St Peter's College

Grafton, Auckland, New Zealand

on

Catholic School for Boys in the Edmund Rice Tradition February 14, 2014. Newsletter 2/14

"The Game is Bigger than the Individual" (Achievement from character)

Yes, this is a phrase that has stood the test of time. Yes, this is a phrase that emphasise the common good over the individual's whim of entitlement. And yes, it is a phrase which has implications in educational achievement and character building of men.

But if we are to believe tabloid news reports, it is a phrase that has gone into disrepute among high performance sport players. A few examples:

• Two New Zealand cricketers boozing up to 3.00am before a test match;

• A league player king-hitting a rival and believing he should be let off – "sweet as"(!);

 A world cyclist deluding the world with his superhuman achievements before being found out;

• An All Black rugby player believing he owned a Cook Islands resort!;

• A super 15 rugby captain believing he has been given licence to intimidate the rugby referee as part of his position etc.

The swagger of the modern sportsman!

Are these reports simply closer scrutiny by the media dogs or are they trends of narcissism among young sports men?

It is true New Zealand as a country has gone beyond the 'selfless' taciturn times when All Blacks having won world grand slams went back the next day to milking cows, running schools and carrying fence posts uphill with one arm?

But have we got to a stage now where the individual controls the team?

Historically the game has always been bigger than the individual. That's how traditions and institutions are formed and established. It is how sporting codes and traditions are developed.

The reverse (individuals first – game second) invites some King Learian rage about inversion of the natural order or as the blind Gloucester put it:

"As flies to wanton boys are we to the gods.

They kill us for their sport!".

In terms of a school for boys, it is always timely to remind ourselves that achievement is the product of character, the referee is always right and registration for a sports team is a contract to practice and play. The team is bigger than the player.

At St Peter's College boys are often asked to represent the 1200 others whenever they undertake a team activity and especially putting on their school uniform.

I often wonder whether the educational success of East Asian countries is the product of their profound belief that first and foremost achievement is not about themselves, but about making their parents and families proud. In terms of PISA results (maths, literacy 11-15 years) western individualistic societies (like New Zealand) have fared worse than countries whose group/family achievement is the ultimate prize.

New Zealand could learn much from this ethic!

Reminders:

1) College Fun Run **Sunday 2 March** at the Domain for house competition.

2) College Fair **Sunday 23 March**. Volunteers needed. A reminder of the invitation to service for parents and boys.

3) Year 8 camp 26-28 February.

4) Launch of 75th Jubilee History **Thursday 27 February** at 5.00 pm.

Congratulations:

To our 2013 Scholars celebrated at a special assembly this week.

We remember R.I.P:

Nicholas Soong (Year 10) whose mother died last week.

Mrs Alison Strong (Attendance) whose mother died recently.

In His Peace

KMA

K F Fouhy Headmaster

Upcoming Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb	22 Feb	23 Feb
	Class & ID Photos @Hall 1stXI v Takapuna Grammar @SPC 12.30pm	Staff Professional Development @8am Assembly (Junior) Code Captains Function @Gym 5.30pm Whanau Meeting @Staffroom 6.30pm	Y8 Parents Evening @Hall 7pm	Middle School Swimming Sports @TBD Y7 & Y8 Social @Hall	1stXI Cricket vs Westlake @Westlake 12.30pm	
Y10 Activity Week	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
24 Feb	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb	1 Mar	2 Mar
Y13 Academic Counselling @ Library	BOT Meeting @ Library 7.30pm	Staff Professional Development @8am Y8 Camp @ Hunua (new start date from 25th) Assembly (Senior)	Y8 Camp @ Hunua International Assembly @Hall 9.30am Grandparents Day @Hall 11am M/S CZ Tennis @ Windmill Rd Launch of 75th History of SPC @ Hall 5.30pm	Y8 Camp @ Hunua Y12 Academic Counselling @ Library Y13 Shape your destiny @Hall	Edmund Rice Student Leadership Programme @ Green Bay 1stXI Cricket v Kings @SPC 12.30pm	Fun Run @ Domain from 8:30am

