



ST PETER'S COLLEGE
PALMERSTON NORTH, NEW ZEALAND

Standing Tall, Promoting Excellence,
Developing Understanding

NEWSLETTER No 16: 4 November 2011



Celebrating Catholic Education since 1904

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...

This has been a very difficult fortnight for our College and the family of Katerina Cherrington, who we lost so tragically in the first week of the term. What has been tremendously supportive for the family, the students and staff of St Peter's has been the offers of support that have come from our College community and indeed the wider Palmerston North community. Our fellow Secondary Colleges have been tremendous in making staff available to assist our staff and the food that came in from them and other parents and friends, has been very humbling.

I recently met with Robert and Tracey Cherrington, and they have written a letter to the College and community to thank all concerned for their loving support and with their permission, I share extracts of this letter with you now.

"We have been humbled over the past week with all that you have done. The love and warmth from all has comforted us in this time and we would like everyone to know that we are so very grateful for everything..."

It was overwhelming when the school came to our home and showed what our daughter meant to everyone, she was always a quiet person in some aspects and sadly we have only just got to know some of her beautiful friends....

It has taken this for us to slow down and take everything in, simple things, things that are happening around us, people we haven't visited in a while, taking time to enjoy little aspects of everyday. It has been a harsh lesson...

I ask that for parents – that you really listen, for kids – to talk and for all no matter what, there is always hope.... For her friends we would like to say our door is always open, even just to remember, so do not be shy."

I want to assure all parents and caregivers that the support systems are always available within the College or in the wider community and stand ready to assist when needed. The clear *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.*

message for the students under our care is that there is always hope and we as a community are always available to help where we can or provide the contact details of outside agencies that are available if preferred.

Please keep the family and all those affected in your prayers in the weeks and months that lie ahead.

David Olivier
Principal



Year 9 students Travis McIntosh (left) and Karin Ingram (right) with the Hon. Simon Power on his visit to school last week

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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

Simon Power Visit

Year 9 students were fortunate to hear the Hon. Simon Power speak on life as a Cabinet Minister, how laws are made and some of the advantages and disadvantages of being a democracy. Mr Power spoke of his time as a student at St Peter's College, and reflected that it helped provide him with a set of values from which to view the world, and also a sense of social justice with a desire to champion for the underdog. We are appreciative of the time Mr Power took out of his very busy schedule. No doubt there were budding politicians in the audience who would have been inspired by his positive presentation.

CONGRATULATIONS ...

Australasian Writing Competition

Congratulations to **Isabelle Ellingham** (Year 7) on achieving High Distinction in the Australasian Writing Competition - well done Isabelle!

Daffodil Day Volunteer

Well done to **Jude Bell-White** (pictured at right) who helped the Cancer Society with their Daffodil Day appeal. Kerry Hocquard from the Cancer Society wrote to us saying that "Jude was very helpful and really impressed everyone with his wonderful way of engaging with them at New World Supermarket on Daffodil Day".



ESOL Speech Board Exams

Congratulations to the following students who sat these exams recently:

Oral Communication in English for Speakers of Other Languages

- Foundation: Merit: **Jenny Dang, Beatriz Andrea Delos Reyes, Andre Dongon, Oma Dulal, Christine Ho, Gopika Neupane**; Distinction: **Marc Photipongsa, Nishan Raut, Nay Thammaruekrit.**
- Introductory: Merit: **Miguel Abellana, Angelina Anoser, Kim Dongon, Rina Eshiro, Siaosi Fifita, Nami Misake, Garfield Mwarehwa, Diwash Neupane, Margaret Sipa, Mina Sugimachi, Yuri Tanaka, Kolo Tavake, Sulieti Vai, Pete Yutharak**; Distinction: **Steven Chan, Anju Jose, Jean Mari, Viktory Meafua-Siafolau, Antonio Pindot, Patricia Pindot, Jonathan Te, Anna Woung.**
- Intermediate: Merit: **Manju Dulal**; Distinction: **Joseph Dela Cruz, Danilo Herrera Torres, Aarati Neupane**

Oral Communication Assessments In Schools

- Intermediate: Highly Commended: **Sione Asi, Jed Mari**; Commended: **Dominic Giganto, Tim Ouano, Anasthasia Sipa**; Distinction: **Kelly Chan**
- Advanced Intermediate: Commended: **Silia Tavake**
- Senior: Commended: **Jim Ouano**; Distinction: **Cean Demecillo, Mary Cane Demecillo.**

Congratulations to these students! Many thanks to **Mrs Robyn Shaw, Mrs Grey, Ms Ferguson** (ESOL staff) for their support of our students, and to Melba Townsley the Adjudicator.

