier College. I want to share with you my Farewell Assembly address given to Year 12 last Wednesday.

"Today is a special day for our Year 12 students. One, which I'm sure, is probably mixed with a great sense of excitement but also tinged with some knowledge of sadness.

Excitement at what lies ahead and sadness for all that is about to change. And yet each Year 12 student knows at the deepest part of their being, that unless they part from one place and stage in their lives, they cannot begin another.

The great Cardinal, John Henry Newman once said, that "to grow is to change, and to become perfect is to have changed many times."

It seems that we must continuously say farewell to various stages of our life if we are to move onto a new phase of growth.

It is a strange paradox in life that while we must always live on the move, we must also be at home to ourselves.

Like the homing pigeon, we too need a homing instinct, which enables us to be at home with our God, and at home with people of all persuasions, belief systems and values.

In this way, we live out our faith, not as something separate from our life but as something so connected with the fabric of our existence that we're unable to see a beginning or an end.

Each of us are called as Christian men and women to continually live with a tension that pulls us in various directions, so that we never allow ourselves to feel complacent that we have arrived at our final destination. Because for us, as Christian men and women, the goal we all hunger for is with God.

No one has captured this so succinctly and so beautifully as St Augustine: "Lord our hearts are restless until they rest in thee O Lord".

Today we farewell our Year 12 students, men and women as part of an unfolding story still to be told, but a story that each of us has had the pleasure to share.

Our prayer this morning for the graduating class of Year 12 2019 might be best expressed in the beautiful words of St Paul to the community in Philippi.



"We pray that your journey, with all its ups and downs, twists and turns, will be joyful. We pray that you will always sense that the Lord is near to you and that the peace of God who is beyond our understanding will guard your hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ."

St Francis Xavier provides you with some sage advice while preparing for the HSC "It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards a one's progress, nor the nature of the task, but by the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken."

Building upon the words of St Francis, American author Mark Twain wrote "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbour, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." Thank you Year 12, for contributing to the rich fabric that we call Xavier! May God bless you always.

I leave you with some words from the former English Rugby fly-half and prolific goalkicker – Johnny Wilkinson, "Are you working as hard as you could? Have you done everything, and I mean everything, you can do, to get ready for that match ( Your HSC, Your life, Your future). And the answer always has to be."

Let us acknowledge our graduating class of 2019 as they continue to strive for 'The Greater Good'

Parents, you will teach them to fly, but they will not fly your path. You will teach them to dream, but they will not dream your dream. You will teach them to live, but they will not live your life. Nevertheless, in every flight, in every dream and in every life, the print of the way you taught them will remain.

Thank you for being the first educators of our students at Xavier College and working in partnership to strive for the 'The Greater Good'. May these holidays be a time where you can continue to enjoy the wonderful gift of life - your sons and daughters.

*For The Greater Good.*

Mr Michael Pate

Principal Leader





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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Term three was full of opportunities and challenges for all students in all years. We started with NAIDOC week events where students learnt more about **First Nation People's** culture involving hunting, dance, song and connection to the land. Grandparents and Great Friends day was a beautiful experience and continues to grow, we thank all who were able to attend Mass and lunch. Following this we hosted students from China to learn with us, they experienced a totally new way of learning compared to what they were used to. The Xavier Ambassadors were exemplary role models and are a credit to their families. In week 3 and 4, Year 12 embarked on the Trial HSC exams, this was a significant step in their journey towards the HSC and completing secondary schooling. This provided students with the new challenge of 3-hour exams, students learnt as much about themselves as they did about their subject content.

Throughout the term we witnessed energetic and fast paced matches as staff and students battled it out for the Trefoni Trophy, staff were the surprising victors and Year 12 have set the challenge for Year 11 to overcome in 2020. The Korean Cultural immersion highlighted song, dance, music, art food and Taekwondo. Students in year 7 and 8 were able to experience an authentic immersion into Korean culture which they have been learning about this year. Year 11 completed their preliminary examinations, they have adjusted well to the challenges presented to them throughout this year and will begin HSC coursework early next term.

To prepare for the new Xavier year, students voted for College Captains, House Captains and SRC. Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen inducted our new leaders for 2019-2020 and also blessed the Peter Claver Pavilion. We are grateful for Bishop Vincent taking time to be with us and look forward to him returning in December for the Feast of St Francis Xavier.