Important upcoming Bereavements Dates for the Term

24 Feb - Y13 Academic Counselling @Library

27 Feb - Launch of 75th History of SPC @Hall 5pm

28 Feb - Y12 Academic Counselling @Library

3 Mar - Y11 Academic Counselling @Library

6 Mar- New Parents Dinner @Hall 6.30pm

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Please ensure you phone the school by 9am if your son is going to be away or out of school for any appointments. We also ask that you send a letter with your son on return. Phone Mrs Alison Strong (Attendance Officer) on 524 8108 ext 7341

Nicholas Soong (Yr 10) - whose mother passed away recently

Dominic English (Y9) - Grandfather passed away

Nikora Lanifole (Y8) - Great Aunt passed away

Mrs Alison Strong (Attendance) - whose mother died recently

CONTACT DETAILS

Please log on to the SPC Portal: http://www.st-peters.school.nz/SPC-Service-Links.aspx to request a change of details. (see page 4 for information about our new SPC Portal).

Please be advised that due to safety concerns the front gate will be locked from 3.00 - 3.30pm Mon - Fri.

To Love and to Serve

Special Character News

The St Peter's Man is a Man of Faith

St Peter's College Inaugural Mass

Many thanks to those who attended Inaugural Mass on Tuesday February 4th. Thanks to Monsignor Paul Farmer for celebrating mass, and thanks to the St Peter's College Music Faculty and the Samoan Group for their participation.

Philippines Immersion Trip – Year 12

St Peter's College will begin an 'Immersion trip' to the Philippines at the end of 2014. The trip will consist of service work in Manila and a week in a Philippines school on the island of Negros. Any Year 12 student interested in joining the trip should see Mr Kingdon or email to hkingdon@st-peters.school.nz.



Above: Monsignor Paul Farmer



Above: Samoan Group at Inaugural Mass



Year 12 Retreats

Thanks to the Old Boys for running the Year 12 retreat programme this last week at Willow Park.

Thank you also to both students of Year 12 and Year 12 House Teachers for your input and participation.

To Love and to Serve

From Deputy Headmaster (Pastoral Care) Stephen Dooley

Dear Parents

It has been a good beginning to the year with encouraging signs the boys are settling well into school routines and expectations.

Congratulations to the following Year 13 students who were named as College Prefects at the Inaugural Mass last week. We look forward to a full year ahead with some strong initiatives implemented by this promising student leadership team.

	SPC Prefects for 2	014	
Head Boy	Felix Commarieu		
Deputies	Daive D'Souza	Special Character	
	Rohan D'Souza	Academics	
	Josh Plummer	O'Driscoll	
	Jack Adams	Transport	
	Luke Brown	Treacy	
	Jakob McCaffrey	International	
	Michael Nihotte	Music	
	Liam Shanker	Lynch	
	Jacob Suvalko	Rice	
Prefects	Romero Tagi	Nolan	
	Isaac Tamapeau	Sport	
	Rowan Thompson	Community	
	Bruno Tourelle	Middle School	
	Luke van der Sande	Bodkin	
	Sam Williams-Dufty	Cultural	
	Nathan Wood	Environment	
	Sam Bailey	General	
	Gerard-Luke Malgas	General	
	Euan Morris	General	
	Vincent Sacay-Wu	General	

Top right: Headboy Felix Commarieu Middle: Leadership Candle Ceremony Below: 2014 Prefect Team receive their badges







To Love and to Serve

From Deputy Headmaster (Pastoral Care) Stephen Dooley (continued)

The partnership between home and school is a strong one and places healthy and necessary boundaries around teenage boys. Please see below for some information from us where the home can really assist us:

Uniform

We get many positive comments about how smart St Peter's boys look in their uniform.

- Looking sharp for boys equates to thinking sharp.
- Other concrete benefits include self-respect and pride for one's school.

• Specifically you can help us by insisting on your son looking well presented in his uniform the moment he departs for School.

