Friday 13th May was our Year 11 Faith Reflection Day. The Youth Impact Team from West Australia hosted the event with the theme “What are you looking at?” I didn’t know what to expect before the day but I found it very enjoyable because the presenters made us feel very relaxed. I also enjoyed the group activities, I only wish that we had been able to do more! I found the day went really quickly, so it would have been better if it had been a three day Retreat like the Year 12’s. I liked the way they made me stop and think about my life, where I have been and where I am going. I learnt a lot about myself, who I am and who I want to be. I also learnt a lot about others in my Year level, the fact that we are all humans who like to laugh, have fun and challenge ourselves. I found myself talking to people I don’t usually associate with. It was the perfect way to get out of the study rut and unite a Year level.

Shaylee Rogers-Kelly
Year 11

Youth Impact is a Catholic Youth Ministry Team that coordinates a range of programs aimed at youth, with the purpose of assisting them to “live excellent lives”.
The Youth Impact Team is made up of young volunteers who are committed to seeing the youth of this generation reach their full potential and find personal strength in their own spirituality.
The ‘Impacters’ also run evenings of entertainment and inspiration with the Youth Impact Band, speakers, multimedia presentations, giveaways and more!

Impacters One Night ‘Gawler’ Concert Event
Saturday May 21, 2005
7:30pm – 9:30pm
Gawler Recreation Centre, Nixon Tce, Gawler
Tickets are $5 at the door
From the Principal

Over the course of the last week I attended a meeting with the Principals of the nine Salesian schools in Australia and another meeting with the Principals of the various Catholic Secondary Schools in SA. Whilst the first was held at Salesian College, Chadstone, in Melbourne, the later meeting was held here at Xavier College. I am delighted to report that all the principals who visited Xavier were suitably impressed with what they saw and many were quite envious of our facilities and grounds.

Both of these occasions encouraged me to reflect on our identity as a school community and what underpins our educational philosophy. Following on from the celebration of Pentecost last Sunday my thoughts centred on ways in which the Holy Spirit is present at Xavier and the impact of the Salesian ‘charism’. The word charism refers to a particular way in which we experience divine inspiration and the way in which this gives purpose and meaning to the things we do in our world, in our daily lives.

As a Salesian school the things we do and the way we go about them is inspired by the life and work of St John Bosco. The way in which Don Bosco engaged with young people, by walking with them on life’s journey, attempting to prevent them from being misled, deceived or exploited, guides our work at Xavier College. His inspiration, his educational practices and principles, provide us with a practical Christian context in which to act in the physical world, in actual people, in time and place.

The Salesian charism then, in the words of author Michael Green, is “the visible face of the Holy Spirit, the tangible sign of the Spirit blowing through and among us.” It is this Spirit that will ensure that Xavier remains true to its charter, to be: a home that welcomes, a parish that evangelises, a school that prepares for life, a playground where friends meet and enjoy themselves. It is this charism which nurtures the culture of the College, giving us a constant orientation, connects the Gospel to the lives of students and staff, provides a link to the bigger Church world and provides a resource for the development of our individual spirituality.

Mr Lynn Martin
Principal

PS: Special mention to the Year 11 & 12 Hospitality classes, Mr Reto Gasser and Mrs Cheryl Both, who collectively catered for the Association of Principals of Catholic Secondary Schools meeting. Once again they were widely acclaimed for their performance and I was certainly impressed and appreciative of their efforts.

GATE Program

This year, a GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) program was initiated at Xavier College. GATE is designed to motivate and extend the abilities of Year 8 students identified with outstanding gifts and talents. The program runs concurrently with the early morning tutor group quiet study sessions.

Already participants in this program have formed great bonds with other group members, and together they have shared challenges and ideas in a structured yet fun environment.

As GATE participants have shown themselves to be quite competitive, the concept of a GATE Cup between Houses has been introduced. Students have spent time designing this Cup, and will eventually construct it themselves.

One of the creative exercises GATE students have been involved with this year was to design a perfect zoo within a number of parameters, and explain its benefits. This became a competition between students, and was won by Naomi Tucker.

Naomi Tucker, Zoo Design Award winner

Houses were then given the task of preparing a debate on “Why do we Zoo?” McCormack and Polding argued for the existence of zoos, while Bosco and MacKillop argued against their existence. Teams enjoyed some fun discussion and became quite passionate in their presentations, with Bosco ultimately claiming the (temporary) Cup.

It is wonderful to see students involved so actively in this program.

L to R: Bosco’s champion debating team were Mitchell Briage, Ashley Schmerl, Carl Hoff, Luke Stockdale and Jake Sims.

Ms Kirsty Moore and Mr Mariusz Sternal
GATE Program Coordinators
House Cross-Country

Last Thursday morning Xavier College held its House Cross-Country championships. The last time the event was held, McCormack won its second shield in as many years; how times change. With perfect weather greeting the runners, all five age groups were soon out on the 2.5km course. The U13’s led the pack and showed the senior students how to approach the challenging course. First place in each age group and gender received fifty points for their house with a sliding scale down to five points for tenth position. Completing the course within the allocated time gave the student’s house one point.

