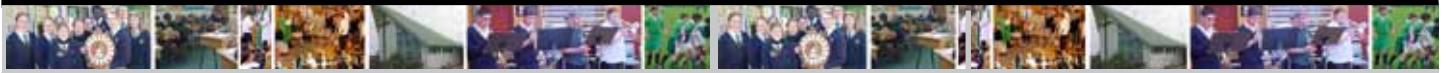




ST PETER'S COLLEGE
PALMERSTON NORTH, NEW ZEALAND

Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence,
Developing Understanding

NEWSLETTER No 15: 7 October 2011



Celebrating Catholic Education since 1904

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL ...

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Another term is over and, although we have a holiday to look forward to, next term will be very busy, though short. It will be the time when we say welcome back to Mr Olivier, refreshed and raring to go after his sabbatical term, as well as the time when we say farewell to our Year 13 students, as they leave St Peter's. We hope that they will continue their journey; living lives that matter and making their part of the world a better place. We will acknowledge this milestone at the Leavers Mass, to which all parents and caregivers are invited.

Once again, there is no winding down for Senior students preparing for external exams. Time in class, next term, will be vital. There are still many opportunities for students to achieve credits towards their final NCEA certificate and it is very encouraging to know that many students are focused on the quality of their achievement by pursuing the challenge of merit and excellence endorsements. We recognise, however, that exams can be a stressful time for students and their families and we encourage you to contact us if you have any concerns.

As a reminder, when students return to school after Labour Weekend, our **Summer uniform will be compulsory**. Please check the Link Book/Diary or the website for details or contact the College. During the Summer terms, it is expected that all students keep themselves safe in the sun: hats, sun block and shade. We appreciate the support of parents and caregivers as we encourage our students to develop sun-smart habits.

Finally, the end of Term 3 also means that I have come to the end of my role as Acting Principal. I have appreciated the opportunity to lead St Peter's College, knowing that it was made possible by the support of staff, students and parents. It has been rewarding, challenging and humbling. I will return to normal duties - Deputy Principal and Head of Junior School - in Term 4, after a trip home.

Wishing you all a safe and pleasant holiday (and that the Rugby Cup final is a combination of black and emerald green!).

Nga Mihi nui

Catherine Gunn
Acting Principal

St Peter's College celebrates being a Catholic Faith Community, where students, teachers and families work in partnership to develop empowered, self-managing, life-long learners, who live the Gospel values in a changing world.



Ms Butler's "Plant to Plate" Project Class in action - preparing the planter boxes, and the boxes fully planted with vegetables to be enjoyed next term! Grateful thanks to Henri Ham of Awapuni Nurseries for their generous donations of soil and plants. Go to Awapuni Nurseries for all your garden requirements.

Holdsworth Avenue
Palmerston North
New Zealand

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

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

BP Technology Challenge

St Peter's entered a team of Year 8 students in the BP Technology Challenge. They were required to make and market 'Ginger Beer' and to make a back pack out of newspaper. The newspaper back pack was good enough to earn the team 3rd place. Congratulations to **William Johanson, Nicholas Ellery, Ben Ratana** and **Elliott Gibbons** for their quick thinking team work.

VEX Robotics News

SPCBots have been doing well recently, being part of the winning alliance during the last 2 scrimmages. Vex Robotics games always have 2 robots forming a Red Alliance, competing against 2 robots of the Blue Alliance.

On 10th September we travelled to Lower Hutt and on 1st October we hosted a scrimmage in the hall at St Peter's College.

Unfortunately none of our robots scored enough points in the skills challenge to qualify for the World Cup. The team is still making improvements on all three competition robots, before 29th October, when there might be a tournament in Hawera.

The next local scrimmage will be at the newly opened Youth Centre on 5th November, followed by the Lower North Island Regional Championships on 3rd December.