Punctuality

Like uniform, being on time is a sound indicator of how much a student respects the school and values learning. Key points are:

Year 9 Registration Day

Whilst our Registration days held at the beginning of the year went smoothly for Years, 10, 11, 12 and 13 we would like to acknowledge some systemic failures during our Year 9 Registration Day. To any parents and students who were affected by the long queues and lack of stationery we apologise for the inconvenience caused. Measures have been put in place to ensure the day runs smoother next year.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE

Catholic School for Boys Years 7-13

OPEN DAY

For Year 7 Enrolments in 2015 Limited enrolments at other levels

TUESDAY 4th MARCH 2014

Assemble 11.00 am or 1.30 pm in the College Hall (main school entrance – Mountain Road) followed by a conducted tour of the College by senior boys.

Weather permitting, parking available on the top field, main entrance Mountain Road

www.st-peters.school.nz

"St Peter's builds outstanding men"

• School begins at 8.30am every day with the exception of Wednesday's which begins at 8.40am.

• Any student that is late to school without a valid reason will likely receive a consequence.

• Lateness to school more than once a week is automatically referred to the Head of Year.

Attendance

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, new Ministry attendance guidelines provide schools with increased ability to refer students to the Auckland City Attendance Service (ACES) if repeated absences are recorded. Although we have been advised by the Ministry to state student absences without a medical certificate as explained but unjustified we also understand it is not always possible or necessary for parents to take a child to the doctors when they are absent from school. Of interest to us are **repeated patterns** of poor attendance. Please be rest assured, at all times a common sense approach to attendance will be taken with families.

We do thank you very much in advance for your ongoing support this year with all the necessary school procedures that keep our boys safe and performing at their best.

God's Blessings

Steve Dooley

2014 SPC

ENROLMENTS

Enrolments will be open until 1st April.

Please note the closing date is **1st April at 4pm**. No late Enrolments will be accepted.

For further enquiries phone Mrs Virginia Christie on 524 8108 ext 7323

2015 SPC ENROLMENT DATES Now Closed

To Love and to Serve

From the Assistant Headmaster (Middle School) Michael Mullin

Middle School Report

As we start a new year, it is important that both students and parents feel connected to Saint Peter's College. This can occur for students by representing the school in team sports instead of club or becoming a part of the cultural groups that perform in the Polyfest competition. There are Music groups and choirs, Special Character groups such as Young Vinnies which give students the chance to get involved in all parts of school life.

For parents it could be coming along to the Fun Run at the Domain on Sunday the 2nd March with your sons and family. The Fair is on Sunday the 23rd March held at school and is always looking for people to help in the lead up and on the day. There are plenty of opportunities for parents to be a part of the PTFA to help where possible or on the day with the fair.

Some important dates for Middle School Parents:

- Class ID Photos Tues18th Feb
- Year 8 Parent Information Evening Thurs 20th Feb
- Middle School Swimming Sports Fri 21st Feb
- Year 8 Camp Wed 26th to Fri 28th Feb
- Year 7 Grandparents Day Thurs 27th Feb
- Fun Run Sunday 2nd March from 8:30am

- New Parents Dinner Thursday 6th March
- Year 7 Camp Tues 11th to Fri 14th March
- School Fair Sun 23rd March

Some reminders for Middle School Parents:

• If parents wish to contact the school about any issues regarding their son in Year 7 or 8 please contact their teacher in the first instance. If necessary this will be followed up by the Head of Year.

• At the end of the school day please pick up your son from outside the school gates

• If for any reason you need to deliver something to your son during the day please drop it to Mrs Turnbull in the Middle School Office and she will ensure it gets to your son. It is not appropriate for parents to go into their son's classroom.

• If you are unsure about anything regarding the school please use the SPC web site as your first point of contact.

Best Regards

Michael Mullin

Assistant Headmaster Middle School

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Class and ID photo's are being taken on **Tuesday 18 Feb** Orders this year are to be made out to ST PETERS College.

GUIDANCE COUNSELLING

Guidance Counselling is available during school hours. Any students requiring confidential appointments or a parent wanting to refer their Son, can reach Mrs Kersten in the Careers Department. Contact details are:

dkersten@st-peters.school.nz

524 8108 ext 7344

EDMUND'S SHOP SHOP OPENING HOURS:

Monday-Thursday (during school Terms)

For Parents: 9:30am-2:00pm For Students: Interval & Lunch time only

Friday (during school Terms)

For Parents: 8:00am-12:30pm For Students: before school 8:00am-8:30am & Interval time only

To Love and to Serve

Itinerant Music Lessons

Itinerant Music Lessons started this week. Timetables have been e-mailed to all taking lessons and the timetables are up in the music department.

