



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence,
Developing Understanding

NEWSLETTER



Celebrating Catholic Education since 1904

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...

We have commenced our new year and what a wonderful start to the year it has been! We have commenced the year with several events ranging from the powhiri for new staff and students to our beginning of year Mass. I have had the opportunity to meet many people associated with the college over the past few weeks and I am looking forward to meeting a lot more of you in the weeks ahead.

I would like to introduce myself a little more to the community with some background on myself and family. I have a long background in Catholic education stretching back to my years as a student in a Marist Brothers College in Cape Town, South Africa where I was born and raised. In my 30 years of teaching I have spent the majority of that time teaching and leading in Catholic Schools in a variety of senior leadership positions. This is my third principalship of a college, having recently been the Principal of Upper Hutt College. Prior to our family immigrating to New Zealand in 1996 I spent six years as Principal of Mount Edmund College in Pretoria, a Catholic college very similar to St Peter's.

I have been married to Jenni for 29 years and we have two children, Jo-Ann 26 years old and Andrew 21 years old. Both of the children have remained in Wellington to continue their own independent lives, but as most parents will appreciate they are never totally independent!

I have a passion for Catholic education and we were thrilled to be coming back home to the Catholic school system by joining the team at St Peter's College. I am fully aware that there are some challenges that face us at the college, but I have every confidence that as a community that prays, plays and learns together we will face each one of them together and succeed. In the months that lie ahead I will be extending invitations to all parents to be part of the solutions to our overcoming these challenges as we put together a new vision and strategic direction for the college. I hope to see as many of you at these sessions which will commence in the second half of term one.

During week two and three this term there is the opportunity for all parents to come along to the college to meet the staff and start to build on our community relationships which are so important for the education of our students. Please take the opportunity to come along to these information evenings and meet the staff.

It is also my pleasure to welcome some new staff members to our college community. We have established a position of Executive Officer in the college with the responsibility for all finance and property within the college. We welcome Kate Fryer to this position and hope that her association with the college will be a long and happy one. We also welcome Daniel Wood to the teaching staff for 2009. Daniel is replacing Nancy Kay as the Art teacher while she is on leave for the year and we wish him all the best for the year as he gets to know all the staff and students.

We have an extremely busy term one ahead of us so do take note of all the key events that are on our calendar and where possible come along and support the students at these events as part of the St Peter's community. I look forward to meeting you in the weeks ahead as we tackle our busy programme for the term ahead.

David Olivier
Principal



*Photos from the Powhiri
last Wednesday*

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Holdsworth Avenue
Palmerston North
New Zealand

Ph: 06 3544198 Fax: 06 353 3161
Email: office@stpeterspn.school.nz
Web: www.stpeterspn.school.nz

WELCOME NEW STAFF ...

This year we welcome the following staff to our community:

Kate Fryer

I am the new Executive Officer at St Peter's College.

I was born and bred in Palmerston North and have 18 years experience with local Chartered Accounting firms. I have a Diploma in Business Studies and am a member of the NZ Institute of Chartered Accountants as an Accounting Technician.



My fiancé Andrew, is also an Accountant and my seven year old daughter Jess is Year 3 at College Street Normal School (CSNS). I joined the CSNS PTA as Treasurer in 2007 and have enjoyed working within the school environment.

I enjoy spending time with Jess and her many extra curricular activities that keep us very busy. I love to spend time with family and friends and have been known to be a good challenge in singing star, but that is the extent of my singing abilities!

I have some interesting challenges ahead and am looking forward to working with Dave Olivier, the support staff, teachers and the Finance Committee.

Daniel Wood

I grew up in the thriving metropolis of Timaru, South Canterbury. Most of my student life was lived in Dunedin, where I completed my Bachelor of Fine Arts and Diploma in Teaching.



For the next two years, I worked in the Art Department at Bayfield High School, before leaving to head overseas on my O.E. I worked and played in London for two years. Most of the time I worked as a relief teacher and enjoyed the many different experiences this work had to offer - from the high-class to the poorest schools - no two days were the same.

Towards the end of my stay, I was very fortunate to work in the marketing department at The Mothers' Union, a Christian charitable organisation. I miss London a lot and would love to go back for a visit.

Last year, I was fortunate to work at Macandrew Intermediate, teaching a large number of subjects. This year I am very excited to be teaching Art - my specialty subject, at St Peter's College.

I have many interests including Squash, Rockclimbing, Fishing and Hunting. I enjoy team sports, like Netball and Soccer, and this year I would like to learn to play the guitar properly.

I am looking forward to the year ahead at St Peter's.

FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR...

We offer a counselling and education support service to all St Peter's students.