Finally we reached week 10 which culminated in the final week for the HSC group and concluded on Friday with Xavier Day. The Year 12 Assembly, Mass and Prize Giving was a fitting way to celebrate the achievement of every student. Whilst the High School journey is now complete we know that these young men and women are more than ready for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. We wish each and every one of them every success in the future. May they always look for, and find God in their everyday life and live an active life of service to others.

I wish everyone in our community a safe and restful break. School will resume for students on **Tuesday the 15th of October**.

*For The Greater Good.*

Mr Greg Malone

Assistant Principal



XAVIER COLLEGE



FOR THE GREATER GOOD





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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND PEDAGOGY

As the term draws to an end, we need to celebrate the great achievements over the past term. Many students have set goals for their learning based on their previous Semesters report grades. This is wonderful to see and will hopefully lead to a constant improvement in grades. If students achieved a 'C' grade in a course for Semester 1, then they are to set a goal of achieving at least a 'B' grade this semester. In this way, students can make gradual improvement over time. All students need to believe that they have the potential to achieve great results by applying themselves both at school and at home consistently.

**Year 11 commence their HSC course Week 3, Term 4** and will receive their new timetables at this time. All students have received their booklists and are required to have textbooks and/ or resources for the commencement of the HSC course.

Finally, **Year 12**, though graduating will be a milestone for yourselves, it is also for your parents. For all of the parents thank you for your partnership with us on this journey. I know that it has not always been easy, but it has definitely been worth it! Your sons and daughters started at Xavier College as nervous twelve-year old's and leave with a greater sense of self, maturity, and the skills to make informed choices as adults.

As I have reflected on the year that was, I am so inspired by the staff that have taught and supported the graduating class of 2019. Whether it has been the tutor group teachers chasing absenteeism, Mr Tsahtalis working with Industrial Technology Timber students on their major works or Mrs Leehy practicing the students to help them perform, you can only look back with amazement at each teacher's dedication, patience and passion. It is that passion that drives each staff member to want only the very best for the graduating class.

**Year 12**, personally it has been an absolute pleasure to witness your growth this year. I wish each of you happiness and the determination to achieve all that you desire. From here you have so many paths to choose from, may you choose the path that is right for you. That does not necessarily mean that it will be the easiest path, but may it be the right path. I look forward with anticipation to the success of such a vibrant year group.

Good luck and God bless you all.

*For The Greater Good.*

Mrs Alexei Hawkins

Director of Learning and Pedagogy





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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MISSION AND FORMATION

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Among a number of highlights in Term 3, two senior students proudly represented Xavier College at the annual Mission Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral in August where different aspects of spirituality based on our Ignatian tradition were showcased. Anna Pallister (MacKillop House Captain, 2020) and Nicholas Gorman (College Vice Captain, 2019) proved to be note-worthy ambassadors for the college as they explained to visitors from other schools the significance of how we live out our spiritual experiences in our daily lives at Xavier College.

As we rapidly move towards the HSC, our thoughts turn towards the anticipation that accompany these exams and we keep in mind the students who have been working tirelessly to achieve good results. Let us also remember the family members who walk alongside these students in order to reassure and support them.

With this in mind it is the initiative of Mrs Easterbrook who volunteered to organise "Prayer Buddies" both before and over the exam period so that the students and teachers are able to spiritually support the HSC candidates through prayer.

This week, our Year 12 students were given a memorable farewell. Graduating from school is one of those special milestones of life. Our Seniors now leave a place, where each day was timetabled, where expectations and giving their best were constantly encouraged. It is now time for each of them to set their own agendas and use the things that they have learned over a long period of time to create an exciting and prosperous future.

Our prayers and good wishes go with them.

*For The Greater Good,*

Mrs Christine Bainbridge

Director of Mission and Formation



## **XAVIER CULTURAL EXPERIENCE - HITLER'S DAUGHTER AT THE JOAN**

On the 31st of August, students from years 7-10 went on an excursion to The Joan in Penrith, to watch a performance of the play "Hitler's Daughter", adapted from the novel by Jackie French. This engaging piece by Monkey Baa Productions was a significant experience for our young learners as it demanded them to question the reality of truth and notions of personal responsibility and prejudice.