All music groups started this week as follows:

- Senior Concert Band Monday and Wednesday at 7.30am
- Jazz Combo Monday lunch time
- Stage Band Monday 3-5pm
- Orchestra (SPC/SMC) Tuesday bus leaves 7.15am to go to St Mary's
- Symphonic Band Tuesday and Thursday at 7.30am
- Junior Strings Wednesday 7.30am
- Junior Concert Band Friday 7.30am
- Chamber Orchestra Monday 7.30am (invited senior students only

Senior Orchestra Workshop:

Reminder for the senior orchestra – workshop Saturday 22nd February is at St Mary's College

Friends of Music

Friends of Music Meeting Monday 17th February at 7pm in the music department. All parents welcome. This is an important meeting as we will be discussing plans for the year including the Social, band and orchestra camps, a possible Europe trip in 2015 amongst other items.



Above: Senior Concert Band performing at Inaugural Mass

Cultural



SPC SAMOAN CULTURAL GROUP (POLYFEST) 2014

REMINDER: Parent Volunteers required for the Live – In at MIT Marae this weekend. If you could help out with cleaning, Dads staying overnight (contact Fau), & catering (contact Apii). It is not too late to make contact FA'AMOLEMOLE.

PRACTICES: Mondays & Wednesdays (3.30pm – 6.30pm); Fridays (3.30pm – 5.30pm) & Saturdays (10am – 4pm). All practices are in the hall except Fridays on the field, by the Chapel. Enquiries relating to Samoan Group Polyfest, please contact Fau Tiatia-Farani (Polyfest Co-ordinator) on spc. samoan.community@gmail.com or text/call her on Mobile: 022 169 0966. COMMUNICATION: Please check your emails for communications relating to Polyfest, as we endeavour to keep you informed regularly. Alternatively, contact Fau if you do not have access to email.

TAUTUA MO SAMOA KOMITI – MEET

AND GREET (8th February 2014)

FA'AFETAI LAVA MO LE MAMALU O MATUA NA AUAI MAI I LE TATOU FONOTAGA MUAMUA O LE TAUSAGA. Thank you to all our parents & caregivers who were able to attend our first fono on Saturday. A special welcome to our new parents & families to the College. We look forward to a great year. Stay tuned!

For all enquiries relating to the SPC Samoan Parents Komiti, please contact us via email: spc. samoan.community@gmail.com. FA'AFETAI LAVA.

Vailoa Milo-Harris

To Love and to Serve

Other News

Year 10 Activity Week 2013 - Rangitoto Trip

It was a fine and cloudless day-if not a little windyperfect for a great day outdoors. And that is just what the students of both Rice and Treacy needed, for today was the day that they travelled to beautiful Rangitoto Island for the arguably "best day" of the exciting Year 10 Activity Week.

The students milled around excitedly after disembarking the bus. As the hoard of bodies shuffled into the ferry terminal, anxious teachers raced around like mosquitoes, calling frenzied head counts to ensure no students were left behind.

When we arrived, we were informed about the Islands' cultural and scientific history by **Dr Reid**, and grilled about environmental conservation and safety by **Mr Barker**. Before long, however, we were off, and began to notice something quite different about this island-there was no soil. Yes, the "ground" on Rangitoto is composed of volcanic rock that shot out of its fiery summit some 600 years ago.

We continued to proceed on this relatively flat track for twenty or so minutes, then had a short rest and a drink at a viewpoint over our climb so far. Before long, we were off again, with promises of no stopping until morning tea. In the next half hour or so we walked increasingly steepening ground until we came to a large tree filled clearing populated by sitting-logs and a seemingly useless looking hutlike building with no openings on the outside. We sat and enjoyed some food and refreshments and then shouldered our packs again for the final 10-15 minute stretch of the journey up to the summit. On the walk we passed deserted buildings used as listening and watching posts during World War II, and a few stretches of woods that resembled sets for The Lord Of The Rings or The Hunger Games. Finally, we reached the summit and were greeted by breathtaking views of the island itself and an unobstructed view of the sweeping Auckland CBD.

