Loyola recently celebrated our Patron’s Feast in customary fashion, with a multicultural festival. Our rich diversity flavoured all aspects of the day: our Eucharistic celebration, shared lunch, and concert. May I thank all members of our community, as well as our guests, for making the day so special. Happy Feast to all our readers!

One Term to go....

Year 12 students have just embarked upon their last term of their school education. With that comes a range of emotions: anticipation, excitement, relief, anxiety, and uncertainty. We pray that, in the midst of these heightened emotions, they will savour these final weeks and remember them for a long time to come. May they create happy memories!

Year 11 students similarly have one term before the completion of their Preliminary year. As the word preliminary implies, these months have effectively been the ‘getting ready’ period, equipping them to undertake the HSC year commencing next term. For them, we pray that they use these final weeks to challenge themselves to be truly prepared for their final year of school.

Congratulations and Welcome

We congratulate Mrs Samantha Fresco and her husband Tiago on the birth of Lucas on Sunday, June 27. May you both treasure this special time of infancy, with plenty of sleep for good measure!

We welcome Mr Glenn French who is Acting as PD/H/PE Leader of Learning until the end of the year. Glenn, we appreciate all you have to offer us, and hope your time at Loyola is rewarding.

World Youth Day

As I write, World Youth Day celebrations have come to a close and our pilgrims have returned home. We look forward to all they have to share with us and hope the experience was truly transformative.

Jesuit Debating and Soccer Carnivals

In the recent July holidays, Loyola hosted the Annual Jesuit Debating Carnival, and participated in the Jesuit Soccer Carnival, hosted by St Aloysius’ College, Milsons Point.

Our teams represented us in true Loyola style, demonstrating great generosity and graciousness, as well as warmth and hospitality. We are very proud of the attitude they took to the competitions, and the
values underpinning such an attitude. May I acknowledge and thank the more than thirty members of staff who had a hand in preparing for the carnivals and supporting our students as they competed. This is truly remarkable.

It is also perfectly reflected in a couple of emails we received, extracts from which I’ve included below:

From the Debating Coordinator of Xavier College, Melbourne: Thank you for a wonderful, stimulating and engaging Jesuit Debating Carnival. It is always a delight to visit your amazing school and we were again impressed with the gentle courtesy, friendliness and helpfulness of every student we met. It was a very special experience. The Xavier College boys enjoyed the debating immensely as well as interacting with so many other engaging and interesting young people. The host families could not have been more helpful or caring. I would also like to congratulate your team on winning the cup. What a thrilling conclusion to such a successful Carnival. I was so excited for you, particularly because I have witnessed the transformation of your students over the past five years into such mature and erudite debaters. It is lovely to have a different name on the cup.

From the senior adjudicator: The festival showcased the special ability of a wonderful group of young people who were a credit to Jesuit education and to their individual schools. I was particularly impressed by their debating ability but even more so by the debaters’ ability to be gracious in both victory and defeat (the latter being often much harder to do). Well done on the ultimate victory of Loyola Senior High – I felt they truly deserved it.

Such reflections on Loyola’s life and learning are truly gratifying. They serve as wonderful reminders of what is at the heart of our education and formation.

Best wishes for a fruitful and challenging term!

Mrs Cathy Larkin
Principal

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE COORDINATORS

During the lead-up to our Feast of Saint Ignatius celebrations we were reminded of Ignatius’ notion of accompaniment. To accompany someone is to walk with them, listen to their story, share their experience, and strive with them in loving service.

In the week before the holidays our Vinnies and YCS members participated in the Winter Sleepout – an opportunity to spend a night in the shoes of the homeless, to share the experience of discomfort, and to feel empathy so that they might be guided in their actions to better serve the poor. A powerful demonstration of those actions was to be seen at the Sacred Heart Feast Day Mass on June 27, where the warm clothes, blankets and other Winter Appeal goods that our school community has been collecting, were handed over to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul to be distributed to people in need.

During Week 10 we also celebrated NAIDOC week – an opportunity to walk with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, to become more deeply aware of the issues of inequity they still face, and to promote greater awareness in our broader community. We offer our thanks to the SRC and Indigenous students for facilitating the banner-making, food stalls, and other events of the week.

