Xavier News

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Xavier Dominates Local Derby

An annual Open Netball and Football competition between Xavier College and neighbouring St Columba College has been established. In the inaugural year Xavier was successful in winning both competitions and claimed the Fr Dennis Handley Memorial Shield for Netball and the Alan Hickinbotham Cup for Football.

“a school of the future in the present”
From the Principal

Another Term has come to a successful conclusion. As I indicated last week I think there has been a lot to celebrate over the course of the Term and for that I am very thankful to a large number of people. Last week representatives from the Non-Government Schools Registration Board visited Xavier in order to complete a mandatory review process that all non-government schools must engage in every 5 years, prior to being reregistered. I am delighted to report that the Board representatives strongly affirmed the educational program, facilities and policies in place at the College. I would like to commend the staff of the College for the work they did in preparing for the Review and in general for the outstanding efforts they make on a day to day basis to ensure that Xavier College delivers all that it is challenged to provide for students in our contemporary world.

Assessment

Reports will be sent home with students at the end of term. I strongly encourage parents to engage in conversation with their son/daughter as to whether the individual report reflects a performance level that is commensurate with the student’s abilities. Research data continues to show that success at school has a major bearing on an individual’s long term well-being and that parent engagement in the education process has a significant bearing on student success. Parent/Teacher interviews early next term will be an opportunity to engage in valuable discussion with subject teachers about strategies for improvement in student performance.

Farewell

This week we farewell Mrs Chris Gillen, one of the staff members who was here at Xavier College on Day 1 in 1995! Over that period of time she has coordinated the Resource Centre as it has developed with a rapidly growing school community. From those early days the focus at Xavier has been on the innovative edge of learning methodologies and the Resource Centre was always designed to play a central role in the teaching and learning processes at the College. Chris has also been totally committed to every aspect of school life at Xavier and has certainly made a lasting impression on students and staff alike. Chris will be moving to Pt Pirie to join her husband, who was appointed Principal at St Mark’s College, and will be taking up a teaching/librarian position at Caritas College in Pt Augusta. On behalf of the entire College community I would like to express a deep sense of gratitude to Chris for all she has given to Xavier over the past ten and a half years and I wish her every success in the future.

Uniform

Changes to the policy in regard to wearing the College Winter Uniform

Over the course of the last 12 months we have instigated some changes to the College Uniform Policy. As part of this process we have allowed a phase-in period for the introduction of the new college blazer and allowed for a period of transition during Term 2, before making some further adjustments to the policy. Currently the policy enables students to wear summer or winter uniform at their own discretion, this will change from the beginning of next Term. As of the beginning of week one next Term all students will be required to wear their complete winter uniform throughout Term 3, for Year 8 students that will of course be blazer and tie.

Mr Lynn Martin
Principal

St Vincent de Paul Society

It gives me great pleasure to thank you, on behalf of all our volunteers, for your generosity in donating over 1700 cans of food. Over the years we have received wonderful support from Xavier College and we always look forward to hearing from you as it makes our task so much easier.

We are very grateful for your wonderful gifts and it encourages us to continue to assist the less fortunate in our area. We are also very much aware that we are only able to help others because of your generosity. All Christ’s teaching centre around those who need both material and spiritual help. In reaching out to others we are bringing the message to them that there are people in our society who do care for them.

Once again we thank you for your continued support and we will remember you in our prayers.

Stephen Hofmeyer
President Gawler St Vincent de Paul Conference
It's not only taxes and death that are guaranteed.... parenting in a changing society.

"This is a vital life survival skill for your children as change is occurring more quickly for this generation of young Australians than any previous generation."

Change is probably the biggest certainty in life, beyond taxes and death, which we have to come to grips with.

Change is perpetual. It is a feature of the universe.

Yet, ironically human beings crave predictability and stability. It is this craving, if left unresolved, that can drive people mad.

Change is something children must deal with on a regular basis. You can help children handle change by structuring a framework in which you can talk to them about change. Do you unwittingly set up the expectation for your children that life is warm, secure and safe?

Or do you celebrate the good things in life with them and at the same time remind them that things can change. I am not suggesting that you deliberately go out of your way to unsettle or destabilise your children. It is about context and the way in which you explain things.

Consider the two parental statements below:

**Parent A:**

Freddie, enjoy your new bike. You are lucky to have one. I never had a new bike when I was a kid because my father died when he was young and we couldn’t afford it.

**Parent B:**

“Sweetheart, sometimes things don’t always go to plan. I know that you are disappointed you can’t have a walkman for your birthday but let’s save up and put it on your Christmas wish list”.

Parent A and B are both assisting their children to deal with change and to understand that taking things for granted may not be a useful strategy for living.

The ability to handle what life throws at you is called resilience.

This is a vital life survival skill for your children as change is occurring more quickly for this generation of young Australians than any previous generation.

Start to recognise when change occurs, and develop the skills to meet the challenges that come with change. Opportunities to see and discuss change emerge all the time. For instance,

- The change of weather within one day from hot to cool. Did we prepare for change by having other suitable clothes with us?
- The change from one season to another.
- Unexpected changes to our plans to go to the football because of a family member’s illness. A child’s excitement about seeing their favourite team playing a match has to be balanced against our loyalty to an ill family member who needs our support.
- Your child’s class teacher dies mid-year from breast cancer. Do we overlay the emotions of “how awful”, “how tragic”, “what a huge adjustment for the children” or do we use this as a wonderful opportunity to introduce the child to develop coping mechanisms with change.

Slowly and in a variety of ways, your children can be taught to be aware of change and to understand how to respond to it.

The required response is both emotional and logical.

