



# COMPANY

NEWSLETTER OF LOYOLA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Vol.8 Issue No.1 – March 2011

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The school has settled into the busy routine of the new school year. Since the commencement of the term Loyola has been involved in a number of major events. These include: The Principal's Assembly, the Diocesan School Mass, four Year 11 Information nights and a reflection day for new students.

The school year commenced with 497 students enrolled at Loyola, consisting of 220 Year 12 and 276 Year 11 students. This year 57 students have come to Loyola from schools other than St Clare's and St Agnes. Currently, 43 students are enrolled in the new Trade Training Centre and are undertaking courses in Electro-technology, Hospitality and Hairdressing.

The range of students enrolled this year is again interesting. Our youngest student is 15 and 6 months and this year our oldest is 23. A significant number of 18 and 19 year olds have this year enrolled in Year 11, due in part to the fact that Loyola is the only stand alone Catholic Senior High School in the Diocese of Parramatta. Students appear to be attracted to the more "adult" learning environment of a senior school.

### Class of 2010 - HSC Results and University offers

Loyola's 2010 HSC results were very encouraging. Highlights include: 22 Band 6 and 169 Band 5 results. Two students gained entry in university courses with ATAR "cut-offs" of 98.15 and another into a course with an ATAR cut off of 95! This year 83 first round university offers were made to Loyola students, up from the 70 in 2009 and 55 in 2008.

Also this year, 10 courses were above the state average while learning gains across the school were again positive.

Students undertaking Vocational Education courses in 2010 have also produced outstanding results. As a result of their studies last year, three students have been nominated for national and local vocational education awards. Also last year 58 students successfully completed Cert II and III courses as part of their HSC at Loyola. These were achieved in courses as diverse as Hospitality, Retail, IT, Business Services and Entertainment.

All eight Year 12 students participating in Australian Catholic University – Loyola Links Program were offered first round university places for this year or have gained entry into other post-school courses they wished to pursue.

### The Principal's Assembly

Students and invited guest came together on Wednesday February 23rd for the annual Loyola Principal's Assembly. At the Assembly over 60 students were acknowledged for their achievements in last year's HSC examinations. The highlight of this year's assembly was the presentation of the 2010 HSC Dux award to **Kenneth Fernandez**. Kenneth gained Band 6 results in Economics, Mathematics, Mathematics Extension 1 and Extension 2 and Studies of Religion. This year Kenneth will study a Bachelor of Commerce, B Science (Advanced Mathematics) degree at the UNSW. Kenneth will be joined in the same course by **Fadi Antown** who gained Band 6 results in Mathematics, Mathematics Extension 1 and Extension 2. As stated above the ATAR cut-off for this course was 98.15.

## Staff Appointments for 2011

The following new staff have come to Loyola this year: **Miss Maria Dizon** (Loyola class of 2000) joins the Mathematics Department taking Mrs Kristine Dent's classes while she enjoys some well earned long service leave. **Mrs Rosemary McDonagh** comes to us from an extensive career in HR and Hospitality and will be teaching Food Technology and Hospitality, **Mr Justin Gale** will teach Multimedia in the TACA department and Mathematics, **Mr Boyd Finn**, formerly at McCarthy College Emu Plains joins the English Faculty and **Mr Michael Thai** formerly at St Clare's Catholic High School teaches both Science and Mathematics this year.

Two part-time members of staff have also commenced this year at Loyola. **Mrs Magda Mizzi** will job share with Mrs Ann Lee within the English and RE Faculties, while **Mr Clinton Boreham** joins the Loyola Trade Training Centre teaching Religious Education.

Welcome back to **Mrs Tracie Huet** (HSIE) who returns to Loyola this year after taking leave.

A number of staff from St Clare's and St Agnes are also teaching classes at Loyola:- **Mrs Barbara Kelly (St Agnes)** and **Mrs Justine Zarebski** (St Agnes) are teaching English classes. **Mr Richard Szczygiel** (St Agnes) and **Mr Adrian Hicks** (St Clare's) are teaching in the Religious Education Faculty.

Also joining the staff for this year is **Br. Tinh SJ** who will assist **Fr. Iain Radvan SJ** (Chaplain) in the role of Assistant Chaplain.

### Loyola Trade Training Centre Opens

The Loyola Trade Training Centre commenced operation at the beginning of term with 43 young people enrolled as students in three trade areas: Hospitality, Hairdressing and Electro-technology. The Trade Centre combines HSC study with a trade qualification and at the end of two years at Loyola, students graduate with a Certificate of Attainment in their trade area and a completed HSC credential.

The students undertake a busy program in the Trade Centre, attending HSC classes till 4.00pm Mondays - Wednesday, trade training all day Thursday and on Friday the students undertake additional HSC classes or work in industry as school based apprentices.

Next year the centre will offer another four trades with enrolment expected to jump by another 90 students.