Over the holidays our soccer team, debaters, and Timor Leste Immersion participants had the opportunity to walk with the rest of the Jesuit and Ignatian companion schools. Our soccer team was hosted by the community of Saint Aloysius’ College at Milsons Point, while our school hosted 7 of the 8 Australian Jesuit and Companion schools for the Debating Carnival. To host these events takes the effort of the whole school community, and it was heart-warming to see such generosity of time, spirit, hospitality, and energy in both carnivals. Congratulations to our debaters, who achieved First Place in their carnival, and to Adam Owen, who was presented with the Loyola Spirit Award at the Soccer Carnival.

During our Multicultural Day celebrations for the Feast of Saint Ignatius we had the opportunity to hear from Makol, Makur and Muorwal Muorwal about their experience of growing up in South Sudan and of coming to Australia as refugees. We heard from Soude Mohammed Pour about her
experience of education after moving to Australia, and the influence her teachers have had on her. We heard from Micah Romero and Lachlan Bremer about their experience of the Immersion to Timor Leste, and of our need as a school community, to continue to accompany the students of the two Jesuit schools in Kasait and Railaco.

We then celebrated our unity and diversity as we gathered together for a multicultural feast and concert, together with our guests from Saint Aloysius’ College and Good Shepherd Primary School.

As a community, it is important to celebrate how much we are empowered to do with and for others, and to be ever-mindful of how much we are called to do by Christ who came to serve and not to be served. With this in mind, we congratulate the Year 11 students who have completed their 20 hours of service and associated reflections for the Magis Program, and we remind those students who are yet to complete their hours that they only have a few weeks left.

We are also reminded at this time of the need to accompany each other. Our Year 11 students have recently received their Half Yearly Reports and had interviews with their teachers, while our Year 12 students have been completing Trial HSC Exams and Work Placements. Senior study presents many challenges; intellectually, physically and spiritually. It is important for all of us to be considerate of each other, and to help each other to achieve our goals. As our patron, Saint Ignatius, says: “For those who love, nothing is too difficult, especially when it is done for the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Timor Leste Immersion Participants

Mr John Murphy
Acting Arrupe House Coordinator
Mr Anthony Pope
Faber House Coordinator
Mrs Lyn Wright
Ward House Coordinator
Mrs Dianne McKinnon
McCormack House Coordinator

FEAST OF ST. IGNATIUS AND MULTICULTURAL DAY 2016

Artist Ricky Gagliardi
On the 25 July 2016, Loyola Senior High School celebrated the Annual Feast of St Ignatius and Multicultural Day beginning with a mass in recognition of our Christian faith and the school’s rich cultural diversity. Our local Jesuit Priest from Holy Family Parish Emerton, Fr Stan Lim SJ, celebrated the Mass. Staff and students also attended from Good Shepherd and St Aloysius Milsons Point.

This year’s celebrations highlighted the journeys that many of us, or our families have made from other countries. We also considered the journey, while at Loyola Senior High School as we work towards our dream and our future. Finally, the spiritual journey we all take on in our ongoing relationship with God.

The theme of this mass was the evidence of God’s overwhelming power and Jesus’ teachings of service that was represented through St Paul’s letter to the Corinthians and Matthew’s Gospel 20:20-28, chosen especially for this day. The First Reading, read by Ebonie Galea spoke about God’s power as “only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us. Similarly, in the Gospel reading from Matthew, Jesus deals with the issue of leadership and service. Jesus claims that all power belongs to God and that his leadership is about service not like the pagans,

“You know that among the pagans the rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt.”

“No; anyone who wants to be great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be your slave, just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’

So too the founding member of the Society of Jesus, Ignatius’ vision was “to serve the Lord alone and his vicar on Earth, the Pope.” Some four hundred years after his death, the ideals of Saint Ignatius remain with us here at Loyola as we discern our paths, to seek and find God in all things as men and women for others.
Fr Stan read the Gospel and then spoke about some of the ways we can deal with hardship and difficulties on the “journey of life” and the benefits of prayer in order to discern God’s will.

