

# St Peter's College

## Grafton, Auckland, New Zealand



Catholic School for Boys in the Edmund Rice Tradition

30 Oct, 2015. Newsletter 19/15

## Closing the Gate (A worldwide trend)

I grew up in a small town in the Wairarapa - a place called Pahiatua. It was the centre of the Bush district, farmers, stock agents, rugby players and true blue national voting. Not too much PC talking in the air! Coincidentally Mr Bentley, new Headmaster of St Peter's College, was also brought up in this town.

It had houses built for families on quarter acre sections. It had and still does have all the infrastructure of a thriving community.

Alas these houses are now empty with the rural depopulation of the land and economic policies that encourage people to live in Epsom Auckland.

Pahiatua was also the centre for some 700 Polish refugees brought out from Europe in the aftermath of World War II. Their personal stories of escape from Europe were a tragedy of mistreatment, inhuman conditions, death, trauma and separation of families.

But in NZ they were not treated as refugees. They were not commoditised humans who would ruin the national economic balance sheet. They were not accepted under any miserable face saving political quota.

They were in the words of Peter Fraser, the Prime Minister of the time ... **"honoured guests of New Zealanders"**.

In my teaching career I have taught many of the children and grandchildren of these **"honoured guests of New Zealand"**. They have made families for themselves, established businesses, paid taxes and become fully contributing individuals to New Zealand ethos and prosperity.

Fast forward 70+ years, we can see history and tragedy repeating itself with another country - Syria. Millions trying to escape the aftermath of war and destruction. It is difficult to watch TV on this matter.

And New Zealand's miserable response to this world tragedy? ... To accept only 100 refugees! (In contrast to many other countries.) Not honoured guests this time but grudgingly accepted with political expediency and under a mountain of rules and caveats.

Have we become less generous as a country?

So when the invitation (challenge?) was given from year 10 girls at St Mary's College for St Peter's men to step up with some response to

this crisis, it was readily accepted. Hopefully with a sense of justice but perhaps with a sense of gender competition!

'Three hours for Syria' service hours and sponsorship for each boy year 7-10. It is a simple system and one we want every boy (yr7-10) to take on board. No cheating of money or hours. No fudging of hours worked. Simply do the hours of service and hand the sponsorship money over for distribution through Caritas.

The real issue for the world your sons will inherit ... is how can we as humans become more compassionate, more responsive to others and more generous towards the outsider. We need to open gates not put up fences or walls.

Any fool can become more stingy.

Thank you to St Mary's year 10 girls and their initiative and jolting of our collective conscience in this area. St Peter's men accept the invitation and challenge. Thank you to Mr Kingdon for his work in this area of organisation.

Incidentally if we accepted a more generous intake of refugee guests, we could fill all those empty houses in Pahiatua and help repay our national debt.

What am I missing here in this logic?

Reminders:

1. Exam times and hours for seniors.
2. College prize giving is a compulsory school event for all parents and boys **Tuesday 8 Dec 2015 at 7.00pm**. Venue: Logan Campbell Centre Green Lane Road East.
3. All school commitments by seniors entered into before public exams are to be honoured.
4. College Chapel working group meets regularly with the architect ... stay posted.

In His Peace

K F Fouhy  
Headmaster

## Upcoming Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 Nov	3 Nov	4 Nov	5 Nov	6 Nov	7 Nov	8 Nov
Samoan Parents Meeting @ Staffroom 6pm	Cycling Committee Meeting @ Staffroom 7.30pm NCEA Study Leave begins 3pm		Leavers Mass @St Michaels 5pm Leavers Dinner @ Hall 6.30pm			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9 Nov	10 Nov	11 Nov	12 Nov	13 Nov	14 Nov	15 Nov
PTFA @Staffroom		Old Boys AGM @ Library 7pm Middle School CZ Badminton @ Gillies Ave		Y7-8 Exams		

## Important Dates for the Coming Term

<b>3 Nov</b>	NCEA Study Leave
<b>13 - 17 Nov</b>	Y 7-8 Exams
<b>19 - 25 Nov</b>	Y 9-10 Exams
<b>26 - 27 Nov</b>	Y10 Theology Trip @CBD
<b>28 Nov</b>	Kieran Fouhy Celebration Night

## Bereavements

**Ashley** (9TRE) and **Jason Paul** (8TERE) Grandmother died.

**Marcel Milo-Harris** (10RIC) Grandfather died.

**Mark Meyers** (9BOD) Great Aunt died.

.....Rest in Peace

### 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

### 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.

# Special Character News

'The St. Peter's Man is a Man of Faith'

## 3 Hours for Syria - Years 7-10

As per email sent home last week, Year 7-10 students are currently taking part in the 3 Hours for Syria campaign. Key details as follows:

- Students offer 3 hours of work to a sponsor - a family member, neighbour etc. Suggested donation amount is \$10 per hour - \$30 in total
- The sponsor agrees to pay for the service by donating to the Caritas 3 Hours for Syria appeal
- 3 Hours for Syria ticket (pictured) filled in by sponsor and cut by student – stub with important payment details stays with sponsor, section with


student and service details brought back to school on Friday November 6th

3 Hours for Syria provides our community a way to uphold our Justice and Solidarity Edmund Rice Touchstone and to put into practice our school scripture motto this year: 'I will show you my faith by my works'.