## Saturday Morning Tutorial Program

The Saturday Morning Tutorial Program continues to grow in popularity with students wanting support with homework, assessment tasks and examination preparation. The Saturday morning program is offered from 8.30am - 11.00am each Saturday. Students are provided with breakfast and the tutorials are conducted free of charge. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those staff members who give freely of their time on Saturday mornings. A special thanks is extended to the coordinators of the Saturday morning program, Dr John Hey (Science and Mathematics) and Mr Peter Fleming (Drama, English and Religious Education).

### Ash Wednesday and the onset of Lent

Lent is a time of restraint and reflection - for taking stock of our lives and the nature of our relationships with God. It is a period of preparation for Easter and reminds us of the time that Jesus spent in the desert, resisting temptation and contemplating his ministry.

The Loyola community commemorated the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday with a distribution of the Ashes ceremony conducted by Loyola's Chaplain Fr. Iain Radvan SJ

A reminder that Mass is celebrated in the Chapel of the Martyrs at Loyola during lunchtime each Tuesday and before school on Thursdays. **During Lent parents and friends are most welcome to come to Loyola to join staff and students for Mass.**

### Thank you

Finally, a sincere thank you to those parents, staff and students who during my illness and bouts of surgery over the past five months have sent messages of support and best wishes - they have been very much appreciated. I am on the mend and looking forward to making a full recovery.



Mr Robert Laidler  
Principal



## WHO IS PEDRO ARRUPE?

Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. Born in 1907 in Spain. Arrupe was ordained as a Jesuit priest in 1936 and was appointed Jesuit superior and the master of novices in Japan in 1942. He was living in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb fell in 1945. He used his medical skills to assist the wounded and the dying; transforming the novitiate into a makeshift hospital for over 200 of the critically injured. He eventually was appointed the provincial superior of the Jesuits in the Japanese province.



In 1965 the Jesuits elected Fr. Arrupe as the superior general of the Society of Jesus. In his address to Jesuit Alumni in, 1973 Fr. Arrupe called upon Jesuit schools to educate men and women to serve others, an ideal that now guides Jesuit schools across the world and is at the heart of Loyola Senior High School.

The following is a much-loved prayer written by Pedro Arrupe that expresses his aspirations, but also describes the actual story of his life:

**Grant me, O Lord, to see everything now with new eyes, to discern and test the spirits that help me read the signs of the times, to relish the things that are yours and communicate them to others. Give me the clarity of understanding that you gave Ignatius.**

This prayer can be found on the walls of each Tutor Group that belongs to Arrupe House and was used as the opening prayer at our very first House Meeting.

At the end of Term 4 last year we held Year 12 elections for SRC and Houses. **Nicole Hanna**, a Year 11 House Leader throughout 2010 was appointed as one of the presidents of the SRC. Both **Susan Pale** [TG 4] and **Yousif Orah** [TG5] have been elected as Year 12 House Leaders for Arrupe in 2011. We will be nominating House Leaders for Year 11 later in the term to assist with House Assemblies, House Carnivals, liaising with the SRC and fundraising initiatives. Two students will be selected from Year 11. Our new House

Leaders will be announced in the next edition of *Company*.

On Wednesday evening 16<sup>th</sup> February Arrupe House hosted the first of the Information Evenings for Year 11 students and parents. Our new format gave Tutors the chance to meet parents in an informal setting over supper and then have the opportunity to discuss the Tutor system in small groups, before moving to the PAC to hear further details about the school and assessment at Loyola. Overall, the evening was a great success.

**Megan Rodriguez - Arrupe House Coordinator**

## WHO IS PETER FABER?



Peter Faber was born on April 13, 1506, in the village of Villaret, Savoy in France. His father was a shepherd and the young Faber spent his early childhood tending his father's flocks. Even as a boy he became well known for his extraordinary memory and his compassion.

His parents could not afford to send him to school until he was in his early teens, so when he finally got the opportunity he placed great value on his education and quickly caught up to the level of his peers. Upon finishing school he earned a scholarship at the University of Paris where he would meet Ignatius of Loyola.

At the same time he started to realise that he was being called to religious life. Faber was ordained to the priesthood in 1543. He would later join the Ignatius and Francis Xavier as the founding members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

Faber was one of Ignatius' most dedicated and trusted companions. He excelled in preaching and teaching, and had a particular flair for giving the Spiritual Exercises. He amazed everyone with his knowledge in the defense of the catholic faith and was one of the leading theologians of his day. Owing to his qualities, he was quickly sent to distant towns to preach and help reform the church, and help contain the protestant onslaught.

He died on August 1, 1546, after a long illness which was caused by exhaustion from years of hard work establishing Jesuit parishes throughout Europe.



***Show, O Lord, Your ways to me,  
and teach me Your paths.  
Direct me in Your truth, and teach me;  
for You are God my Saviour.***

This psalm was loved by Peter Faber and can be found on the walls of each Tutor Group that belongs to Faber House.