Students representing the diversity of the Loyola community then read the Prayers of the Faithful. Countries that were represented in the Prayer of the Faithful this year were: Arabic speaking countries, Tonga, Filipino, Samoa, Russian, Persia, Germany, Greece, Dinka, Italy, Poland and English speaking countries. Thank you to all of the students who contributed to this.

Loyola Senior High School is blessed each year with the musical talents of the school choir, led by Ms Pam Picart. The music of the choir and school band is always delightfully lively and spirited. The Choir and Band performed the following pieces: A Filipino Song, Salamat, Salamat! For the Offertory, a Russian Piano Piece Agnus Dei, a Samoan Medley and “Glory, Glory Lord!” in many languages.

On this Feast Day of Saint Ignatius we celebrate our unity and the richness of our diversity, represented here around this altar. As the present Loyola community we have inherited a unique spirit and vision generated by Ignatius. We invite you now to join with us as we pray that we will remain faithful to his spirit and vision:

“We, the community of Loyola Senior High School commit ourselves to the hopes and dreams of the original students, staff and parents of this community.

May we be people for others, generous, compassionate and committed.

May we be open and receptive in my learning and so develop an enquiring, imaginative and critical mind.

In this way, and with Ignatius as my guide, may we seek and find God in all things.

Amen

SRC Prayer of Commitment

Student Reflection

Makol, Makur, Muorwal Muorwal and Soude Mohammed Pour gave very moving recounts of their families lives in Sudan and Iran, their challenges and their recent migration from these countries to Australia.

Further to this they outlined some of the fortunate experiences they have had as a result of their migration to Australia. Makol, Makur, Muorwal and
Soude are truly talented and passionate speakers who have represented beautifully the diverse nature of Loyola Senior High School.

**Immersion Programs**

This year Loyola staff members, Mr Anthony Pope and Ms Maria Dizon and students, Lachlan Bremer and Micah Romero joined the travelling team to East Timor and were eager to share their experiences at the St Ignatius Feast Day Mass.

As well the WYD teacher pilgrims, Mr and Mrs Reyes, Mr Bettiol and students Erika Yaneza and Isaac Bessara were remembered and prayed for as they return home from visiting the Philippines and Poland.

Both students and staff agreed that these were incredibly powerful experiences that were clearly life changing for all.

On behalf of the Loyola Senior High School community we would like to thank the Muorwal Family and Soude Mohammed Pour, Lachlan Bremer and Micah Romero for sharing their journey stories with us and for all of the staff and students who have contributed to make feast day a very special day.

**THE 2016 AUSTRALIAN JESUIT DEBATING CARNIVAL**

The carnival was hosted by Loyola Senior High School from Sunday 3 to Tuesday 5 July during the school holidays.

The Loyola team consisted of Samantha Micalef (Captain), Devina Verma (Year 12), Shaarang Singh (Year 12) and Melissa Toohill (Year 11) and Coaches Mr Anthony Pope and Miss Johanna Larkin.

Whilst Debating at Loyola is always about formation of students, where we challenge students to fulfil their possibilities... This year, Loyola WON!

And Loyola won because of a variety of special people who combined to give our team, these four gracious debaters, the best opportunity to demonstrate their talent. So this article is not only about our formidable debaters but those who supported them.

For the first time in the Australian Jesuit Debating Carnival’s history, Loyola’s name will be etched into the Jesuit Cup trophy. Congratulations to Samantha, Devina, Shaarang and Melissa, the fine debaters within this 2016 team. It was with great pride we witnessed their skill, teamwork and humble courtesy as they moved into the finals and then won this prestigious tournament. You made us very proud.

There is much work that goes into developing student potential in debating. I would like to thank Mr Walker Aloiai and Mr Anthony Pope, who have trained these students in structuring their argument and refining their speaking style, over many Friday afternoon and evenings during 2015 and 2016.

Also in the final weeks, Miss Johanna Larkin, the 2016 Loyola All Australian Jesuit Debating Team representative, focussed their argument style and structured their preparation room tactics, attending the Carnival as Coach in the absence of Mr Pope.