Super Sport Cross Country - Feilding, September 28th

This year we had a keen team of 16 runners prepare for this event. Mrs Rolfe wants to congratulate the whole team who showed good commitment and effort during the training sessions. We had some promising results from the following athletes:

Year 8 Girls - **Annie Clark** 12th, and **Nina Hearn** 18th,

Year 7 Girls - **Bethany Grant** 11th and **Paige Lush** 18th

Holy Spirit Rugby Exchange

The SPC 1st XV began their game against Holy Spirit College from Australia, with a fierce Haka and carried that passion onto the field scoring an early try and putting fear into the young Aussie team. It was the 1st XV's final game and we finished the season on a high with a convincing win 32-0. The game was played in high spirits with everyone enjoying the game. It was a great opportunity to play an international fixture and is always exciting to live up to New Zealand's strong rugby reputation. The food was a great way to finish the day, and special thanks to **Dave Mollard** for all his hard work making this exchange as great as it was.

Santiago Sports Exchange

On Thursday 22nd August SPC played Volleyball and Hockey against Santiago College from Chile, South America. Many thanks to those families who opened their homes and welcomed our visitors to stay for the night. (Hockey results under 'Congratulations' on page 4.)

Volleyball

Even though we were lucky enough to have Lyndsey from the Massey A1 Women's Volleyball Team coach and give us pointers, we lost all 3 sets, but with respectable scores of 25-15, 25-12 and 25-12. Trying to get everyone to training was a bit difficult because of exams, but it was well worth the effort of juggling the two important commitments. Thanks to the girls for their effort and participation and well done to **Wairakau Greig** for being awarded with MVP! Huge thanks to Ms Black for coaching and supporting the girls.

Cean and Cane Demecillo

FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT ...

It has been a great year for Science at St Peter's College in 2011. We began the year by hosting the Fonterra Science and Technology Roadshow, which was a great hit with all attendees. Since then, we have had the ICAS Science Competition, the Year 7 & 8 CREST projects, and the School Science Fair.

I am proud to announce that **Nicholas Ellery** (Year 8), **Fergus Robinson** (Year 10), **Robin Laven** (Year 11), and **Ben Ellery** (Year 12) were all awarded Distinction Certificates in the ICAS Science Competition. **Rebekah O'Donoghue** (Year 10) and **Zhane McLaughlin** (Year 12) were awarded Credit Certificates, and 11 other students were awarded Participation Certificates.

Also most deserving of our praise is **Carol Hewitt** (Year 12), who has gained entry into Phase 2 of the selection process to represent New Zealand in the 2012 Biology Olympiad Team. We wish her the best of luck with getting to the final Olympiad Camp!

All the students in Year 7 and 8 worked on a scientific investigation or technology development during Term 2 and the first part of Term 3. This was a huge learning curve for many of the students, which led to some great projects. 108 students met the criteria for First CREST or Team First CREST, and will receive a certificate and badge for their efforts. The very best of these projects were entered into the School Science Fair, which was judged by a panel of teachers from the Science Department. First prize went to the team entry of **Jasmine Semmens** and **Arna Wrigley** for their "Food Safety A Salt" – a solid investigation into the freezing of salt water and how its rate of warming can influence its use as a cooling fluid for freezer packs in chilly bins. Second Prize went to **William Johanson** for his entry "Black or White" – a very interesting statistical study of milking herd data that seems to prove that minority cows with predominantly white markings produce more milk than their darker toned sisters! Third Prize went to **Nina Hearn** for her technology project "Hands on the Handlebars" – Nina developed and built a working model of an indicator system for bicycles, so riders can signal their intention without taking their hands off the handlebars!

Jasmine, Arna and William will each receive a \$30.00 gift voucher, and Nina will receive a \$20.00 gift voucher. All prizes and certificates will be awarded at a special Science Assembly, to be confirmed next term.

I would like to congratulate all of these students for taking up the challenges presented to them, and giving it their best effort! We are very proud of you all!

Matt Balm

Head of Science Department

PROMOTING SPECIAL CHARACTER ...