The play used a 'facto-fictal' storytelling device to highlight the tenuous value of truth in our current political and media landscape. In 2019, an age of fake news and fact manipulation, extreme ideologies and rising nationalism, there has never been a more important and relevant time to present this work to the students at our college.

The show incorporated brilliant lighting, acting and costuming, making it interesting and engaging for the diverse ages of students that attended. The staging was multifunctional and minimal; the bus stop bench became Mark's mother's car, a German SS car, the school bus and the single bed in the final bunker scene. Trees were used as an integral part of the set design to represent the Australian bush and the German woods.

The use of lighting was powerful, with strobe lighting flashes to create the fall of Berlin, and these flashes lit up the trees and brought them alive. Red lighting was used to represent the swastika as well as blood on the land, whereas more cool blue tones were used to represent the wet Australian countryside. Students were in awe of the way the director used these tools to create a highly engaging and thought-provoking piece of drama.

This excursion has been introduced so that students can experience the world of drama within our local community. Many students said they felt this is an opportunity that all of their peers would enjoy and should consider taking up in 2020.

*For The Greater Good,*

Mrs Anya Meek

Leader of Learning - English







## **XAVIER IN THEATRE - 'GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN'**

In July, students and teachers from schools across the diocese participated in a professional production of the play "Forgotten" by Cate Whittaker. The show was produced by the performing arm of the Catholic Education Office- CAPTIVATE and it ran for several performances at the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta.

Amongst the large cast was Mia Bryant from Xavier who performed as part of a highly skilled and dedicated cast. Mia worked for many weeks in rehearsal and the finished product was a complex and highly engaging performance.

The play is about the treatment of female convicts and a resulting uprising in 1827. Students played most of the major characters and didn't shy away from showing the real violence that these poor women experienced. It was wonderful to see so many students from our diocese handle a piece that was confronting and dealt with such important issues. I was especially impressed by the way they handled the variety of strong convict dialects and character types.

Mia stood out in the cast and I am sure she gained a great deal by her experience with so many other students from so many schools. I look forward to her next major theatrical work.

### *For The Greater Good.*

Mr Peter Hazell

Leader of Learning - Creative & Performing Arts





## SUCCESS WITHIN OUR SCIENCE LEARNING SPACES

It has certainly been a productive and exciting Term 3 with lots happening in Science. Our senior students have been experimenting with innovative technologies to enhance the accuracy of their data collection.

The new Stage 6 Science courses for Biology, Chemistry, Investigating Science and Physics places great emphasis on processing and analysing data.

Our efforts to become familiar with these technologies are helping our students exercise these essential science skills.

The data loggers available will be used in student-designed depth studies and the equipment available range from simply testing temperature to analysing the motion of a moving object.

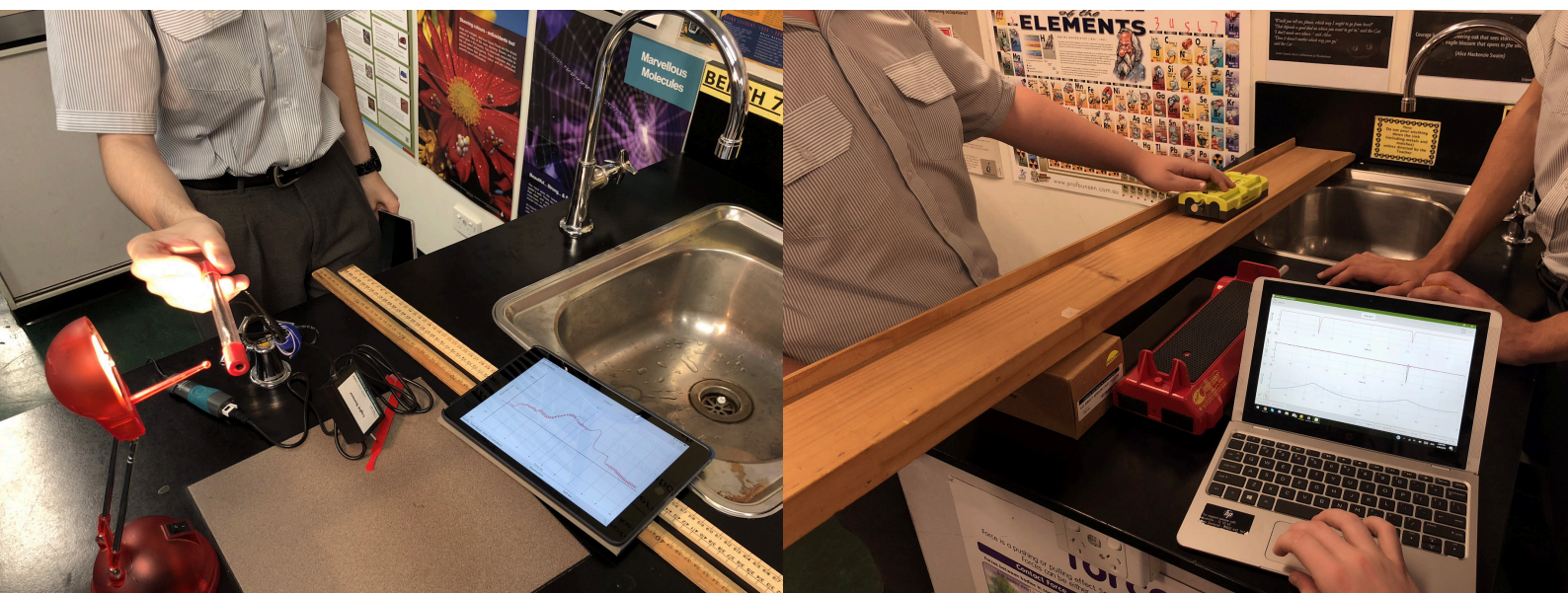
All data is sent wirelessly to our student's learning device where they can analyse and extrapolate meaning from their results.