Loyola hosted seven schools: St Aloysius’ College, Milsons Point; St Ignatius’ College, Riverview; St Ignatius’ College, Adelaide; John XXIII, Perth; Xavier College, Hervey Bay; Xavier College, Melbourne and Loyola, Watsonia, Victoria. In the words of one of the adjudicators, Mr Michael Robson, ‘The festival showcased the special ability of a wonderful group of young people who were a credit to Jesuit education and to their individual schools’.

There were many participants over the three days.
who enabled the success of the carnival. Mr Chris Bettiol, whose months of Jesuit Cup organisation was outstanding, Mrs Catherine Larkin, whose leadership and support were very much appreciated, Mrs Virginia Arundell and Fr Stan, for a beautiful mass, the hospitality of Mrs Keiren Hannan and Ms Fionna Borowski, as well as the wonderful student helpers who performed chair-keeper and time-keeper duties, ensured debating and preparation rooms were set up, visitors were welcomed, and offered warm hospitality that is so very Loyolan. I was proud to see hospitality being extended until the late hours by these very generous teachers and students. What an achievement!

Beyond hours assistance was very much pivotal to the success of the carnival. Mrs Tracie Huet gave up her Sunday to pick up and deliver interstate visitors until near midnight. The wonderful billeters, both student and staff, who opened their homes, kitchen and hearts to the interstate visitors were so kind, ensuring they were warmly looked after. There were many stories of trips into the city, viewing the Harbour Bridge, the Three Sisters at Katoomba, and other tourist attractions that really welcomed these students.

And to the wonderful team of teacher helpers, Mrs Cheryl Eather, Mrs Sam Fresco, Mrs Sam Boreham, Mr Michael Thai, Ms Cassie Merhab, Mrs Bridget Ward and Ms Belinda Morgan, who supported the students and facilitators in many important ways offering their time and energy during the school holidays. As well thank you to those teachers who came to watch and support the Loyola Jesuit Team, Mrs Debbie Harris, Mr Boyd Finn, Mrs Magda Mizzi, Mr Jeff Mizzi and Ms Sally Johnstone. Your enthusiasm was very important for student confidence and the debating rooms were packed with supporters.

Our debating captain, Samantha Micallef was chosen for the All Australian Jesuit Debating Team. It was such an achievement and a recognition of her concise debating style. The Spirit of the Carnival award, as chosen by fellow peers and visiting teams was awarded to Melissa Toohill.

I think the joy of the photo below demonstrates who we are, the staff and leadership, students and community of Loyola. As men and women for others, we seek to do the Magis. The hosting of this carnival celebrated the true Loyolan spirit in both proficiency and hospitality. Thank you to all involved and congratulation to our winners!

Mrs Chrissy Payne, Shaarang Singh, Samantha Micallef, Devina Verma, Melissa Toohill, and Principal, Mrs Cathy Larkin.

TEMPEST SYMPOSIUM

On Friday 20 May, Year 12 Advanced students attended a symposium on William Shakespeare’s play ‘The Tempest’ at The Seymour Centre. The performance included large sections of the text interspersed with commentary and analysis from the various actors, which explored key scenes and speeches. This opened up diverse critical readings for the students and many felt hearing the actors discuss the play unlocked the language and characters providing a worthwhile experience which
engaged them in the critical thinking required of this section of the English Advanced paper. Seeing such live performances is not only enjoyable but has increased the students' understanding of such great plays.

Mrs M Mizzi
English Teacher

VINNIES REPORT

Winter sleepout 2016

On Friday 24 June, Loyola hosted its annual winter sleepout. This year’s event was low-key, with dedicated Vinnies, YCS, and SALT members participating. We celebrated mass in the chapel with Fr Stan, joined by St Clair’s St Vincent de Paul conference members, David and Kate, with a special reflection on homelessness made by our school Vinnies leader Komal Chand (Year 12).

Komal’s reflection was very special and what I believed needed to be reiterated to others. With Komal’s permission, I have published the reflection below:

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who has taken their time out to come to our Winter Sleep out. It’s a meaningful event where we are all gathered together to reflect on our ourselves, our family, our friends in the community. Mercy has many faces; we’ve all heard that before right? But what does this mean? Mercy is defined as showing love and compassion to others; forgiving others of their mistakes; demonstrating humility and treating others humanely.