Lunchtime Mass on Fridays

Mass is held on Fridays in the Chapel here at St Peter's. Classes take turns for planning the Mass. Family and friends are always welcome at Mass on Fridays at 1.30 pm in the Chapel.

- Friday 28th October - Mass hosted by Liturgy Committee
- Friday 4th November - Mass hosted by CWh

Confirmation Programme 2011

The Confirmation programme for anyone aged Year 10+ will be starting next term on October 30th with an information evening for all potential candidates and their parents. If you are interested or wish to register for the programme, please contact Emma Dodson on 021 509-439 or manawatu@dyc.net.nz.

A Great holiday Camp for Years 9 and 10

Jesus for Real is running a camp for Years 9 and 10 from Wednesday 12th to Sunday 16th October. The camps are run in Paraparaumu by a Catholic team. They are a great way to have fun, make new friends, and learn about your faith. The camps are recommended by all who attend. Go with a friend and make lots of new friends. Visit <http://www.jesus4real.org.nz>

World Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday will be celebrated this year on Sunday 23rd October. It is a day to focus on the work started with the early church and continuing today - to proclaim the Gospel to all. The call to evangelization is as strong now as it has ever been. See www.missionz.co.nz/ for more information.

CAN YOU HELP? ...

Foster Parents Needed - are you able to help?

Across Social Services is looking for people who can provide weekend and school holiday care. We need people who:

- Are willing to be trained and supported to understand the needs of children in our care.
- Have a positive attitude towards children and their families
- Have lots of energy
- Can work as part of a team
- Want to make a difference to the lives of children and young people

It takes people with special skills and qualities to do this important role. If this sounds like you, and you have the time and commitment to play your part in the lives of children please contact us for more information, phone 356 7486

McCain School Veggie Patch

Help us grow our school Veggie Patch! Collect barcodes from McCain Frozen Vegetables and Purely Potato, to help us grow our healthy veggies. Bring them to the front office please. Thanks!



FOR YOUR INFO ...

Uniform

A reminder that when students return to school after Labour Weekend, **Summer Uniform will be compulsory.**

Second Hand Uniforms

A second-hand uniform sale will be held in the second week of the holidays - on **Wednesday 19th October from 4.00 to 6.00 pm in S1.** Donations of unwanted items of uniform can be brought to the office or to Mrs Kingsbeer in S1.

Office Hours during the Holidays

The office will be open from 9.00 am to 2.00 pm each day during the holidays.

Support your School

Shop at Warehouse Stationery and present the College's unique voucher at the checkout. Every \$1 you spend will earn 1 point that the College can redeem to buy school resources.

Here is the voucher or get one from www.warehousestationery.co.nz and click the "Support your School" tile.



What's On at Parentline Manawatu "Supporting Parents to Care for Children"

Groups: Please ring to register (06) 355 1655 and confirm time and venue.

- Triple P Teen Parent Group - improve family life with your teen, build positive relationships and manage difficult situations. Palmerston North: Starting Tuesday 25th October 7.00 - 9.00 pm.
- WEBSITE www.parentlinemanawatu.org.nz

Model Engineering Exhibition

Model Mee - Model Engineering Exhibition on **Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm** at the Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street, Palmerston North. Adults: \$3.00; Children: \$1.00; Family Ticket: \$6.00 Featuring models from the members of the Palmerston North Model Engineering Club.

COMING UP ...

Senior Mass - Wednesday 9th November

Parents are warmly invited to join us at the Senior Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on **Wednesday 9th November at 10.30 am**. All Year 11 to 13 students are to report to school as normal that day for Form Time and Period 1 and will be bussed to the Cathedral. After the Mass, buses will be available to return students to school if required. Other students will be dismissed from the Cathedral at approximately 11.45 am.

COMMUNITY ...