At the end of Term 4 last year we held Year 12 elections for SRC and Houses. Both **Mary Abi Chemouni** [TG 9] and **Nikita Mason** [TG10] were elected to the SRC, leaving their positions as House Leaders vacant. I am proud to announce that **Shelby Vassallo** [TG12] and **Daniel Sagurit** [TG 12] have been elected as House Leaders for Faber in 2011. We will be nominating House Leaders for Year 11 later in the term to assist with House Assemblies, House Carnivals, liaising with the SRC and fundraising initiatives. Two students will be selected from Year 11. Our new House Leaders will be announced in the next edition of *Company*.

**Anthony Pope - Faber House Coordinator**

### MCCORMACK HOUSE

McCormack House is the newest House at Loyola. McCormack House includes all the Trade Training Centre students in three Tutor classes.

Sr Irene McCormack grew up on a wheat and sheep farm in Western Australia. She was educated by the Sisters of St. Joseph, founded by our first Australian saint, Mary MacKillop.

In 1957, Irene was at the young age of 15. This is when she decided that she would join the Sisters of St Joseph.

Sr Irene became a teacher and taught around many schools in Australia. She constantly challenged the Bishops to provide more resources for country kids as a matter of justice.

After 30 years of teaching Irene made a decision to serve the poor and was sent by her Order to live in Huasasuasi – a poor mountain village in Peru.

Living in the impoverished village did have its risks. Terrorist groups operated in the Peruvian Andes and were a daily reality.

Irene always chose to stay with her people despite the threat which ultimately cost her, her life.

Sr Irene died on May 21, 1991. A terrorist group known as the 'Shining Path' invaded the village and ordered Irene out into the village square along with 4 other local men.

She was shot in the head – her crime was providing Caritas foodstuffs to the poor.



**Sr. Irene McCormack**

Our Tutor teachers, Mrs Carbonari, Mrs Boreham, and Mr Summers have been using Sr Irene's Morning Offering to start the day. This prayer is found at Sr Irene's memorial at the Josephite's South Perth Convent. It reads;

*God, my Father, You love me and forgive me so today I accept all as gift – and ask to find you, Lord the Giver in the gift.*

*I choose to face life without fear – and to live wholeheartedly in each present moment.*

*May my heart sing today a song of grateful thanks and praise. I am God's work of art! I am precious in his sight!*

McCormack students have started the year very well and I am very happy with the effort and enthusiasm shown in their classes. We have gathered nominations for Year 11 House Leaders and will be electing two leaders very shortly. These will be announced in the next issue of *Company*.

**Mrs Gabriela Osterlund - McCormack House Coordinator**

## WARD HOUSE



This year we have 150 students in Years 11 and 12 in Ward House. The beginning of the year has been pleasing with the Year 12 students taking an active role in welcoming the new Year 11 students. We are also proud of those students in Ward House who have taken on the roles of leadership and responsibility for this year and I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating them and wishing them well in their work this year.

The Year 12 Ward House leaders are **Paulo Adorable and Tonderai Bondezi**. The Ward House SRC members are: **Roxanne Byrne, Henry Escandor, Aaron Hendricks, Cathy Lavea, Nicholas Toohill, Nicholas Ward**.

### Why was Mary Ward so special?

She began a new way of life for women who were religious. Back in her day it was believed that a religious woman could **only live** an enclosed way of life such as a nun, or decide to marry and raise children to be good followers of Christ.

### There was no acceptance that she could lead an active life helping others.

Mary Ward, however, believed that God was calling her to set up an order which was a female equivalent of the Jesuits. She believed that women could educate others, explain the faith and support others in time of crises. She established schools for girls across Europe and she believed that women had an equal intelligence to men and that it could be used for the good of mankind.

Mary Ward was well known for her beliefs in three main concepts :

**FREEDOM                      JUSTICE                      SINCERITY**

It is with sadness that we remember how much she suffered for her beliefs and that during her lifetime the Church did not believe in her and actually made her disband her group of followers.

However, today in the modern world she is revered for her courage and her work and we, at Loyola, believe that these values are ones which are to be cherished and promoted among all people.

**Lyn Wright - Ward House Co-ordinator**

## FROM YOUR SPIRITUAL REPORTER

This reporter has returned this term from 'seeing God in all things' overseas during the last 4

months, and I return to seeking God back at home again, too.

I spent a lot of time on my own while I was travelling, but I never felt myself alone. I found that not having someone to talk to meant that I would either reach out to make contact with a local person or I would perceive better the presence of God with me.

There were numerous occasions when I was not sure what the right thing to do was, or what the right direction to take was, or whether things would turn out as I hoped, and I would only have God to lean on and God didn't let me down. When I did have human company during a walk or some other activity God would quietly take a back seat and wait for me to be alone again.