Data loggers and sensors are helping our students meet the demands of the Year 12 Science HSC.

*For The Greater Good.*

Mr Glenn Halpin

Leader of Learning - Science



## LEGACY JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Over the course of Term 3, Chloe Brennan in Year 10 has participated in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition with great success.

Since its inception in 1995, the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award has provided an opportunity for NSW junior secondary students to improve their confidence and to develop their speech-writing and public speaking skills.

The competition requires students to present both a prepared speech of 5 minutes on any subject the contestant chooses and an impromptu speech of 2 minutes.

The impromptu speech is on a subject chosen by the adjudicator and contestants receive just 5 minutes of preparation time to write their impromptu speech.

Chloe was successful in winning both her Local and Regional Finals gaining entry into the State-Semi-finals which will be held on Friday 13th October at NSW Parliament House. Here, Chloe was one of 16 participants who competed to advance to the State Finals.

On the day, Chloe spoke passionately, confidently and with pride, representing the College with a maturity, grace and dignity well beyond her years.

Unfortunately, the competition on the day was very tough and Chloe was not successful in advancing to the next round of the competition. Her efforts, preparation, dedication and commitment as an ambassador for both public speaking and the College are to be commended.

We are extremely proud of Chloe's advocacy and cannot wait to see what she will use her passionate voice and ideas for next!

*For The Greater Good.*

Ms Jessica Hanlon

English Teacher





Our Learning | Your Future



## YEAR 12, 2020 'OUR LEARNING | YOUR FUTURE' CONFERENCE

Recently, several Year 11 students have been working with Western Sydney University. As a result of this fruitful collaboration, the Year 12, 2020 'Our Learning | Your Future' Conference has been created for your son/daughter to deconstruct:

- The importance of mental health
- Education beyond Xavier College
- The challenges of social media

The Year 12 'Our Learning | Your Future' Conference will occur on the 25th of October, 2019. This learning activity will be considered a typical school day for your son/daughter. The College will provide recess and lunch, and your son/daughter is required to wear their Summer Uniform. The Conference will include the following sessions:

### Session 1: National mental health advocate and motivational speaker

Luke S Kennedy will be addressing Year 12 about the importance of breaking the stigma around mental health. Luke will be emphasising that mental health is greater than other people's opinion. Luke will also be selling his book on the day for \$20. To find out more about Luke, please visit <https://www.lukeskenedy.com/>.

### Session 2: Tertiary Market Stalls

National Universities, TAFE and The Australian Defence Force will be present at the Xavier College Tertiary Market Stall Session. These stalls will allow students to ask questions and explore education beyond the College.