St Joseph's Feilding Community Gala

Sunday 30th October 11.00 am - 2.00 pm. Cakes, craft, toys, white elephant, books, clothes raffles, winning wheel, mystery envelopes and more! Bouncy castles, lucky dip, Good Look Salon. Fun games: nail drive, smack the rat, gumboot throw, golf putt, magic carpet rides and more! Live Entertainment! Sausage Sizzle! Café! Plus kids, 'tackle a Turbo'. EFTPOS. \$10 super passes available at Eftpos. Great for kids! Great Family Fun! Rain or shine! See you there!

Our Lady of Lourdes Gala

Come along to Our Lady of Lourdes Gala at Our Lady of Lourdes School, 96 Shamrock Street, Palmerston North on **Sunday 13th November 2011 from 11.00 am to 2.00 pm**. Lots of delicious food - hot dogs, chips, hot meat sandwiches, sweets, cakes; Stock Cars, Spin Art, Raffles, Haggle Alley, Plant, Craft and Book Stalls, Bouncy Castle, Wheel. No EFTPOS available. See you there!

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ...

Declaration of Student Election Results

I am pleased to confirm that the St Peter's Board of Trustees Student Representative Election has now been completed. At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare **Kendra Boyes** duly elected.

B C Morgan - Returning Officer

CALENDAR CHANGES ...

Year 10 Retreats

The Year 10 Retreats previously advertised as 14th & 15th November will now take place on **21st and 22nd November**.

TERM DATES 2012 ...

- Term 1 1 February to 5 April (10 weeks)
- Term 2 23 April to 29 June (10 weeks)
- Term 3 16 July to 28 September (11 weeks)
- Term 4 15 October to 11 December (9 weeks)

NCEA NEWS ...



National Certificate of Educational Achievement
KAUMATA MĀTAURANGA Ā-MOTU KŪA TĀE

All students with external examinations have received a copy of their exam timetable detailing all the subjects and standards they are entered for. They need to check this very carefully and see Mrs Lynch if there are any problems. An official admission slip will be issued just prior to examinations in November. An examination and result information booklet was also given to students. This booklet gives information about exam procedures and students should read this carefully.

CONGRATULATIONS ...

Hockey

Congratulations to **Alex Barrow** for being awarded with MVP from the Santiago Hockey match. Sadly, we were out played by a very classy Chilean side who had 2 members from the Chilean U18 National team on the turf! It was a great opportunity for our girls to play against such a talented team and gives us something to improve on for our exchanges in 2012. Thank you to all the parents who came down and supported the SPC girls on the day.

FROM THE ALUMNI ...

The College Alumni Society are hosting an Ambrose Golf tournament on **Sunday 6th November at the Feilding Golf Club**. Transport to and from Feilding will be provided, as will a barbecue. Entries are still being taken for teams of four and we still have a few sponsorships available for holes and prizes. Email alumni@stpeterspn.school.nz for more details.

CALENDAR ...

Mon	24	Oct	-	Labour Day Holiday - school closed
Tue	25	Oct	-	Term 4 begins
Fri	28	Oct	-	Supersport Golf
Fri	4	Nov	-	L3 PE Studies Gorge Run
Tue	8	Nov	-	7.30 pm: PTFA Meeting - Staffroom
Wed	9	Nov	-	Senior Mass - Cathedral
			-	Last day for Seniors
			-	Supersport Touch
Thur	10	Nov	-	NCEA Exams begin
Fri	11	Nov	-	Year 7 & 8 Vaccinations
			-	Year 10 Report 4 issued
			-	Secondary Schools Sports Awards
	21 & 22	Nov	-	Year 10 Retreats
Fri	25	Nov	-	Year 9 Report 6 issued
Wed	30	Nov	-	Supersport Athletics
Fri	2	Dec	-	Year 7/8 Report 4 issued
			-	Pool Party
Sun	4	Dec	-	Leavers' Mass and Graduation Dinner
Wed	7	Dec	-	Prizegiving - Regent Theatre
Thur	8	Dec	-	Sign-Out Day
Fri	9	Dec	-	Junior Mass (to be confirmed)
			-	Last day of school