Coming home and back to work I miss that quiet presence of God. I feel like I have left a calm and peaceful lake where the wind of the Spirit can blow me this way and that, and have entered a 'white water' stretch of river where I am hanging on for dear life so as not to capsize! This is the ordinary everyday world that most of us live in all the time. How to find God in such a frenzy? This is my spiritual task now.

I have been made very welcome on my return by the staff and students here at Loyola. It is a pleasure to stand in a classroom and engage with the students again. I pray that during this year we may all allow God to make his presence known.

I should like to give warm-hearted thanks to Michael Ryan sj who provided welcome spiritual and pastoral care to staff and students at Loyola while juggling many other responsibilities in the Province.

**Fr Iain Radvan sj**

## CAR PARK CONCERNS

Over these first weeks of the year, staff, students and parents have all raised concerns about various issues relating to the school car park.

- Unfortunately, during this phase of building in the school, the student car park is unavailable to students. This area has had to be designated for the builders' use.
- The Rooty Hill RSL has kindly offered to accommodate students who drive, **as long as** they park near the maintenance shed facing Railway Street, NOT on the gym side of the RSL, near North Parade. Though this part of the car park is closer to school, it is needed throughout the day for gym patrons. We appreciate the offer made by the RSL and certainly do not wish to compromise the good relationship we have with them. Student drivers, take heed of this message.

- With a growing population, it is an ever growing challenge to drop off and collect your children. It is illegal to use the bus bay for those purposes and we acknowledge that North Parade is quite busy. If you choose to drop and/or collect your child within the school grounds **could you please be:**
- **CAREFUL....** it is a relatively narrow road to the top of the drive and essential that you follow the speed limits.
- **PATIENT....** it takes some time to drive to the top, stop and drop, then make you way back down the drive. Unfortunately, a small minority of drivers do not exercise adequate patience and are putting others in danger.
- **CONSIDERATE....** particularly when collecting in the afternoon. It is most and unfair and inconsiderate to park others in. None of us appreciate this being done to us so please do not do it to others.
- If you are able to arrange with your son or daughter to drop off and collect from another place within the vicinity of the school, that would certainly ease congestion and promote safety.
- Finally, the carpark is for the use of staff and parents who are on school business. You should not be parking in the spaces provided for any other reason.

**Mrs C Larkin – Assistant Principal**

### TRADE TRAINING CENTRE INFORMATION NIGHT

The McCormack House had its first information evening at Loyola recently proving not only to be a very informative evening but also a fantastic opportunity to meet and talk as we begin our journey together as students, parents and teachers. A genuine community atmosphere was felt whilst we mingled over a cuppa in the Ignatian Courtyard. The teachers were so pleased to hear so many of our parents saying that their children are coming home each day smiling and enjoying school, something which they have not seen for several years! The teachers were able to feedback many wonderful comments about the students' learning and the progress made already this year, the result of much effort, interest and enthusiasm. Tim Summers, our Industry Liaison Officer, presented information to parents about School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships (SBATs) and distributed his contact details to everyone as many of our students and parents have sought and found employers who are keen to sign our students up for SBATs.

Mrs Osterlund, McCormack House Coordinator, also proved very popular on the evening providing much positive feedback to parents and taking on board any follow up that the parents requested.

Mrs Osterlund presented information on the pastoral aspects at Loyola and also what is required of students within the Loyola Community. The evening also included information regarding the requirements of the Higher School Certificate mandated by the NSW Board of Studies and Loyola Senior High and of course outlined expectations of all of our students at Loyola. The evening concluded with a movie of photos which captured the students' experiences since orientation week, leaving a smile on all of our faces.

I would like to thank all of the teachers in McCormack House for making themselves available on the evening and for showing their genuine interest in the Trade Training Centre students. It was so fantastic to meet all of our families and I would like to thank all of our students and their families for making the choice to attend Loyola Trade Training Centre.

**Mrs Tammy Prestage  
Assistant Principal (Vocational Programs)**

### TRADE TRAINING BEGINS AT LOYOLA

With the commencement of Loyola Trade Training Centre the students have begun studying their Certificate III courses in Hospitality, Electrotechnology and Hairdressing. Mrs Carbonari is the teacher for our Hospitality (Commercial Cookery) students and they are all itching to get into the new multimillion dollar commercial kitchen. We are blessed to have two Registered Training Organisations attending Loyola every Thursday to deliver the other two trades. Our budding electricians are being taught their first unit by Mr Bob Rose from Electoskills, while our aspiring hairdressing have Mr Mark Hooshmand from Impact Training Institute as their trainer. All of our trade trainers are experts in their fields and exude passion and a love of their trade. Our two new hairdressing salons will be well utilised for training as will the new areas of the renovated Nicholas Owen Building at Loyola.