If a student is finding it hard to settle into school; is having problems in their relationships; is feeling over-stressed, angry, or sad; has had loss or grief in their lives; or just needs an objective listening ear, they can make an appointment with the service and we can help.

We also have resources and information about agencies, programmes and workshops that provide further back up for families.

We will endeavour to keep you informed about what is coming up.

See below: Information on the GAIN programme (Parenting teenagers).

Please note: We have moved – the Counselling and Education Support Service is now in S7 which is the old uniform shop, where we have a lot more space.

If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me on the school phone number.

Janine Loving-Molloy
Guidance Counsellor

Parentline Manawatu Inc

Family Programme: GAIN (Getting Alternative Information Now)



Providing new skills and information for families/whanau with teenagers. This programme is designed to help build stronger family relationships. At least one young person and one parent from each family must attend but it is better if all the family comes (not for children under 10 years). Topics covered are:

- Decision making - includes working out who has authority to make family decisions
- Self esteem - ways to build the self esteem of all family members
- Rules and consequences - what happens when the rules are broken
- Co-operation - family contracting and negotiation to enable win-win solutions
- Communication - improving understanding between young people and parents
- Peer pressure - helping young people to choose what's right for them and how to say 'no'
- Alcohol and drugs - information, plus the opportunity to explore healthy alternatives
- Problem solving - a step by step process

Facilitators: John Fransen & Glenda Udy

Six 2-hour sessions starting Monday 2nd March 2009

Registrations essential. Please phone the Parentline office (06) 355 1655 to register.

PROMOTING SPECIAL CHARACTER ...

MMM = Mass, Meal and Meet

Coming soon! The MMM Youth Night for Year 7 to Young Adults is starting again next month! Everyone meets for Mass, share a Meal together, and then break up into youth groups for fun, games, activities and prayer! Watch notices for more details or come and see Mary-Grace, the Campus Minister, in the Chapel for more information. All welcome!



Photos from the Opening Mass last Monday



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

Canoe Polo

During Waitangi weekend, Centennial Lagoon was transformed from a quiet duck pond into a carnival of white water, multi-coloured life jackets and crashing boats. It was the venue of the Atahua Cup Canoe Polo Tournament. St Peter's College was represented in two grades. A young team entered in the Novice grade. Competition was tough as they played against older teenagers and adults. While not victorious, the team learned heaps and showed great team spirit. A great time was had by all. The other notable St Peter's College representative was **Anna Hocquard**, playing in the Valkyries B team, who won their grade convincingly. Congratulations Anna! College grade Canoe Polo begins on Tuesday 17th of February. Anyone interested in joining this exciting water sport please see Anna or Mrs Cullen in the office.

NEWS FROM YEAR 7 AND 8 ...

Year 7 Camps to Sixtus Lodge

The dates for the Year 7 Camps are as follows:

- 7Je: Tuesday 17th March to Friday 20th March (Week 7)
- CAd: Tuesday 24th March to Friday 27th March (Week 8)
- 7Wh: Tuesday 31st March to Friday 3rd April (Week 9)

Your child has been given a camp information booklet, medical forms and a parent help form. **Please return the forms to school as soon as possible.** Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS ...

- **Rosie Missen, Jess Oulaghan and Hannah Fitzgerald** have just been selected in the U16 Girls Federation Football team, along with **Rhys Galyer** and **Campbell Devaney** who were selected for the U14 Boys Team. This is a big achievement for these five students, as they were selected from players from Palmerston North, Wanganui, Napier, Gisborne and New Plymouth. Well done!



L to R: Jess Oulaghan, Rhys Galyer, Rosie Missen, Campbell Devaney and Hannah Fitzgerald - Federation Football Representatives

- Well done to **Billy Brokenshire** who was selected in the U13 Manawatu Cricket Team.
- **Kataraina Hapi Tukapua** has been selected to represent the region in the U13 Maori Netball Team.
- **Danii Va'a** was recently selected for the Central Districts U15 Girls Touch Rugby team. At only 13, Danii is also a member of our Senior A Touch team, who will be trying to qualify for the Zones Touch Tournament taking part later in 2009.
- St Peter's College Inline Speed Skater **Emily Koot** (pictured at right) represented the Manawatu in January at the New Zealand Champs held in Christchurch. Emily came away with four gold medals in the team relays, one silver and five bronze medals in her individual events. Over Waitangi weekend Emily took part in the Inline Speed Skating Marathon, Open Women's event and finished in second place. Emily is hoping to go to Brisbane later this term to compete in the Oceania Competition. We wish Emily all the best for later this month, when the New Zealand team is selected for the World Champs taking place later in the year.



FOR YOUR INFO ...

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Bronze, Silver and Gold enrolments for 2009 are now being accepted. Students in Years 10 - 13 can collect forms from Mrs Lynch in B7. They are due back within the next two weeks, and a planning evening for parents and participants will take place early in March.