After a slightly rushed lunch at the top, we headed back down to the "log clearing", and those who were game enough headed off with **Mr De Beer and Mr Kalinowski** to explore the mysterious lava caves. Did I go? Of course!

The brave group of cave-explorers headed down a rocky track and came to the first of the underground caves-difficulty level: Low. Most of us managed to get through the half-light, uneven tunnel pretty well, but the worst was still to come. Difficulty level: Medium, nicknamed the "Hole of Death" for its narrow entrance, the next tunnel was a low, pitch (and I mean PITCH) black tunnel that had a few sudden corners and drops. Many did not survive this

cave without a few scratches/bruises or dirty hands and knees. But we did all survive, I think!

Unfortunately, we couldn't attempt the High difficulty cave due to a lack of torches, but I'm sure everyone had fun anyway.

After we stumbled back into the bright sunshine we began the weary trek back down to the boat dock. After another half an hour of nice scenery and another head count, we were all comfortably on the 1:00pm ferry back to the mainland, worn out but satisfied from our eventful day on the majestic Rangitoto Island.

By Damon Burdett, 11RICE

Spirit of Adventure

In the holidays I was privileged enough to go on the Spirit of Adventure 10 day Youth Development course on a large sail boat. There were heaps of opportunities that I got to participate in and I overcame lots of fears like heights and doing things that made me go outside my comfort zone. The boat was a great way to learn new skills that would be hard to learn anywhere else, such as navigation skills, engineering and sailing. It is easy to make lifelong friends on the boat as you stay very close together for 10 whole days. And once you have done the boat trip you can do it as many times as you want for free. If you are aged 15 to 18 I would highly recommend the trip to you. There are only 25 to 29 voyages per year, so you have to put your name on a public waiting list. The skills you learn on the voyage look great on your CV and are recognised worldwide. There are day trips available as well, so if you are not so keen on long trips out on the water this may be a good option for you. If you want more information go to http://www.spiritofadventure.org.nz/. The voyage is a great time to be yourself and have the time of your life.

by Patrick Lasham



To Love and to Serve

St Peter's to play Curtain Raiser to Blues vs Crusaders Game

The school has been invited to play the Curtain Raiser for the Blues vs Crusaders game on February 28th at Eden Park. Kick off is 5.15pm.

Eden Park has offered the school 300 tickets at \$30 for adults and \$10 for children (U14), with part of the ticket sale going towards raising funds for our annual trip to Gisborne Boys High School for 1st XV, 2nd XV, U15 and U14.

We would very much like it if you could come along and join us.

Details of the ticket offer are below.

Seating: West corner of South Stand, Level 4, Block 432, Under cover.

Cost: \$30 Adults. \$10 Children. Payment must be made prior to tickets being issued.

To purchase tickets:

Website/application form: http://www.st-peters.school.nz/Sports/Rugby-(1).aspx

Email: sport@st-peter.school.nz

Phone: 5248108 ext 7307

Basketball Academy

The school is excited to be introducing a Basketball Academy. Leading the Academy is **Leyton Haddleton**. Leyton is the 1st V Coach. In addition to this he is a coach for the Breakers Development Program, Auckland and New Zealand Age Group teams.

The Academy is open for Yr 8 - 11 boys and will run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 6.45am - 8.00am, in Term Two and Three.

Applications open next Monday on the school website under Basketball. Application forms are also available from the Sports Office. Applications close March 7th.

Athletics Meeting

Interested parents are invited to attend an Athletics meeting in the staffroom at 7pm on Monday the 17th of February.

Winter Sports Registration

There has been an excellent response to Summer Sports Registrations, trials and meetings. All summer teams get underway over the next week.

Winter Sports registrations will open from the first week in March for Basketball, Football, Hockey, Squash and Rugby.



Softball

Congratulations to the following boys who represented Auckland at the recent Softball NZ National age grade Championships.