**Mrs Tammy Prestage  
Assistant Principal (Vocational Programs)**



**Mark Hooshmand  
with Shannon Bray and Zhane Marshall**



**Mrs Osterlund and McCormack House Students**



**Year 11 Information Night – Hospitality**

### **YEAR 11 INFORMATION EVENINGS 2011**

During February of this year we invited parents and students to attend one of the four Information Evenings held at our school. The decision to invite parents and students of Year 11 according to House groups was made to provide parents with an opportunity to meet personally with their son or daughter's tutor teacher. At Loyola, we believe that the role of the tutor teacher is very important as it is this staff member who has regular contact with the students each morning.

Each evening began with parents, students and staff mixing informally in the Ignatian Courtyard while being offered light refreshments, prepared and served, by our Hospitality students. Mrs Rosy McDonagh, our Hospitality teacher, was most helpful in coordinating this part of the evening and we sincerely thank her for her assistance on each of these nights. This was followed by an informal gathering with the tutor teacher to discuss daily life at Loyola and the role of Pastoral Care in the school.

Finally parents gathered at the Performing Arts Centre where they were addressed by Fr Iain Radvan, our School Chaplain, Mr Robert Laidler, the Principal, and the relevant House Co-ordinator. The final session of the evening was led by Mrs Larkin, Assistant Principal, in which Preliminary and HSC assessment procedures were explained.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and students who made time to attend this evening as we appreciate that all people have family and work commitments that need to be met. In recognition of this, we try to ensure that we limit the frequency and duration of such events. We do hope that all people who attended found this to be an informative evening.

**Co-ordinators of Arrupe, Faber and Ward House**

### **LOYOLA SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIPS**

Congratulations to **Nikolas Richards** and **Tahleaa Polley** for securing School Based Apprenticeships in their trade areas of Hospitality and Hairdressing. Nikolas is working at the Blue Cattle Dog Hotel in St Clair and heads into his apprenticeship with excitement and enthusiasm. Nikolas has already been working at The Blue Cattle Dog for the past two years and his boss couldn't be happier with his progress and the decision to start him as a School Based Apprentice.



**Nikolas Richards  
Hospitality Apprentice**

Tahleaa starts her apprenticeship at Blitz Hairdressing in Penrith. Tahleaa has also been working at Blitz for the past month and is passionate about her new role and her future in Hairdressing.



**Tahleaa Polley**  
**Hair Dressing Apprentice**

**Tim Summers - Industry Liaison Officer**

### POETS AT LOYOLA

Well known poet Peter Skrzynecki visited Loyola on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February to give a Presentation to students of Year 12 Standard and Advanced English; as well as to students of English as a Second Language. Mr Skrzynecki's volume of poetry *Immigrant Chronicle* is a set text for the HSC English topic 'Belonging'. *Immigrant Chronicle* resonates with many of our students, as it is concerned with the experience of fitting into a new world. Mr Skrzynecki's audio visual Presentation gave the students many accessible insights into his poetry.



**Peter Skrzynecki**



**Steven Herrick with class 12A21**

Blue Mountains writer Steven Herrick also visited Loyola to speak with Year 12 Advanced English students who are studying his verse novel *The Simple Gift*. Mr Herrick is an inspiring speaker who educated and entertained the students. His visit was co-funded by the Loyola Gifted and Talented Program.

**Ms Deborah Harris - English TLC**

### ENGLISH EXTENSION 2 DAY

Loyola Senior High School hosted a special day on the 17<sup>th</sup> February for students and teachers of English Extension 2. Loyola alumnus Dalya Oraha (Insignis 2008), Bethany Rowlands (2010) and Parramatta Marist College alumnus Yash Chandwani shared their experiences and offered advice to current candidates. Professional writer and speaker Anna Maria Dell'oso gave an inspirational presentation, offering simple and effective techniques for writing and editing to support the students in the successful completion of their Major Works. An experienced HSC marker was also on hand to give the students a realistic understanding of expectations for this high level of English.

This day was highly beneficial for Loyola students **Zoheb Ali, Maria Tzanellis** and **Leanne Lu** and their teacher Mrs Ann Lee; and for forty five students from various Western Sydney schools and their fifteen teachers. Loyola was delighted to welcome the top English students from St Agnes Catholic High School as guests for the day, with their teachers Ms Justine Zarebski and Ms Barbara Kelly.



**Zoheb Ali, Leanne Lu, Anna Maria Dell'oso, Maria Tzanellis and top English students from St Agnes Catholic High School**

Thanks are due to Mrs Virginia Arundell, Mr Anthony Pope, Ms Lidia Osolnik, Ms Lynette Hodgson and Ms Rebecca Read whose kind efforts enhanced the smooth running and success of the day; and to school executive members Mr Robert Laidler, Mrs Catherine Larkin and Mr Peter Brogan, whose support made the day possible.

Thanks are also due to Year 11 Extension English students Tania Andres, Rochelle Archibald, Stevana Laupola, Tina Matti, Varsha Narain, Christian Palmon, Sharni Prasad, Emma Read, Jade Taylor Scott, Merna Shaaya, Bruce Tagud and Angel Inez Tuapola who warmly welcomed the visitors to Loyola.