Request from Mrs Bennett

Would the school family who came to see Mrs Bennett's bedroom suite please contact her on 357 5674, as she does not have your contact number.

COMING UP ...

Swimming Sports - 19th February

The hotly contested House Competition starts with the annual Swimming Sports on **Thursday 19th February from 1.30 pm to 7.00 pm at the Lido, Park Road. Students need to be at the Lido at 1.00 pm.**

It is a normal school day, therefore all students are expected to be there. The reason the school hours have been altered is to minimise the risk of excess exposure to the sun and allow parents to attend later in the day. If postponed, school will be as normal. Listen to the radio from 7.00 am for cancellations.

As students will not be attending school during the day of the swimming sports and will be making their own transport arrangements to and from the pool, it is imperative that parents advise school by 10.00 am if their child is not able to be present at this event. Students who need to leave the sports between 1.30 pm and 7.00 pm need to give a note to their Vertical Group Teacher by Wednesday 18th.

Students are to wear House colours, hats and sunblock. Towels, food, water and warm clothes are essential. The Lido tuck shop and indoor toilets will be out of bounds to all our students. We will be using the outdoor toilets.

There will be a sausage sizzle later in the day. All parents/caregivers of students are warmly invited to join the fun and enjoy a BBQ tea.

Farewell Function for Mrs Allan - 24th February

Parents are warmly invited to attend this function on **Tuesday 24th February from 5.00 - 7.00 pm in the Gym classroom. Please let Mrs Kerr in the office know if you are able to attend** (phone 354 4198, extension 721).

Ash Wednesday - 25th February

There will be Ash Wednesday Services for students at 9.00 am (Juniors) and 11.00 am (Seniors) on Ash Wednesday.

Athletics Sports - 5th March

2009 is going to be a big year for St Peter's Athletics. This year we are hosting the Viard Shield Competition, which is an annual challenge between Chanel College, Cullinane College, Hato Paora College, Bishop Viard College and St Peter's.

We are also the organising school for the annual Manawatu Inter-Secondary Schools Athletics Competition. Both of these events will take place at the Massey Track. Dates are in the calendar in this newsletter. We would love your support, even for a short time during these events.

Our school Athletics Competition is taking on a new form this year. We are having a full school Athletics Competition (Year 7 - 13). We will run the event over two days:

- Day 1: **Thursday 5th March at school**, and one week later,

- Day 2: **Thursday 12th March at the Massey Track.**

All students will be bussed to the Massey Track (\$2 towards the bus fare). By using the Massey Track, our students will be able to experience top quality facilities, and staff will be able to become familiar with all the equipment prior to the other two events.

All students will participate and gain points for their House. House colours are to be worn on both days. Please ensure that students are 'sunsmart' in their dress.

Cancellation time for each event from 7.00 am on the radio.

BBQ for students and parents new to St Peter's

Parents and students new to St Peter's are warmly invited to a BBQ at the Lido on Tuesday 10th March from 5.30 - 7.30 pm. Further details will be sent to new students nearer this date.

CALENDAR ...

Mon	16	Feb	- 5.00 pm: Sports Committee Meeting - Gym classroom - 7.00 pm: Year 11 Parent Information Evening - 7.30 pm: Board of Trustees Meeting - 5.45 pm: Rugby Committee Meeting - Gym classroom
Tues	17	Feb	- 7.00 pm: Year 12 & 13 Parent Information Evening
Thur	19	Feb	- 1.30 pm: Swimming Sports - Lido
Tue	24	Feb	- 5.00 - 7.00 pm: Farewell for Mrs Allan - Gym classroom
Wed	25	Feb	- Ash Wednesday Services - Supersport Softball - 7.00 pm: Netball AGM and Committee Meeting - Gym classroom
Thur	26	Feb	- 1.00 pm: Colours Assembly
	2 - 4	Mar	- Year 9 Camps
Thur	5	Mar	- School Athletics Sports - at school
	5 - 8	Mar	- Marist Young Leaders' Forum
	7 - 8	Mar	- Relay for Life Event
Tue	10	Mar	- 5.30 - 7.30 pm: BBQ at the Lido for parents and students new to St Peter's
Wed	11	Mar	- Supersport Cricket/Tennis - 4.00 pm: Manawatu Secondary Schools Swimming - Freyberg Pool
Thur	12	Mar	- School Athletics Sports - Massey Track
Fri	13	Mar	- Reconciliation in the Hall
	17 - 20	Mar	- 7Je Camp at Sixtus Lodge
Wed	18	Mar	- Viard Shield Athletics Competition - Massey Track
Sat	21	Mar	- Manawatu Inter-Secondary Schools Athletics - Massey Track