### Session 3: The Culture Project

The Culture Project is a movement of young people who set out to create a culture where every person is loved. The Culture Project will be presenting a workshop to assist your son/daughter with 'Disconnecting to Reconnect' when it comes to their use of social media. Through stories, activities and small-group work, The Culture Project will uncover what your son/daughter is looking for in their use of social media and how they can become a generation of real and powerful connection. To find out more about The Culture Project, please visit <https://thecultureproject.org/>.

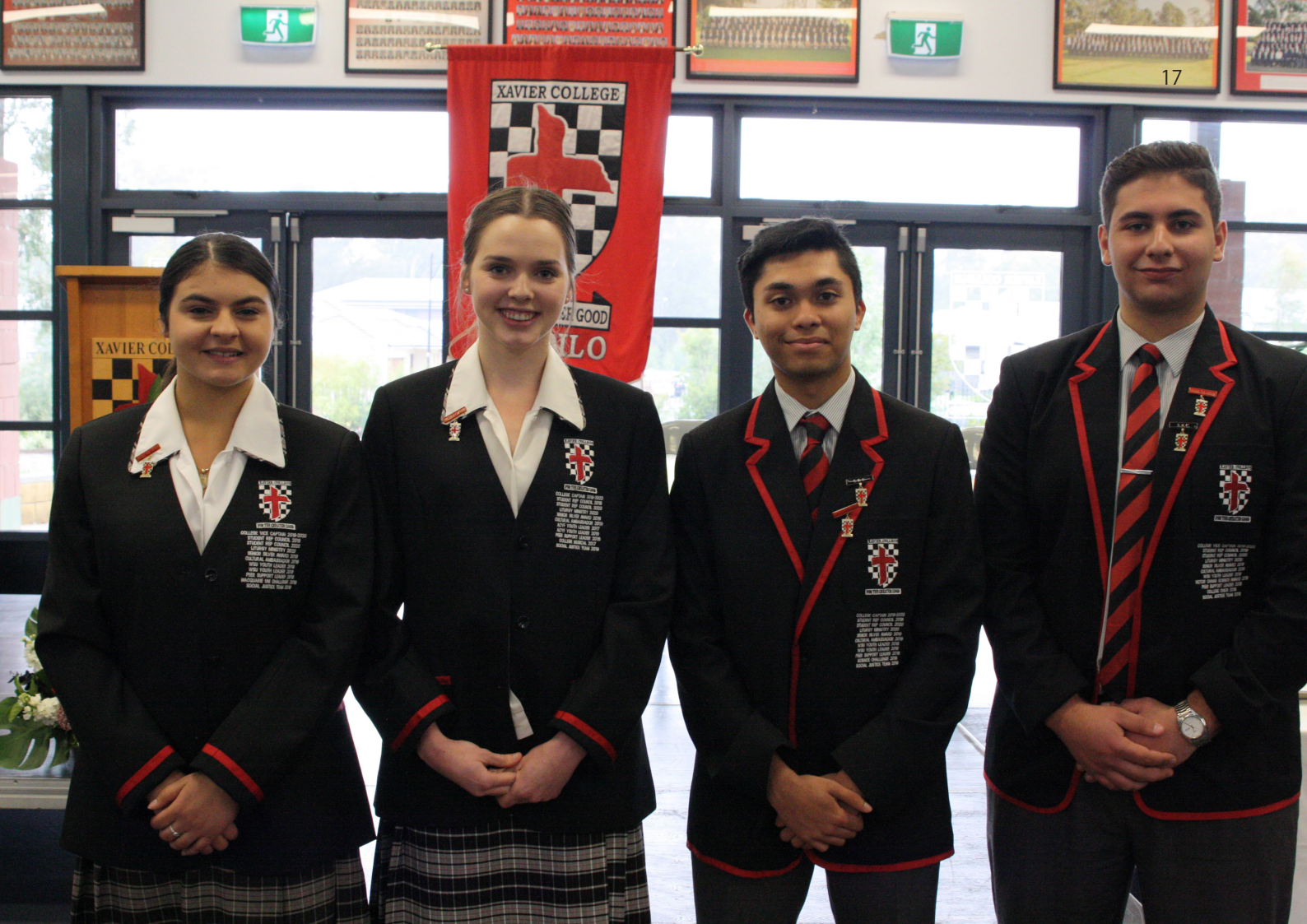
The College looks forward to facilitating the 'Our Learning | Your Future' Conference. This Conference is great learning opportunity for your son/daughter and a time to develop their resilience as they move into their final HSC year. If you have any inquiries, please contact the College office on 02 4777 0900.