PAST STUDENTS' SUCCESS ...

Victoria University Graduates

Congratulations to the following students on their success at Victoria University as follows:

- **Gemma Aldrich** - Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing
- **Gretchen Craig** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Francesca Croad** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Katherine Feeney** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Ruth Field** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Ciaron Fleming** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Chauncey Hitchen** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Cameron Holmes** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Leith Hutton** - Bachelor of Laws
- **Christie O'Connor** - Bachelor of Arts
- **Christopher Sheehan** - Bachelor of Laws with Honours
- **Erin Shillington** - Bachelor of Architectural Studies
- **Marie-Louise Siddle** - Bachelor of Arts with Honours
- **Rhema Sutherland** - Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Commerce and Administration
- **Katherine Vanderpump** - Bachelor of Commerce and Administration
- **Anne White** - Postgraduate Diploma in Education and Professional Development
- **Timote Wipiiti-Benseman** - Bachelor of Commerce and Administration

Russell McVeagh University Law Scholarship

Congratulations to past student, **Nellie O'Donnell**, who has been awarded a Russell McVeagh University Law Scholarship.

Well done to all these students - we are very proud of your achievements!

PROMOTING SPECIAL CHARACTER ...

Baptism and First Communion

Congratulations to these students who were Baptised and celebrated their First Communion during the holidays:

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish - **Leiana Karehana-Rowe, Tylah Ford, Jordan Davies** (pictured below with Father Percy)

St Mary's Palmerston North - **Matthew Pearn, George Southee**



FOR YOUR INFO ...

Former Student's Concert

Ben Booker (former student and Dux in 2008), will be presenting a concert entitled "**Classical Contrasts**" with eight timeless pieces by four monumental composers - Bach, Chopin, Haydn and Liszt. The concert will be held on **Sunday 20th November at Te Manawa Art Gallery, Main Street, Palmerston North, at 3.30 pm.** Entry by **donation to Caritas.** Come along and show your support for Ben and Caritas.

Support for Canteen

Mitre 10 Mega Palmerston North has a strong relationship with the community. We've decided this year to support CanTeen Manawatu and the amazing work they do with young people living with cancer. Together we can ensure no young person in our region goes through cancer alone. Living with cancer is traumatic at any time, but even more so for young people already facing challenges of identity, independence, education, relationships, intimacy and employment. CanTeen believes the best people to support young people living with cancer are those who have 'been there, done that' or are going through similar experiences. Members - consisting of young cancer patients, their siblings and bereaved siblings between the ages of 13-24 come together to form a national peer support network throughout New Zealand.

Mitre 10 Mega Palmerston North is getting in behind CanTeen Manawatu and getting under the Razor! Seven amazing Mitre 10 Mega team members, including myself, are going to be losing our locks for CanTeen on **Saturday 26th November at 12.00 pm** in our brand new store. Come on down and support us - Levi, NZ's strongest man will be there to help with the Mega Shave Off!!! You can donate online at www.canfans.org.nz/cause/Mitre10MegaShave. All money raised goes to CanTeen Manawatu. I'm passionate about the cause and willing to lose my locks to prove it! Thank you for your support!

Anna Hocquard (former student)

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT ...

Congratulations

Well done to **Karin Ingram, Maia Green and Wairakau Greig** for being Finalists in the Manawatu Secondary Schools Sports Awards this year. All 3 were selected as finalists in their categories - Wairakau - Netball and Touch; Karin and Maia - Football. Congratulations especially to **Maia Green** who was a jointly awarded Female Footballer of the Year for 2012.

Winter Sports Uniforms

We had a great Winter Sports season but it has ended on a frustrating note with some uniforms still outstanding. **Please return ALL SPC sports gear by next Wednesday** (9th November) otherwise we will have no option but to invoice you for the purchase of replacement garments, this includes shirts, shorts, skirts, tracksuits etc. There are also some fees still outstanding, please contact the Sports Office if you would like to confirm you are all up to date - sports@stpeterspn.school.nz

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ...

The Future Look of St Peter's College

The Board of Trustees invite parents/caregivers/staff/students/past students to participate in a survey looking at what buildings and facilities the College would like in the next 10 years and beyond. What is good about the College; what changes would be desirable; what additions should be made.

Your comments are appreciated as these will help with property and facilities planning.

Please go to the College website and click on "Buildings and Facilities Plan".

School Fees

The Board of Trustees is mindful of the economic situation affecting our families.

However, after full consideration by the Board there will be a small increase of 2.5% to the School Fees and Donations for 2012.

This 2.5% increase remains significantly lower than the cost of living increase of 5.3%.