**Ms Deborah Harris - English TLC**

## SPORT NOTICES

Welcome to all new students and welcome back to Year 12 students. We are looking forward to an enjoyable and successful year ahead in sport both in and out of school. If any student participates in sport outside of school we would like to hear about it so please share your talents with us. Students are encouraged to participate in sport at Loyola.

### ***What does sport look like at Loyola?***

#### **Parramatta Diocesan Secondary Schools Sports Council (PDSSSC)**

The PDSSSC competition is played on Thursday afternoons during school term and is open to any student who wants to trial, is prepared to come along to training sessions and give up Thursday afternoons to play. If students are enrolled in VET Courses or have other classes on Thursday afternoons then they are not eligible to trial for PDSSSC. There will be plenty of opportunities for those students to participate in other sports during Gala Days or after school. We have had an overwhelming number of students express interest in Thursday and Gala Day sports for term 1. The trials for these teams were held on Thursday afternoon 10 February on the Francis Xavier Oval.

The first PDSSSC Competition began on Thursday 17 February. We have 3 girls' volleyball teams and a boys' basketball team. Unfortunately the girls' touch football team was forced to withdraw due to the limited number of senior girls teams entered. The matches are played in the local area at appropriate sporting venues as organized by the Coordinator of the Sports Council. Loyola students can either walk to the venue, drive their own vehicle if parental and school permission has been approved or be transported in the school mini buses. There is sometimes a small cost to cover the use of facilities or transport. Loyola was extremely competitive in this competition last year being Runners up in the Girls Volleyball and joint premiers in the boys' soccer. Unfortunately there were not enough senior teams entered in the girls' basketball so we were forced to withdraw. The teams will be introduced in the next newsletter

with regular updates on the team's performances. Any student or parent who is interested in finding out more about PDSSSC sport should log onto the website:

[www.secondarysportparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.secondarysportparra.catholic.edu.au).



**Boys' Basketball Trials**



**Girls' Volleyball Trials**

#### **Recreational Sport**

Often there are limited teams to oppose in the Senior competition which affects Loyola's participation in PDSSSC. If this occurs Loyola will be offering recreational sports or activities on Thursday afternoons. This may include sports and activities such as coaching clinics for various sports, golf, gymnasium, rock climbing, swimming. Further information will be provided in the daily student notices if activities have been organised.

#### **Jesuit Cup**

Loyola is fortunate to be able to participate in the annual Jesuit Cup Soccer and Basketball Competitions. These are interstate competitions which are considered a privilege to be involved in. Loyola's soccer team will travel to Melbourne in July and Adelaide for the basketball tournament in October. Both of these teams are in the process of being selected and will have many opportunities to compete in local competitions to assist in their Jesuit Cup preparation. The teams will be introduced in the coming weeks. Mr Craig Saad will be the coach for both teams and Miss Jessica

Watts will be the manager. Both staff members will assist in the preparation of these teams and travel to the tournaments with the boys. Fundraising events will take place during Terms 2 and 3 to lessen the costs to players. More information will be provided as the school year progresses.

### **Variety of Sports Offered**

Many and varied sports are offered in addition to the PDSSSC weekly competition. Students will have the opportunity to play in competitions including:

- Triathlon in the NSW All Schools Competition
- Indoor Futsal at the Penrith Basketball Stadium
- Table Tennis Championships at Homebush Olympic venue
- Swimming in the Parramatta Diocesan Competition at Homebush
- Athletics in the Parramatta Diocesan Competition at Blacktown
- Rugby League Competitions including Gala Days and after school competitions
- Bankstown Basketball Association Basketball Competition and Gala Days
- Girls Vigaro Competition run by the Ladies Vigaro Association
- Invitation to sporting trials outside of school for representative teams as they come up

Just to name a few!

All sporting activities are announced in the daily bulletin that students receive through tutor groups. There is also a sport meeting on each Day 7, that's every second Tuesday (Week 2) that students can attend if they have any forms to return or information they require about a particular sport. The information can also be found on the school sports noticeboard which is the last window in the staff common room (adjacent to the assembly courtyard).

### **SRC Representatives to the Portfolio of Sport**

SRC representatives **Nicholas Ward** and **Nicholas Toohill** have been elected to the portfolio of sport. This means that they will be supporting the PDHPE Department and all other teachers involved in sport to provide information and feedback to students on sporting teams and planning.

### **Mrs Sue Hastings - PDHPE/Sport Co-ordinator**

### **PDSSSC Tennis Singles Competition**

Congratulations to the following students who represented Loyola in the PDSSSC Tennis Singles Tournament at the Penrith Courts on Tuesday 15 February. All three students were competitive on the day and narrowly missed finals selection. The students who competed: **Tarek Rahman, Hrvoje Jakovljevic and Nicholas Ward.**

### **PDSSSC Golf**

Nicholas Ward is competing in the golf championships on 28 February at Penrith Golf Course. We wish Nicholas every success and look forward to hearing of his experience.

