



30 January 2024

Welcome to 2024

Dear St Pius X Families,

I hope this message finds you refreshed and ready for an exciting new school year. As we stand at the threshold of 2024, I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to both returning and new families. Your presence makes our school community vibrant and strong.

To our returning students, welcome back! Your eagerness to reengage in the learning journey is the heartbeat of our school. We are excited to witness your continued growth and accomplishments throughout the coming year. Embrace the challenges, seize the opportunities, and let's make this academic year a memorable one.

To the families joining us for the first time, a heartfelt welcome to the St Pius X family! We are delighted to have you as part of our community. You are about to embark on a journey of discovery, learning, and personal growth. We are here to support and guide you every step of the way. May your time at St Pius X be filled with exciting experiences, lasting friendships, and academic achievements. Your presence adds richness to the diversity of our school, and we look forward to getting to know each and every one of you.

As we commence the new school year, I'm eager to see the corridors filled with the noise of students, the classrooms brimming with curiosity, and the playing fields alive with the sounds of camaraderie. Our cocurricular program is set to recommence, offering a range of activities to cater to diverse interests. Whether it's sports, arts, or other pursuits, there's something for everyone to explore and enjoy. We are also coming towards the end of the ISA Basketball and Cricket seasons. The last few games will be crucial so please check your Canvas or Clipboard notices for training next week.

As we commence the school year there are some matters, I would like to bring to your attention:

1. **A cashless system in 2024**

As communicated last year, St Pius X College has decided to transition to a cashless system in 2024.

Students can choose from two payment methods at the canteen:

- a) **EFTPOS card**: This would involve using a physical card issued by a financial institution.
- b) **Flexischools***: Flexischools is a platform that facilitates online ordering and payments at the canteen.

*New students who haven't been issued student cards can still use Flexischools once an account is linked to their student profile.

To set up a Flexischools account, visit the Flexischools website (<https://flexischools.com.au/>) and follow the instructions provided. When prompted to enter the student's barcode



number, enter the first section of their college email address. For example, if the email address is JSMIT01@stpiusx.nsw.edu, enter "JSMIT01" as the barcode number.

Once the account is activated and the student is linked, the student can present the barcode number to the canteen. Purchased items will be added to their account. Once student cards are issued, the student must present their student card at the canteen to use their Flexischools account.

Please see the College Finance Department if you have any queries.

2. Clipboard

All families should have received information regarding Clipboard. If you are still having any concerns with Clipboard, please email Mrs Jennifer Walsh (jwalsh@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au) or Ms Merryn Dodd (mdodd@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au)

3. New Student Management System – Sentral

- In 2024, St Pius X College has made the decision to move from the iWise Student Management System and Portal to a new platform known as Sentral. During the year, the College will gradually roll out Sentral modules and decommission elements of iWise.
- The first Sentral modules to be rolled out include: teacher roll marking, student timetables, the St. Pius X College Calendar and access to the Student Portal. Access to the student portal will be provided to students in the coming days. Students will receive an email with detailed instructions regarding login information and how to navigate the Sentral Portal.
- While the College transitions to Sentral, it will continue to maintain access to iWise until the rollout is finalised. More information regarding Sentral can be found at: <https://www.sentral.com.au/parents-portal>

4. New starting time and finishing times:

- A reminder that the Movement Bell will sound at 8.30am with all students to be at their Homeroom by 8.30am.
- The day will conclude at 3.10pm for students in Years 7-12.

5. New Homeroom structure for Senior school except Year 12.

- In 2024, students have been allocated a homeroom based on their House.
- Each House has an A and B class with students from the House shared equally between the two homerooms.
- Siblings should be in the same House across the school. Please inform your Pastoral Coordinator if this is not the case.



Important Upcoming Calendar Events:

Wednesday 31 Jan Year 5, 6, 7, 11 and 12 students commence.

Thursday 1 Feb Year 8, 9, 10 students commence.

Monday 5 Feb **Welcome Evening:** Mass/P&F BBQ /Year 7 Information Evening and Year 5 and new Year 6 students meet the teachers

- **Welcome Mass** for Year 5 and 7 students and families, as well as Year 6 new students and families commences at **5.00pm** in Our Lady of Dolour's Church.
- Following the mass, there will be a **P & F Welcome BBQ** in the College grounds.
- The Year 5 and 6 students and families will **meet their sons' teachers** in the Junior School classrooms while Year 7 students and families will move to an **Information Session** in the College Gym following the BBQ.

Wednesday 7 Feb Year 10 and Year 11 Information Evenings

Friday 9 Feb Commencement Mass

Let's work together to make 2024 a year of growth, accomplishment, and community spirit. St Pius X is not just a school; it's a family. We are stronger together, and together, we can create a positive, inclusive and enriching environment for our students.

I look forward to meeting and reconnecting with each of you. Here's to a fantastic school year filled with success, joy, and meaningful experiences.

Kind regards
Mr Michael Ronchetti
Principal