Pope Francis says, “Mercy is the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters...” We all have this attribute, to be able to show love, compassion, concern. But how often do we ever show mercy to the homeless? How many of you mindlessly walk past a homeless person? Or purposely move your head away so you don’t see them? Now I’m sharing these examples because honestly I’ve done these things: looking away so I don’t feel guilty, and walking past a homeless person pretending not to see them.

Just recently, a woman who announced that she was pregnant approached a number of people on the train including myself asking for money. As someone who rarely takes public transport this was a confronting experience. However what surprised me the most is that not one person on the train bothered to look at the woman. They too purposefully moved their heads to look out the window or put in their headphones in so they couldn’t hear the woman and the story she was sharing. Now I was about to take my wallet out, but my friend next to me stopped me from doing so. They were telling me to put my wallet back and not look at the woman. Obviously I couldn’t bring myself to not look at the woman and listen to what she was saying, but soon after that she had left. I never ended up giving her any money only because my friend began stating things like, “That woman was probably lying. How do you think she got on the train and paid for the ticket? She’s just going to use your money for drugs and alcohol. The government can take care of her...why can’t she just go Centrelink?” These are all excuses that come from people when they face a situation like this.

But are we showing mercy? Isn’t being merciful about showing love, compassion, and concern for these individuals? There are some people who may argue and say that it’s their fault, that it’s their problem that they’re homeless. I’ve heard that before many times, even from people around my age. But these people are obviously needing assistance, and as followers of God, we should be the first people to show compassion, mercy, and respond to their needs to the best of our abilities.

The following applies to everyone here: you can’t just solve a problem by looking the other way.

There are many opportunities out there to assist those who need our help. One example would be the Vinnies Van. As such, the Vinnies Van has made communicating with people I normally wouldn’t talk to easier. When talking to them, you really get a sense of what they have experienced. You feel so much happier and content with yourself knowing that you’ve fed a family, or that you’re someone who these people are coming to. I heard so many stories about people our age and the troubles they went through. Yes, there was some discussion amongst my group where we were surprised that these people have smartphones and go home in cars.

But being homeless doesn’t just mean sitting out in
the street with no shelter. It also refers to people having to sleep on their friend’s lounge and having to continuously move homes where they have very minimal access to basic necessities. For instance, during our time on Vinnies Van, my friend and I went to go speak to a boy a little older than us. He lived in Parramatta and he did not finish his education but was working as an apprentice. However, he had so much trust in us that he told us his goals and aspirations: he wanted to join the Defence Force and help others overseas. Two minutes ago we were only strangers to him serving Milo, but through courage and compassion to have a conversation with him, he became our friend.

To conclude, as tonight’s overarching theme, I hope you guys have come to understand that as representatives of the social justice community we are taught through Jesus that compassion, love and mercy, we are the peacekeepers of the world and thus children of God. Thank you.

Reflection by Komal Chand (year 12)

It was a remarkably cold night and the students who attended showed dedication and perseverance as most opted to sleep outside in the freezing cold rather than the “comfort” of the chapel. Also, thank you the teachers who helped with the sleepout, Mrs Larkin, Mrs Reyes, Ms Johnstone, and Mr Brissett, and Loyola alumna, Johanna Larkin.

Ms Dizon
Loyola Vinnies Co-Coordinator

AWAY EXCURSION FOR YEAR 12 STANDARD ENGLISH

On 22 June, two classes from Year 12 Standard English visited the Seymour Centre in Sydney to see Sport for Jove’s 30th Anniversary production of the play ‘Away’. The students enjoyed seeing the words on the page being brought to life through the acting and production elements that they saw and heard on the stage. The students are studying this classic Australian play for their HSC Area of Study ‘Discovery’, and they discovered a great deal by attending what was for some their first ever live theatrical experience.

Students Levinson Ferrer, Seann Obrero, Rhenz Manuel, Justin Bocasan and Vincent Angeles at the Seymour Centre to see ‘Away’. The students stayed in their seats for an unexpected bonus - a Q & A session with the cast. The Loyola students participated enthusiastically by asking pertinent questions and listening to answers from the cast and director about the choices made in the characterisation and staging of the play.