*For The Greater Good.*

Ms Bridget Mazzella

Inquiry Learning Leader







## ALUMNI SUCCESS

Congratulations to our 2018 College Captain, Joshua West on being awarded The University of Technology Sydney Garth Barnett Scholarship.

This scholarship aims to support learners who have a passion for architecture. Our College is proud of Joshua and it is clear that he still strives to achieve the College motto, 'For The Greater Good'.

Our College welcomes updates from all our alumni. We encourage all members of the community to update the College office with the wonderful achievements of our alumni.



## PARENT AND GUARDIAN REMINDERS

School resumes Tuesday the 15th of October in full Summer Uniform.

Thank you to all families that have been able to have their school fee account paid in full by the due date.

Those families that are on a formal payment arrangement with the college need to be reminded that the arrangement needs to be kept up to date ( any missed payments need to have a catch up payment to bring it up to date within a month)

Any families who think they are in financial hardship are to contact Steve Hackett (Fees Officer) on 02 4777 0900 if you need to discuss your school fee account as soon as possible.

## XAVIER COLLEGE LLANDILO

NINTH AVE

LLANDILO, NSW 2747

<http://www.xavierllandilo.catholic.edu.au/home>



[www.facebook.com/xavierllandilo](http://www.facebook.com/xavierllandilo)







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## **COLLEGE UNIFORM POLICY.**

Our College has a strict and conservative uniform policy. This is put in place to maintain a higher standard of personal grooming and communal identity. Please ensure you take some time to remind your son/ daughter of the College uniform guidelines.

### **UNIFORM**

#### **UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS**

It is clearly understood by parents and students that the correct College uniform is to be worn coming to, and going from the College. The Xavier uniform requirements are available from the College Uniform Shop.

**The Uniform shop is open at the College every Tuesday from 8.00am—12noon and every Thursday from 1.00pm till 4.00pm.**

Uniform is important for a number of reasons:

- It is a symbol of the College and a public declaration of its values, standards and beliefs
- It creates a sense of collective and individual pride in students and their identification with the College
- It is a symbol of equality among students
- It demonstrates mutual respect.

#### **GENERAL UNIFORM**

- The College blazer is worn to school in Terms 2 and 3, into Period 1, and from school.
- The uniform is to be worn in a neat and tidy manner at all times.
- In winter terms students may wear the College scarf or a plain black scarf; however, scarves will not be permitted in practical or workshop situations.
- The only acceptable hat is the College cap.
- No other garments are to be worn with the uniform. This includes coloured undergarments or accessories.
- Sunglasses are permitted during recess and lunchtime but should never be worn in class or other indoor situations. Sunglasses are also appropriate at the outdoor sporting events where extended sun exposure may be an issue.
- The College uniform is not to be mixed and matched with the sports uniform.
- Students are required to abide by all regulations as they exist from time to time.

#### **BAGS**

Students are only permitted to use the designated college backpack. If they are unable to fit extra equipment such as sporting gear or clothing into their college backpacks, students may bring a school sports bag. Both bags are available from the College Uniform Shop and only these College bags are to be used for all students.

#### **HAIR**

Hair is to be kept tidy and secured back off the face. Simple hair accessories in school colours may be worn. Extremes of fashion are not acceptable. Hair must be of consistent natural hair colours. Layers or undercuts must have only minimal variation in length and the College reserves the right to have a student modify their hair if it does not meet the College standards and expectations. In practical classrooms WHS laws require that hair be covered or tied back at all times.

#### **MAKEUP**

Makeup is **not** to be worn to school by junior girls. Makeup may be worn by senior students if applied in a light and natural manner. Girls will be asked to remove makeup immediately. Only clear or French tip nail polish will be permitted. Nails must be kept to a natural length and shape (not pointed).



## SHOES

Shoes must be black, polished, hard leather, closed school shoes. Heels are to be no more than 2.5cm. Students are not permitted to wear soft leather casual, sports or skater shoes.

These shoes **ARE** permitted.



These shoes are **NOT** permitted.