### **NSW Secondary Schools Challenge Cup Table Tennis**

This is a new tournament being offered to students this year. We have three teams of boys: Tarek Rahman, Hrvoje Jakovljevic, Brent Gutierrez, Earl Vicente, Chris Chalita and Andy Isho competing on Monday 28 February and 1 girls team: Terina Vaifale and Peatalita Lamositele competing on Friday 4 February. Mr Thai will be coaching these teams and assisting the students during the event. The tournament is being held in the Homebush Olympic Park complex. We look forward to hearing about their experience.

### **NSW ALL Schools Triathlon**

Nicholas Ward will be competing in the Individual Triathlon on Tuesday 8 March and 3 teams of students will compete in the teams event on Wednesday 9 March. Each team has three competitors consisting of a swimmer, a cyclist and a runner. The individual event requires Nicholas to swim 750m in open water, cycle 20kms around a 5km track and run 5kms. The teams events is a 400m swim, 15km cycle and a 4km run. This event has always been an enjoyable event for students and enables each student to excel in their chosen area. The teams are: Sara Barendregt, Rachel Harpley, Erin Miller, Alexandra Lee, Alejandro Duarte, Nicholas Ward, Daniel Wilson, Michelle Aquilina and Hayley Sherriff. Good luck to these students.

### **Chifley Sports Awards - Presentations**

**Chloe LaGarde** (2010) and **Jayden Ryan** (current HSC student) were honoured for their excellence in their chosen sports of gymnastics and ice hockey late last year. They were nominated and consequently were awarded with a Chifley Sports Award at a ceremony held at the new Cricket NSW venue at the Blacktown Olympic Park complex. These awards were presented by Ed Husic the local member.



**Jayden Ryan being presented with his award**



**Chloe LaGarde being presented with her award**

### **Australian Athletics Tour**

On the weekend of 19 and 20 of February I competed in the Australian Athletics held in Tasmania. This tour included a camp for 4 girls chosen for the Australian team to compete in the 4 x 100m relay event. The camp consisted of training and competing at the Briggs Track Classic which is an invitational athletics meet. My relay team came first out of all the girls teams in the age group. After the event and reflective of how each of us performed, the coaches will select 4 girls to compete in the 4 x 100m relay in the Sydney Track Classic. I will also be competing in the National Championships next week.

### **Dejanee Defoe**

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL REPORT**

Over the past number of weeks since the beginning of 2011, your SRC have been hard at work doing projects that matter to you. In this issue of *Company* we are pleased to update you with our progress on our petition for a pedestrian crossing across North Parade, the Year 12 bomber jacket, PDSSC sport and gala days, the Commencement Mass, Dei Gratia, the Holy Family Primary School remedial reading program, Mufti Day, and Ash Wednesday Liturgy. It has certainly been a big start to the year!

### ***Petition for a Pedestrian Crossing on North Parade***

The number of students who cross the road outside school to the bus stop on the railway side of North Parade has increased, and with this, we felt the need for a Pedestrian Crossing to make it safer. In doing so, we have petitioned to Blacktown City Council for a crossing adjacent to the RSL club and bus stop. The support for this has been outstanding from the student body and every effort is being conducted to get it done. Over the coming weeks we will be eagerly awaiting a reply.

### ***Bomber Jackets for the Class of 2011***

After much discussion with many members of the school community, we now have a final design for the jackets. Headed up by **Aaron Hendricks**, the SRC have endeavoured to make it happen and are pleased to announce that letters regarding the matter including sizing, prices, etc will be distributed during the Year 12 Half Yearly Examination block to ensure the class of 2011 will have a memento of their time at Loyola.

The cost of the jacket is \$89.00. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind students that they need to ensure all notes and money are returned no later than April 1. No further orders will be accepted after this date.

### ***Sport Report***

Sport has played a major role in Loyola so far this year, with students competing in Touch Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Golf, Triathlon, Table Tennis and Swimming we hope to achieve

good results. This would not happen without the continued work of Mrs Hastings, Mr Saad, Mrs Holland, Miss Watts, other members of the PDHPE faculty and teaching staff. We extend our thanks to all of our teachers.

### ***Opening of School Year Mass***

The Opening Mass for the commencement of the 2011 school year was a great success. On Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, the school community gathered to officially start the new academic year. The focus of this year's commencement mass was building community. Father Iain sj led us through a reflection on the communities that Jesus and Saint Ignatius formed, and on the type of community that we are, and hope to become.