The School Fees and Donations for 2012 are:

	Yr 9-13	Yr 8	Yr 7
School Fees (inc GST)	\$274.00	\$274.00	\$274.00
Special Character Levy	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00
School Donation	<u>\$152.00</u>	<u>\$109.00</u>	<u>\$ 72.00</u>
	\$606.00	\$563.00	\$526.00
This is an increase of	\$ 15.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 13.00
Fortnightly payments are:	\$ 27.55	\$ 25.59	\$ 23.91

We recommend parents/caregivers set up fortnightly Automatic Payments.

Please note that these amounts will only cover the School Fees & Donations. Sports fees, trip fees and other activities fees will need to be paid when requested during the year.

NCEA NEWS ...



National Certificate of Educational Achievement
TAUIMATA MĀTAURANGA A-MOTU EIA TĀE

- Students should access the learner-login area of the NZQA website to view their NCEA results in early January 2012 and Scholarship results in early February.
- Printed NCEA result notices will not be distributed to all learners automatically. Learners who require a printed result notice must request one from the learner-login between September and December.
- Scholarship result notices will be distributed to all candidates in February 2012.

So this means that if you want an official printed result notice (as students have received in past years) you must request one from the learner-login between now and the end of the school year.

Students sitting external examinations will receive their official entry slips next Tuesday. **These have the dates and standards that the students are entered for and must be brought to every exam.**

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 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.

Important Parent Meeting Tuesday 15th November

Brickwall, Hardline or Spineless Jellyfish - is there a happy in-between when working with teenagers? Connecting, problem-solving, maintaining good relationships with your teenagers. Working Restoratively with our children.

St Peter's College, with the support of the PTFA invites all Caregivers, Parents and Whanau to an important meeting which is specifically for families on **Tuesday 15th November at 7.00 pm in the school Library**. We are all aware that working with teenagers can be difficult, so parents may find exploring this approach useful.

- 'Walking the discipline tightrope with teens - what are the keys to keeping our balance?'
- What do we really mean by firm and fair when dealing with our teenagers?

Supper will be supplied

As a part of our strategic plan, the College began reviewing its behaviour management system in 2010. Richie Malta and Greg Jansen are trained facilitators who have been working with staff this year to upskill them in relation to working positively with teenagers. The approach used is restorative and involves listening to young people, getting the individuals involved to identify who has been affected and developing a plan to move forward.

Full School Prizegiving

As advised in the calendar of previous newsletters, this year's Prizegiving will again be held at the **Regent Theatre on Wednesday 7th December at 7.00 pm**, and will be for the entire school. **It is compulsory for all students to attend. Students must be in full and correct winter uniform, with polished shoes; girls with long hair tied back, boys clean shaven. All students must report to the Regent Theatre at 6.30 pm** and must sign in with their Form Teachers. Prizewinners will be notified prior to Prizegiving and should **confirm their attendance at the office. Prizewinners must report to Ms Johnson on arrival at the Regent**. Supper will be served for Year 13 students and their parents after Prizegiving.

Sign Out Day - This will be on **Thursday 8th December from 10.00 am in M2**. Year 13 students must complete Sign Out forms. Year 11 and 12 students complete Clearance Forms. Students are to return Text Books and accounts must be fully paid before students can collect the Petrus school magazine.

School Vision: 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.

FROM THE CAREERS DEPT

Gateway for 2012

Our Gateway students have had an excellent year, with one student receiving a study grant for 3 years to become an Early Childcare Educator and another being offered an apprenticeship in Turf Management at the Palmerston North Golf Club.

While two of our Year 13 students, **Shelby Spring** and **Ashley Hood**, have achieved the National Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care, the others have all exceeded the expectation of achieving the minimum of 10 NCEA credits at Levels 1, 2 and 3. The career paths are identified by the individual students – with agriculture, travel/tourism, hospitality, early childcare, health and broadcasting being the popular choices this year.

Applications are still being accepted for the Gateway Programme for those returning to school into Year 12 and 13 in 2012. We already have students interested in Hairdressing, Police, and Plumbing. Additional Career paths available for 2012 are Customer Service and Retail and a course for those wanting to enter any kind of manual trade. If you would like more information about the Gateway Programme for either your son or daughter coming into Year 12 or 13 in 2012 you are welcome to contact Mrs Robinson in the Careers Department on 3544197 extension 754.

CALENDAR CHANGES ...

Year 10 Retreats

Please note that the Year 10 Retreats will now be held on **24th and 25th November** (not 21st and 22nd November as previously advertised).

CALENDAR ...

Tue	8	Nov	-	7.30 pm: PTFA Meeting - Staffroom
Wed	9	Nov	-	10.30 am: 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
Tue	15	Nov	-	7.00 pm: Parent Meeting - Library
	24 & 25	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