Healthy emotional responses need to be encouraged. Unhealthy emotional responses make a person sound like a victim: “Oh poor Charlotte, her teacher died of breast cancer, no wonder her grades this year weren’t too good”.

The logical response requires a capacity to understand what has happened as a result of some change and how to logically and appropriately respond to it.

An example might be: “Charlotte’s teacher has died unexpectedly of breast cancer. We will all miss her. Her new teacher seems very nice and next term should be more stable. If Charlotte is struggling, we will ask her new teacher for some extra support”.

**Yes, there can be discomfort arising from change. That’s life.**

Work **supportively** and logically with your children to understand that change is normal and that it need not be an excuse for not coping. Create strategies with them to meet the challenge.

In this life, taxes, death and change are all guaranteed!

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**John Cheetham**

Psychologist, Author and Douding Director of The Student Achievement Centre.

For information about the Centre parents and students should visit: www.studentachievement.com.au

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*Kentish Road, Gawler Belt*
Open Girls Netball
On Wednesday 6th July the Xavier College Open Girls Netball team defeated Saint Columba, at Saint Columba 65 goals to 19 goals.
All girls played extremely well and were presented the Father Dennis Handley Shield, generously donated by Chris Gillen. Best players were Danica Earle (GD) and Alana Lepley (C) providing support in defence and excellent drive down the court respectively.
The inaugural team consisted of Danica Earle, Channelle Donaldson, Alana Lepley, Claire Johnson, Chloe Dealey, Lauren Allen, Kathryn Koslowicz and Taryn Overden.
Thanks to Ms Lepley and Alisha Butler for timekeeping and scoring.

Ms Schuit
Coach

Xavier College v St. Columba Annual Open Boys Football Match
Xavier College First XVIII ventured to St. Columba for the inaugural football match to decide the winner of the Allan Hickinbotham Cup. In what was a scrappy game, Xavier College won quite convincingly beating St. Columba 15-10=100 to 4-8=32.
Kicking against a 2-3 goal breeze in the first quarter Xavier started well kicking 4-1 to St. Columba’s 2 behinds. Peter Curtis gave the on-ballers first use of the ball in the centre rucking quite well against an opponent 2-3 inches taller. Kieran Sankey was able to work his way down into the forward line bagging 2 majors.
With the aid of the strong breeze, Xavier was able to kick another 4 goals to 1 and set up a good 7-goal half time lead. James Harvey, Sam Walton and Kieran Sankey worked hard through the mid field and were able to give our forwards plenty of opportunities to convert.
The third quarter became quite sloppy, with St. Columba lifting a gear putting Xavier under plenty of pressure. Xavier became a little lazy and as a result the skill level fell away allowing St. Columba to out score Xavier in the third quarter.
The final quarter saw Xavier play the way they have been in the previous rounds. They responded, to what was a lack lustre third quarter, by booting another five goals in the last term to run away winners by 68 points. We look forward to hosting St. Columba next year in what will become a great tradition between the two Colleges.
Better Players: Kieran Sankey, Sam Walton, James Harvey.
Major Goal Kickers: Kieran Sankey 6, Matt Treloar Sam Walton 2.

Mr Mark Hawkins
Coach

Open Boys Soccer
Xavier College is currently involved in a four way clash to advance to the semi-finals of the Open Boys Pool A soccer championship, with Thomas More College, Norwood-Morialta High School and Gleeson College. Xavier recovered from a 4-0 loss to Gleeson College to record a 3-2 victory against Thomas More College on Tuesday.
With a very under-manned squad, limited by injury and illness, Xavier lost 4-0 to a very impressive Gleeson College. Although the score line suggested a comprehensive defeat, Xavier were very competitive against a star-studded Gleeson side, sporting a number of SASI players.
The match against Thomas More College was played away at TMC in perfect conditions. Xavier, down 2-1 at the interval, pushed Pascale Barbaro forward, after playing the first half in the midfield and immediately equalised the score after converting a penalty in the seventh minute after recommencement of play. Pascale again scored in the seventeenth minute to put Xavier ahead. Matt Adams was extremely impressive throughout the match in the midfield, while "Bobby" McGivern and younger brother, Kieren "Junior" McGivern also played extremely well.
The final match against Norwood-Morialta High School is to be played in the first week of next term and the result of that match will decide which team advances to the semi-finals.

RESULTS:
Xavier College 0 lost to Gleeson College 4.
Xavier College Best Players: Bobby McGivern, Pascale Barbaro, Trent Carvosso, Jason Delfos.
Xavier College 3 defeated Thomas More College 2.
Goal Scorers: Barbaro 2, Bobby McGivern 1,
Best Players: Matt Adams, Bobby McGivern, Trent Carvosso, Arran Fox, Hayden Searle, Kieren McGivern, Pascale Barbaro

Mr Rick Drewer
Coach

Year 9 Knockout Netball
Last Thursday Xavier College’s Year 9 Knockout netball team played Thomas Moore College in the second round after defeating Trinity College two weeks prior. It was a fast, hard match with brilliant play coming from both teams. Unfortunately Thomas Moore defeated Xavier, knocking us out of the competition. On behalf of the team I would like to say thank you to our Coach Kate Brown for giving up her time and well done to all the girls – it was a great effort.

Cassie Bolland
Year 9

State Representatives
Joseph Sarmiento has been chosen to compete for South Australia in the U18 Australian Schools Rugby League Championships. He will leave on Friday for Geelong, where the Nationals are taking place. Well done Joseph and good luck!

Christie Hillyer has been chosen to represent South Australia at the forthcoming School Sport Australia National Soccer championships to be held in Cairns, Queensland from 13th to 19th August. Congratulations Christie.