There were many involved in the process and the mass ran smoothly. We welcome the new students from Year 11 and new staff. This year we also welcome the foundation class of McCormack House, and we wish them every success in their studies throughout the next two years. Special thanks also to **Father Iain Radvan sj and Brother Tinh Ngoc Dinh sj, Mrs Arundell, Mrs Picart-Fick, Mr Pope, Mary Abi Chemouni and Jethro Perez** for their efforts in organising such an important event.

### ***The Dei Gratia Group***

Students from the Student Representative Council have selected students within the school to be part of a group called the Dei Gratia. The Dei Gratia group was formed so students can show their talents by being part of various school commitments such as being part of the school choir or making art projects for school functions such as school masses. Dei Gratia and the SRC will also work hand-in-hand to organise various school functions so events can go according to plan: this includes setting up for different school events such as the school plays or promoting numerous school gatherings. Students from Dei Gratia will be required to attend regular meetings so the SRC and Dei Gratia can work together to build up on ideas and events.

### ***Remedial Reading at Holy Family***

Students from the SRC have volunteered to assist Holy Family Primary School by travelling to the school every Thursday afternoon and help students with their reading skills and also assist teachers by helping them do various tasks. The remedial reading will commence on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March and will continue for the rest of the year. If any student would like to participate as part of their *Faith Serving Others* hours please do not hesitate to tell any of the SRC members so we can help you be a part of this fulfilling experience.

### ***Mufti Day Disaster Relief Fundraiser***

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February Loyola students came to school wearing casual clothing. Mufti Day was a great success in that all students that participated donated a gold coin to support victims of the recent New Zealand earthquake and the

Queensland floods. Half of the money will be donated to the earthquake that took place in Christchurch whilst the other half will be donated for the floods. Over \$600 was raised, and we thank all of the students that donated so willingly.

**Ash Wednesday**

On Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> of March, Loyola will celebrate Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent and the 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday before Easter. Unfortunately, the liturgy takes place during the Year 12 Half Yearly Examinations, but only a few exams are scheduled on the day. We strongly urge year 12 students to try to make it on this day especially if you have no exams.

Should you have any concerns over the course of the year the Student Representative Council would be happy to help, their positions are:

- Nicole Hanna and Nicholas Ward** - SRC Presidents
- Cathy Lavea and Jethro Perez** - Vice Presidents
- Henry Escandor** - Treasurer
- Mary Abi Chemouni** - Secretary

**Portfolios**

- Liturgy* - **Mary Abi Chemouni and Jethro Perez**
- Sport* - **Nicholas Toohill and Nicholas Ward**
- Welfare* - **Aaron Hendricks and Henry Escandor**
- Culture* - **Roxanne Byrne and Nikita Mason**
- Social Justice* - **Nicole Hanna and Cathy Lavea**

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

Just a reminder, that if your child will not be attending school for the day, could you please notify the office in the morning on 9832 4455. It is also important that you send a note to explain this absence.

**BOB STEWART UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

With a very busy start to the New Year, we would like to send you all a big Thank You for your patience, during our very busy sales period.

Please note that our uniform shop hours are not daily. Students need to be organised.

It's time to get prepared for the cooler weather. We have stock of jumpers currently available in most sizes. Now is the time to get fitted. You may place an order or make a Lay-by, to ensure it is available to you on that chilly morning.

Jumpers with the Christ Catholic College logo are no longer accepted as part of our uniform.

By now your son or daughter would have been fitted for a blazer. The cost of our blazer is \$165.00. Your blazer order can be paid in full at the time of collection. We also offer Lay-by with weekly instalments. This will need to be completed by last week of Term 1.

For many students from our feeder schools who already have a black blazer, we sell Loyola Blazer pockets for \$15.00.

Ties are compulsory, plenty of stock currently available for \$25.

Please note that we do not deal with Second Hand Uniforms.

**Lucia Fox and Judy Hancock - Uniform Shop**

**THE BURBS FESTIVAL**

This is a week run by Blacktown City Council and is timed as a National Youth Week celebration.

**Dates:** 31 March 2011 - 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011

**Events will include:** Dance Party; Poetry Slam; Acoustic Café; Under the Radar (driving); Percussion Masterclass; Sports Event; Table Tennis Competition; Outdoor Music Event; Mount Druitt Freecycle; Youth Corroboree Hip Hop; Reach Workshop; Fair and Youth Market; Rock against the Beast

**Want to Volunteer?** You will also be able to do training workshops such as Intro to Sound Production; Intro to Photography; Intro to Video Production; Intro to Web Design during March. (This is also a good way for Year 11 students to earn some Faith Serving Others hours)

**Want More Information?**  
[www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au](http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au)

<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>	
Mon 28 Feb	Yr 12 Half Yearly Examinations commence
Wed 9 Mar	Ash Wednesday
Mon 14 Mar	Staff Retreat - Pupil free day
Tue 29 Mar	Yr 12 Careers Day
Fri 8 April	Term 1 concludes
Fri 22 April	Good Friday
Wed 27 April	Term 2 Commences

