One of the final initiatives of Pope John Paul II was to nominate 2005 as a Year of the Eucharist. His hope was that through a greater appreciation of the Eucharist and what it means to Catholics, there would be an increased awareness of the presence of Christ in our daily lives and in the world at large.

“The Eucharist is a mystery of presence, the perfect fulfillment of Jesus’ promise to remain with us until the end of the world.” JP II

“May all of you, the Christian faithful, rediscover the gift of the Eucharist as light and strength for your daily lives in the world, in the exercise of your respective professions amid so many different situations. Rediscover this above all in order to experience fully the beauty and mission of the family.”

JP II

It takes time to grow in understanding of this gift and the Pope invites us to make this year a “high point of a journey in progress” (JP II). Why not start working on a Eucharistic spirit in our homes? The family is the domestic church, the basic cell of Christian life and we are all part of families and family-like communities.

Some suggestions:
- Recognise the significance of meal times - a gathering time
- Grace before meals – a way of remembering our blessings
- Family rituals – celebrate family
- Affirmation – never miss a chance to acknowledge the good and positive
- Simplified lifestyle – focus on the important things
From the Principal

Xavier College Development Plan 2006-2010

“We are about to embark on an exciting process to prepare the blueprint for the strategic direction of the College over the next 5 year period and there is an opportunity for every member of the College community to contribute.”

On Tuesday, May 10, the College Board officially began the process of preparing the strategic plan to guide the College through the next period of its development. As I look around Xavier College and observe all that happens here, it is obvious that previous Development Plans have successfully guided the community through the formative years of its existence and those who contributed to those plans can be justifiably pleased with the outcomes. It now beholds us as a community to ensure that the same consideration is given to planning for the future.

Consultation Phase

Next week every family will receive in the mail a letter outlining the consultative process. Accompanying the letter will be an ‘Ideas and Solutions’ response sheet, which has been designed to give everyone the opportunity to contribute ideas as to how to further develop and enhance College programs, practices and facilities as we look to the future.

The information collected will be added to data that will be gather in a similar fashion from staff, students and other community sources and presented to the College Board.

Salesian Reflection and Review Process

The College will also be engaging in a process to explore what is at the heart of the mission of a Salesian school and consider how this should impact on strategic planning. The first stage of this process will occur later in Term 2 when Sr Edna Mary MacDonald, Provincial of the Salesian Sisters, will work with staff to re-examine the Salesian charism. Early in Term 3 we will be visited by Fr John Papworth, Vice-Provincial of the Salesians, and Fr Chris Ford, Principal of Bosco College in NSW, together they will review how effectively Xavier is giving expression to the Salesian tradition. Their report will then contribute to the preparation of the new Development Plan.

Educational Review

The College teaching staff has already been engaged in a review of educational programs and practices, with the purpose of ensuring continuous improvement in teaching and learning at the College. Further professional development days for teachers have been structured in the second semester to continue this process.

Administrative and Financial Review

As an essential part of any strategic plan, careful consideration is being given to budget forecasts and the efficient use of College resources. Other contemporary administrative issues are also under review, including Occupational Health Safety and Welfare procedures.

The preparation of the Development Plan 2006-2010 is an important and exciting process. I encourage all members of the College community to contribute to its formulation as we look forward to the next era at Xavier College.

THE SAFETY OF XAVIER STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IS AT STAKE!

The road conditions on Mallala Road adjacent to the College are hazardous at the best of times, but parents picking up and then doing ‘U-turns’ in illegal and dangerous locations is simply negligent. Numerous near miss collisions have been reported and I plead with parents to observe the traffic regulations. ‘U-turns’ must not be undertaken over the double lines and unbroken lines that feature before and after the intersection of the By-pass exit Road and the Mallala Road.

Lynn Martin
Principal

R.I.P.

Ralf Anderson - father of Hannah Anderson (Year 11)
Peter Goodfellow - uncle of Sam and Ben McKinnon. (Years 8 and 10)
Frank Schneider - grandfather of Mr Gareth Watson (Staff)
The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities has a web site with useful information and resources available for parents. The web address is www.fedparents.adl.catholic.edu.au

UMAT 2005 Information Booklet

Those final year students who may wish to sit for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test this year may wish to note these key dates:

- Registration close: Friday 10th June
- Late Registrations close: Friday 24th June
- Applications for special testing conditions: Friday 24th June
- UMAT test date: Wednesday 27th July
- Results released: Late September

Please see Mrs Lawson for more details

Xavier Vocal Group

Since half-way through last term, a group of our young Xavierians have been meeting every Wednesday morning, before school and during Tutor Group. In Vocal Group we sing modern fun songs with tons of student input.

As you may know, Vocal Group performed “Sunshine On A Rainy Day”, live to Xavier College Assembly on the last day of Term 1.

The Vocal Group will, though-out the year, perform at assemblies, masses, eisteddfods and concerts. We invite anyone who may be interested to come along to Vocal Group to see if you like it.

On behalf of the Vocal Group we would like to thank Ms Meakin and Ms Overduin for their work in co-ordinating the Vocal Group.

Sarah Pitt and Nicie Pirri
(Years 8 and 9)
Open Boys Football

Xavier College started the 2005 knockout competition on a winning note defeating Gawler High by 140pts, 23-16=154 to 2-2=14. Xavier dominated the entire game and used the ball extremely well. They showed great skill and plenty of run, especially in defence, while also having to overcome flooding tactics. Lambert was rock solid at CHB while Butcher, King and Costa did not give an inch in defence and held Gawler scoreless in the second term and to one minor score in the third term. On-ballers Smyth, Sankey and Harvey worked tirelessly, while Matthew ‘Canons’ Treloar ran all day and delivered the ball extremely well to the forwards, enabling Havelberg and O’Reilly to kick 5 and 4 goals respectively. Sankey chipped in with a lazy 4 while resting up forward and ‘Canons’ Treloar and Tyson Hamilton also snuck in with 3 majors each. Well done to all boys and we look forward to coming up against some tougher opposition in weeks to come.


Goals: D. Havelberg 5, K. Sankey 4, N. O’reilly 4, M. Treloar 3, T. Hamilton 3, M. Pogas 2, T. Rogers 1, B. Dodman 1

Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Footner

Coaches

‘Seasons for Growth’ - Grief Program

Learning to live with change and loss

Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At Xavier College we recognise that when changes occur in families through death, separation, divorce or related circumstances, young people may benefit from learning how to manage these changes effectively. We are therefore offering a very successful education program called Seasons for Growth that will commence at the school in Term 2. This program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research which highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The program focuses on issues such as self-esteem, managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

If you think your son or daughter would benefit from Seasons for Growth, we would encourage you to talk to him/her about participating in the program.

Xavier College is pleased to be able to offer this important program and we are confident that it will be a valuable learning experience for those who request to be involved. If you require further information, please contact either Mr Oreste Farrugia or Ms Louise Smith, our School Counsellors, or myself at the College.

Ms Michelle Rawady
Director of Students

“a school of the future in the present”