Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

P&F Annual General Meeting
The P&F Annual General Meeting will be on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm.

Orientation Days
The remaining Kindergarten orientation sessions are on Fridays 13th and 27th November - 9am till 1pm.
Students to be enrolled in Year 7 or other grades in 2016 are invited on Friday 27th November.

Year 12 Graduation Dinner – Sat 14th Nov
6pm for photos and drinks, meal will be served at 7pm in the Banksia room at the Commercial Club. Please be aware the Commercial club will be extra busy at 7pm so arrive early to get a park.

Presentation Night
Our end of year Presentation Night will be Wednesday 2nd December 7pm in the school hall.
All welcome.

Youth Expo – 13 to 18 years
Saturday 21st November Xavier High School, starting at 9am. There will be talks, games, small group activities, testimonials and a vigil Mass.
See attached poster for further details.

Mission Day – Wednesday 18th Nov
Students are asked to bring any spare coins to support the Madagascar Missions. The two sports teams (St Don Bosco and St Francis) will compete to see who has the longest line of coins. The coin line will be made after assembly and before the first primary group goes to their swimming session.

Annual Bush Dance
Holy Spirit Hall on Saturday 28th November from 7pm. $10 per person or $20 per family. BYO supper. Tea and coffee available. This is a fundraiser for NACF.

Primary Swimming Intensive
K-6 students will be participating in graded intensive swimming lessons from Monday 16th to Friday 20th November. Notes and payment due at the office prior to lessons.

Secondary Student Excursion to Canberra
Year 7,8,9 & 10 students will be travelling to Canberra this Friday 13th November. Please arrive at school by 5.45am in full school uniform. The bus has to leave promptly at 6am to make it to Canberra on time.

Bookfair at SMMC - Friday 27th 10am-3.30pm
There will be a bookfair in the library of SMMC on Friday 27th November by Cardinal Newman Faith Resources. Come and join us after Mass and get some wonderful Catholic supplies for Christmas.

School Productions DVD’s for sale $5 each
We have had enquiries about previous school productions. ‘Asterix and the Normans’ and ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ are available from the office if you would like your own DVD copy.

Uniform Reminder
Now that the hot weather has arrived it is even more important that students wear their hats in the playground. Please make sure your children all have a hat. Thank you. The ‘No hat - no play’ rule applies.

Family Life Talk
Ladies are welcome to hear Carmen Pavia speak on Family Life and Time Management at the Horsfall home on Saturday 21st November from 3pm to 5pm. Afternoon tea provided.

God bless,
Kevin Tingle
LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

On Motherhood

Modern feminist women seek to destroy God's creation of the loving mother. They seek to emasculate women by taking them out of the heart of the home and giving them worldly and monetary success in the workforce. I read a story once about a Christian couple who had left their young children to be babysat while they were out ‘proclaiming the good news'. When they returned home they found that the baby Jesus had gone missing from the nativity set. On asking their daughter where he was they were given a lesson they weren't prepared for. She replied, “Oh the Three Wise Men are babysitting baby Jesus over here, while Mary and Joseph go off evangelising!”

Our blessed Mother teaches us about the importance of the hidden life of Nazareth. She, who is the greatest creature to have ever lived was a simple Jewish mother in a rural locality.

Mothers are close to the mystery of life. Mothers are graced by the divine touch when the soul of her child is created within her body. (Alice Von Hildebrand) What an honour that a new soul created to exist for all eternity dwells within her body. This closeness to life makes women more vulnerable to suffering. Saint Teresa of Avila speaks of a woman's role being to 'love and to suffer'. A mother's vocation is to love and the greater the depth of love the more a woman is vulnerable to suffering. In loving their children they share in their joys and sufferings. One of the greatest sufferings a Catholic mother can have is for her children to lose the precious gift of their faith, which they have tried so hard to pass on to them. As mothers we have our children with us for such a short time but our hearts are forever entwined with theirs.

Women have a unique role to play in family life in being person centred. Relationships mean a lot to men but to women they are everything. To mothers this means that they are essential to caring and nurturing each of their children.

A mother's heart expands to hold each of her children. Each child is, to their mother, a work in progress. A mother has the work of educating and perfecting them on earth, preparing them for eternal life. The Roman matron Cornelia was asked one day by a high born Roman woman to view her jewels. Cornelia returned with her two sons, “These are my jewels.” After her death a statue was erected in her honour, it was marked ‘Cornelia, Mother of the Grachi.’ A man may build many buildings and make much money but for a mother the dedication to home and family is where her greatest achievements lie.

Fr Robert J Fox spoke of his mother on her death.

“A mother's love is special for each one of her children. A mother has room for every child in her heart. She loves each one as a unique individual and sees in each child what only a mother can comprehend. A true mother has no favourites, except to favour everyone of the children God has given her, and show no special considerations, unless it be to the one who hurts at the moment. Such was our mother. Such was her love, her concern, until her last breath.”

Virtue for the month of November - Reverence

“The world will never starve for want of wonders, but only for want of wonder.” - G K Chesterton

Curriculum Corner – Remembrance Day

SMMC students and staff took part in a Remembrance Day service this Wednesday 11/11/15 to honour the memory of the fallen.