U/13: Kobe McLean, Elijah Fuamatu, Dylan Tonkin

U/15: Kalin Felise -Top Tournament Pitcher & Tournament MVP

U/15 Development: Conner Smith

U/17: Nathan Cooper, Joseph Polamalu, Nelson Kohlhase, Joseph Kohlhase

U/17 Development: Logan Esau

U/19: Joseph Kohlhase, Maddix Rice

Registrations are now open for the SPC Softball Academy. The Academy is open to boys from years 7-13.

Application forms are available on the Sports section of the school website, or by emailing: softballacademy@st-peters.school.nz

Congratulations to **Maddix Rice** who was selected in the NZ Junior Black Sox team to compete at the Junior World Champs in Canada later this year.

Sport (continued)

Rowing

Representing West End Rowing Club, SPC Rowing Captain **Elliot Rhodes** and SPC Coxswain **Jack Baird** along with **Louis Sayegh** (2012 Rowing Captain) won Bronze at last week ends North Island Club Championships @ Lake Karapiro in the Mens Club Coxed 4.

The boys also contested the Men's Club Quad finishing 4th after a hard fought race.

Elliot qualified for and finished 4th in the A final of the Men's Club Single which had a record 36 entrants this year. As one of the youngest competitors in the field he can continue to have confidence in his success and build towards his Maadi Cup campaign.





Congratulations

Keegan Allen, Sanford Landall, Mitchell Landall, Oliver Kumarich, Sebastien Priscott, Harry Williams, Daniel Cameron – Performed very well at the recently held Anthony Mosse Classic Swim meet.

To Love and to Serve

Sport (continued)



invites the wider school community to the

2014 Aon Head of Harbour Regatta

at Lake Pupuke, Milford this coming Saturday 15th February



St Peter's College rowers are competing in 23 events against upwards of 30 other schools from around the Auckland region.

What:	The 2014 Aon Head of the Harbour Rowing Regatta
When:	Saturday 15th February.
	Starts 8.00am, Finishes approx. 5.00pm. Come & go as you please.
Cost:	Absolutely Free!
Where:	Lake Pupuke. The spectator area is down Sylvan Park Ave, Milford.
	Parking is free in the surrounding streets off Lake Road

Bring food/drink, chairs, sun/wind protection & warm clothing for a great day. Don't forget binoculars.

Look out for the SPC flags on the grassy bank.

Come along for this colourful spectacle & support your school rowing team.

To Love and to Serve



An Invitation from Kieran Fouhy, the Headmaster of St. Peter's College

Greetings for the New Year 2014.

I am extending a warm invitation to our first 75th Jubilee event of the year, the launch of the project which will see a history of St Peter's College written by Old Boy and author Matthew Elliott.

Date: Thursday 27 February 2014 at 5.00 pm Venue: College Hall

There will be some complimentary drinks on arrival and nibbles, along with a cash bar.

All of us through our association have had some part to play in the history of St Peter's College. Thus, the 75th Jubilee is a poignant reminder of the many Old Boys and memories associated with the College.

We will be obtaining contact details for the Jubilee Celebration on the 8/9/10 August 2014 in the hall foyer as you come to the function, so could I ask that you also personally extend this invite to other Old Boys from your era and friends of the College.

We have much to celebrate as a College on Mountain Road.

I look forward to seeing you there.

In His Peace

K F Fouhy HEADMASTER

To Love and to Serve

Notices (continued)

Step Family Success Workshop

Do you or your partner have children from a previous relationship?

Grab this chance to discover how to unite with your partner and help children adjust to step family life. You'll be inspired, refreshed and learn practical strategies that really work. Don't miss out, numbers limited. Register now!

On: Saturday 15th March 8.30am – 3.30pm

At: The Parenting Place, Auckland

Go to: www.theparentingplace.com click on Event Finder or phone (09) 524 0025



MR MATHS TUITION

Over recent years I have been running AS and A2 Mathematics courses at St Peter's College, which have proved very beneficial for the students. Last year an 11 year old boy under my tuition gained an A* at A2 level Mathematics.

I also run courses for smaller groups at my studio classroom in Newmarket and this could be helpful for students who need a little more individual attention.

My focus is on Cambridge at all levels and junior maths.

For further information please contact:

Michael Riley www.mrmaths.net 0274 41 55 66



To Love and to Serve