Mrs Debbie Harris
English Coordinator
LIBRARY NEWS

The library has been increasing its novel (fiction) area, and one of our purchases was “Song of the slums” by Richard Harland. This book is an example of the new genre of ‘Steam Punk’. Steam punk is a subgenre of science fiction and fantasy. It combines 19th century settings and machinery (especially steam-powered) with new and advanced technology of today.

In this story, the main characters end up playing in a rock band while living Victorian times as if it was normal for that period!

Picture downloaded Song of the Slums, Trove 03/08/2016

Searching with Google tips. Try using Google Scholar instead of the normal Google search engine. Just type in Google Scholar into Google’s search field. Google Scholar contains many academic works - articles, books etc. Although Google may not have the complete work or article, it will often have several chapters or pages of the work which can prove to be very useful. If you find an article you like, then can search the school’s e-resources or try the State Library’s databases to find the complete article. For more current work, change Google’s default setting to ‘sort by date’.

Currently, Year 12 students are undertaking their trial exams. The library can assist students study with numerous study guides in various subject areas, ‘how to study’ information and provide different areas within the library to cater for students with different study styles. For example, there are whiteboards and large tables to gather together to discuss and show each other examples of work or the Library’s Glassroom for quiet study.

The library staff wish all students well in their trial exams.

Eriko Filitonga, Ana Katoa and Tokaone Fahina

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

School Fees

School Fee statements for Term 3, 2016 were issued on 25 July and are due for payment by 22 August for families that are not on an arrangement. Payment options include Cash, Cheque, EFT, BPay, Direct Debit, Centrelink deduction or Credit Card.

Families who are unable to pay the fees in full by the due date please contact Ms Lidia Osolnik immediately.

If you are currently on a payment arrangement, please continue to make payments as per your arrangement.

Payment Arrangements

The School is able to offer families a payment arrangement to pay the school fees on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis, over the whole school year. If you are not yet on such a plan, and would like to discuss this option, please contact Ms Lidia Osolnik.

Financial difficulty

Families who are experiencing financial hardship which makes it difficult to meet the financial commitment of your child’s education, need contact Ms Lidia Osolnik, to arrange an interview with me to discuss your situation so that I can properly assess your circumstances.

Assessments are made for one year only and MUST be reviewed each year. So, if you had an arrangement last year, you will need to contact us again this year. Please note that unless an assessment or review is done, you will be liable for the full amount of school fees.

These matters will be treated sensitively and with absolute confidentiality, and will not affect your child’s education.

Notice to withdraw a student

Please note that School Fees Management Policy 5.7 of the Catholic Education Office Parramatta Diocese requires that one term’s notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student regardless of the reason. If no notice is given (or less than 10 weeks notice), then up to an additional 10 weeks fees will be payable.

Ms Vicki Fraser
Business Manager

Mrs Hodgson, Mrs Guerra & Mrs Pinto
SICK BAY PROCEDURES

Students who feel unwell at school must report to their classroom teacher, the teacher will complete a note for the student to attend sick bay. Parents/carers will then be contacted by the first aid officer.

If a parent is phoned by their child during class time, please ask your child to attend sick bay, students will not be withdrawn from class during the day to be collected by a parent/carer if they do not follow the correct procedure.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

I am pleased to announce the launch of a new link off the main page of the school website.

Loyola Counsellor's Corner

http://loyolashs.nsw.edu.au

Ms Tracy Tifenbach
Counsellor

BUILDING CHILD SAFE COMMUNITIES - NEW PROCEDURES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers make a significant contribution to students and our Loyola Community. As part of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta new 'Building Child Safe Communities' initiatives, we request the following from volunteers:

Step 1. Complete the ‘Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers’ Form for each volunteer location.

VOLUNTEER FORM

Step 2. Complete the online training module - required every second year.

TRAINING MODULE

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage

http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au the scrolling down to Volunteers and Contractors”

Please contact the school if your require assistance.

We thank all volunteers for their continued support of the Loyola Senior High School community.