### DRESS CODE FOR GIRLS

- The blazer is to be worn to and from school in Terms 2 and 3 and for extra warmth, the girls are to wear the red Xavier jumper, under the blazer.
- The girls must wear the kilt below the knee. Kilts should not be rolled at the waist and students will be asked to adjust the hem if necessary to ensure that the kilt is maintained at a sensible and appropriate length.
- Girls are required to wear white socks in summer which are visible above the shoes. Black stockings are to be worn with the girl's kilt in winter terms.
- Girls may wear simple hair accessories in school colours of black or red only.

#### ***Acceptable skirt Length***



#### ***Unacceptable skirt length***



### DRESS CODE FOR BOYS

- The blazer is to be worn to and from school in Terms 2 and 3 and for extra warmth, the boys are to wear the black Xavier jumper, under the blazer.
- Senior boys (Years 10-12) are expected to wear the Xavier Senior Shirt in summer and winter. This shirt is to be tucked in at all times.
- Junior Boys (Years 7-9) are expected to wear the Xavier junior shirt in summer. (This shirt is short sleeved and is an out shirt which does not need to be tucked in). In Winter the Junior shirt is worn. (This shirt is a white long sleeved shirt which needs to be tucked in and the sleeves to remain secured and unrolled).

Boys wear College grey trousers in both winter and summer. Boys have the option of wearing the College grey shorts in summer. (Terms 1 and 4 ONLY)

Senior boys must wear a plain black belt all year. Junior boys are required to wear a plain black belt in Terms 2 and 3 when they wear the junior tie and their shirt is tucked in– no fashion buckles are permitted on the belt.

Boys are required to wear grey school socks which are visible above the shoes.

Boys are required to be clean shaven.

In Terms 2 and 3 boys wear the College tie.



## SPORTS UNIFORM

- Sport uniform is only to be worn during PDHPE practical lessons, on allocated sport days, or at sport carnivals.
- The official school sport uniform, consisting of the Xavier College sport shorts, Xavier College tracksuit, red Xavier polo shirt and black Xavier cap, black/white socks (with a small logo) visible above the shoes, are the only sporting attire permitted and should not be mixed with the school uniform or any other sport attire. Students can choose to wear the tracksuit jacket and/or tracksuit pants depending on the weather.
- The red or black school jumpers can only be worn as an additional layer of warmth underneath the tracksuit jacket on sports days.
- Students are not permitted to wear any other sport attire.
- If for some reason students are unable to wear their full Xavier College sport uniform on sport days then they are required to wear their full school uniform to school, bring an explanatory note from parents and a change of sporting attire that they will change into before and after sport.
- Students will **NOT** be permitted to represent the college in a sporting activity if they are not in their full sport uniform.
- Students must wear appropriate footwear for sport, PDHPE and any other physical activity. The footwear is to be running shoes or cross trainers. For Workplace Health and Safety standards, Rabens (laced or unlaced), cloth casual shoes, Vans, canvas gym boots or Converse boots are not permitted. These types of footwear offer no support for the feet and can result in injury that would have been unlikely with correct joggers or trainers.
- Year 12 may wear their optional Year 12 jacket on Thursdays. In Terms 2 and 3, it can only be worn underneath the blazer to and from school on other days.

## JEWELLERY

### Piercing

- Ear: One stud or standard sleeper (plain silver or gold only) may be worn in each ear **for BOTH male and female students.**
- Other piercings: No visible body piercings are to be evident. **Tongue rings/studs/spacers are strictly prohibited.**
- Keeping a piercing open will not be accepted as an excuse. **This means that 'clear' studs are NOT to be worn as they are visible.**
- No band aids are to be used to cover piercings.

### Sleeper (plain silver or gold only)

(not bigger than the circumference of this picture)



(1 cm)

### Stud:

(not bigger than the circumference of this picture)



(0.5 cm)

### **OTHER JEWELRY**

- Simple/discreet gold or silver chain around the neck with an appropriate religious symbol may be worn.
- Chains should not be visible in winter.
- One plain ring, wristwatch and gold or silver bracelet may be worn.

### **REMOVAL OF JEWELRY**

For safety reasons, all jewelry should be removed for sport or practical subjects.

### **BODY ART (TATTOOS)**

No body art to be visible.

Xavier College reserves the right to enforce these uniform guidelines and will make every effort to do so fairly and consistently. **Non-compliance with uniform rules will incur serious consequences.**