Special mention must go to Caitlin Thackray and Amanda Bartsch who came first and second in the U14 Girls but who also beat all U14 Boys. The overall winner on 1184 points was MacKillop, second was Bosco on 919 points, third was McCormack on 735 points and fourth was Polding on 624 points. Congratulations to MacKillop on the double: athletics and now cross-country. The top five placing’s of boys and girls from each age group will now go on to represent Xavier College at the State Cross-Country Championships, held at Victoria Park Racecourse on Friday, May 27. Good luck team!

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<tr>
<th>13 Girls</th>
<th>U16 Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Alexandra Vickers</td>
<td>Rachael Kilpatrick</td>
<td>Royce Lively</td>
<td>Ryan Heinrich</td>
<td>Cassie Bolland</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Naomi Tucker</td>
<td>Kayla Stamper</td>
<td>Jordan Allen</td>
<td>Jozef Warren-Smith</td>
<td>Samantha Clancy</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Nadine Coad</td>
<td>Adelle Cockayne</td>
<td>Nathan Farrell</td>
<td>Zach Jamieson</td>
<td>Candice Hudson</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>Jazmin Johnston-Kenyon</td>
<td>Kiara Redden</td>
<td>Shane Lock</td>
<td>Nick O’Reilly</td>
<td>Courtney Suridge</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>Chantelle Long</td>
<td>Jessica Firka</td>
<td>Ryan Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Karlee Taylor</td>
<td>Joe Rossi</td>
<td>Daniel Wilson</td>
<td>Lachlan Greenalgh</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>Courtenay Trainor</td>
<td>Shaun Lay</td>
<td>James Harvey</td>
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<td>Emma Byers</td>
<td>Cameron Daniels</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>Tasman Stamper</td>
<td>Marc Oxley</td>
<td>Matt Hoffman</td>
<td>Sam Harnett</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>Brodie Hall</td>
<td>Sam Stanton</td>
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Mr Dan Searle
Sports Administrator
GAWLER SHOW SOCIETY INCORPORATED

GAWLER RURAL AMBASSADOR YOUTH AWARD

The Gawler Show Society runs an annual Gawler Rural Ambassador Youth Award that is open to local youth of the Gawler and surrounding areas.

The Gawler Rural Ambassador Youth Award offers young local Gawler people the opportunity to become involved in the local community and assist the Gawler Show Society with the Show Program during the annual Gawler Show.

Other benefits are wider community involvement and meeting local community leaders, public speaking experience, learning interview techniques, having the opportunity to network with people who may be able to assist in chosen career paths, and most importantly lots of fun with other people their own age.

For all further information including selection criteria please read the Gawler Rural Ambassador Youth Award Criteria below.

The winner of the annual Gawler Rural Ambassador Youth Award will be eligible to compete in the State finals of the Rural Ambassador Youth Award that is conducted by the Agricultural Societies Council of SA in Adelaide. The finals will take place in the following year that the winner is announced. For more information please read the Agricultural Societies Rural Ambassador Youth Award Criteria.

If you require additional information or are local to Gawler and would like to discuss the possibility of becoming involved and entering the Gawler Rural Ambassador Youth Award please email Coordinator, Patricia Dent on ihs.sa@hssociety.com.au or phone mobile 0408 173 101.

GAWLER RURAL AMBASSADOR YOUTH AWARD ENTRY CRITERIA

- MUST BE 16-19 YEARS OF AGE
- MALES OR FEMALES ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER

TO ENTER AND/OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
PATRICIA DENT 0408 173 101 - COORDINATOR

SA COUNTRY HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP
Held in Adelaide on the May long weekend

Naomi Tucker, represented the Barossa Valley association in the Under 13 girls hockey team. The team won 6 games, lost 1 and drew 1 to come top on the ladder. They went on to play the grand final against Burnside. The game drew and had to be fought out by one on one competition - Barossa triumphed 3 - 0. It was a great weekend and congratulations to Naomi.

Marie Kibble

Year 8 Cinema Excursion
Hating Alison Ashley

Last Thursday all the Year 8’s went to Gawler Cinema to watch Hating Alison Ashley.

Hating Alison Ashley is about a girl who is getting the best grades in her class until Alison Ashley arrives. From the minute she arrived in the class she shone so brightly that everyone loved her and wanted to be her friend which ended up with some problems.

At the end Erica and Alison become friends.

Overall the teachers were pretty happy about the way we represented Xavier College for the first time as a Year 8 group.

Sarah Pitt
Year 8

UNIFORM SHOP
OPENING TIMES
Term 2
Mon and Thurs 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Volunteers required

The College is seeking assistance in the form of volunteers for the school canteen. Duties are preparation and serving of food. No handling of money is required.

If you can contribute to the school in this manner, even if only once or twice a term, please contact Karen on 8521 4517 or the College Administration 8523 0088.

Ms Karen Stacey
Canteen Manager

“a school of the future in the present”