In anticipated thanks to the community for your generous support of this venture.

Hayden Kingdon

**Assistant Headmaster**



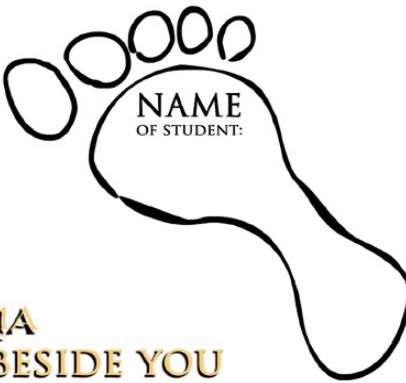
You can make your tax deductible DONATION in the following ways:  
Use Caritas SFC ref. code - 22538  
☐ Like us on our FACEBOOK page of "3 hours for Syria" and follow the link to Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand.  
☐ Phone Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand during office hours on 0800 22 10 22  
☐ Visit Caritas online at [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz) to donate and find out more information about the 3 Hours for Syria campaign

PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

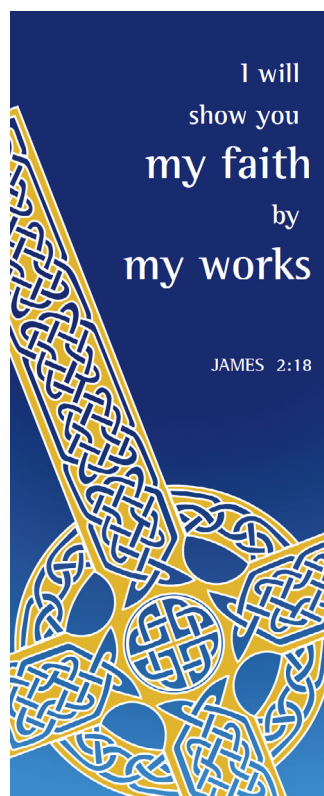
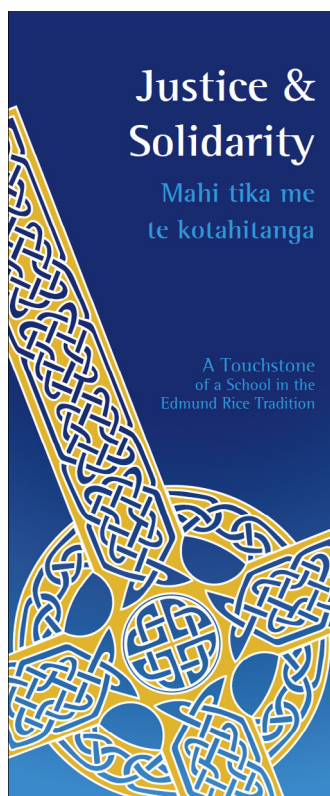
1ST HOUR	2ND HOUR	3RD HOUR	SPONSORED DONATION
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SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE:  
EMAIL:

NAME OF STUDENT:

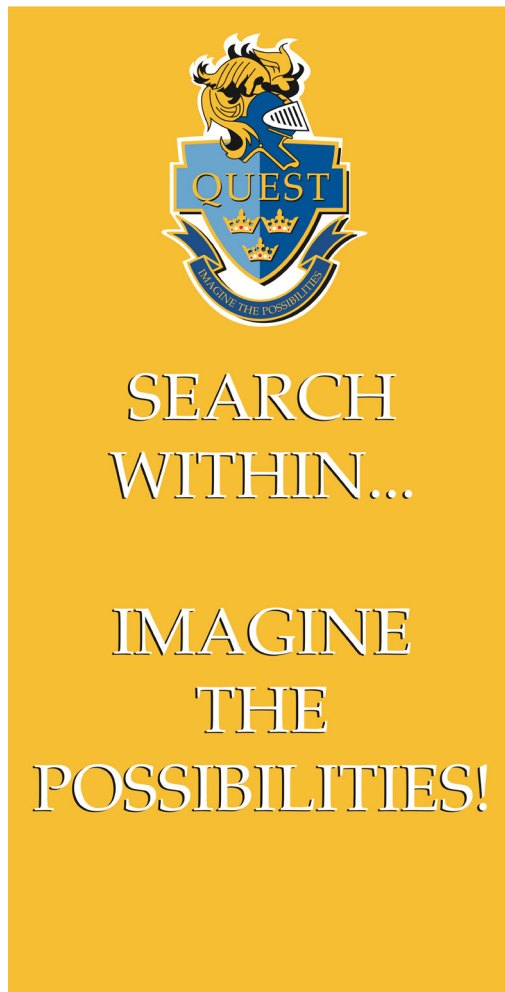


**3 HOURS FOR SYRIA**  
**I AM WALKING BESIDE YOU**



# Special Character News (continued)

## Quest Retreat 2016



## Quest Retreat Dates for 2016:

Year 8 Students and Parents are advised that the Year 9 Quest Retreat will be held over the weekend of April 9th and 10th next year. Please keep these dates free. Details of the retreat will follow later this Term.



## Literacy For Life: Solomon Islands Outreach

The Solomon Outreach Society is sending a container of goods to assist 7 schools in the Solomon Islands who need **reading books** (pre-school to 1st year secondary), **stationery** (pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers, chalk, writing paper, full or part-used reams of paper, new or part-used exercise books - anything that students and teachers use), and **sports equipment** (particularly balls & bats e.g. Mitre 10 Mega's 12 tennis ball set). If you have any of these at home you no longer need or are willing to donate to students in need, please get your son to bring them to Mr Garrick in room O13 by **Friday 6 November**.

### VERY IMPORTANT: New off-site permission slip system: CareMonkey

Thank you to the parents of all 995 boys who have submitted profiles for CareMonkey. We still need the remaining 355 students to have profiles created in CareMonkey across the school.

For the Year 9 Camp there are 29 outstanding permissions and for Year 10 Activity Week 39 outstanding permissions. All parents of students in year 9 & 10 who have not responded to these off-site trips need to act quickly. If we don't have your permission for your son to take part in these important off-site excursions, then THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

Please take a moment to complete your son's CareMonkey profile online – you must be getting sick of those reminder emails and they really do cease when you oblige!

**THANK YOU**



# From the Office of Deputy Headmaster (Pastoral) Stephen Dooley

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## “Stuff up - Own up”

The phrase above was created at St Peter's College long before my own arrival. I first heard it from **Mr Myles Hogarty** who used to be in charge of Pastoral Care at SPC and is now Principal at De La Salle College. I have heard the expression many times from **Mr Bentley, Mr Fouhy** and all the Head of Years.

It is not a phrase for practical advice on how to manage one's time efficiently.

It is not a request.

It is not advice.

It is I think an insight into what New Zealand Men hold most precious.

It is wisdom passed down within a boys Catholic School.

When done trustfully and sincerely the doorway to rapid yet significant transformation is open to boys. It is in this “liminal space” where true pastoral care works its magic held firm within a Catholic tradition.

If the above sounds too deep or extreme then one has either...

- not seen the damage lying can do to not only a boy's reputation, but more importantly to a boy's own sense of authentic self. Or...

- is unaware of how boys owning mistakes liberates them into a gritty mature world where firm justice and character restoration become the life energy males need.

The enemy to this is the make-believe game projected too often by our politicians and figureheads. It is twofold and usually begins with believing the means justify the ends and when caught - to deny until evidence is given to the contrary.

When we enrol the boy, we enrol the family. The support we receive from parents when their son inevitably “stuff up” (as all boys must) is appreciated but not unexpected.

To risk falseness entering what is sacred inside boys is in my opinion to risk everything.

It is not the boys who stuff up that worry us. What concerns us is the boys who avoid ownership.

Lying stunts growth in boys.

St Peter's boys - Stuff up - Own up - Grow in character, humility, strength and are on the path to becoming outstanding.

God's Blessing

Stephen Dooley

**Deputy Headmaster**

### EDMUND'S SHOP

SPC Long and Short sleeves, all sizes are in stock now.

#### 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**

### Start Dates 2016

#### Registration Week

Tues 26th Jan - Year 13

Wed 27th Jan - Year 12

Thurs 28th Jan - Year 11

Tues 2nd Feb - Classes  
commence for Year 7 - 13

# From the Assistant Headmaster (Middle School) Michael Mullin

Middle School Athletics was held on Friday the 23rd October at Mt Smart Stadium with 380 students getting involved in a range of athletic disciplines. The participation rates across both years was excellent with every student running in the 100m and 800m races respectively and in the long jump.

The results from the day were as follows:

Year 7:

1st	<b>James Floro</b>	Lynch
2nd	<b>Jeri Asi</b>	Bodkin
3rd	<b>Oliver Gray</b>	Rice

Year 8:

1st	<b>Joshua Thompson</b>	Bodkin
2nd	<b>Joseph Lee</b>	Treacy
3rd	<b>Julius Evans</b>	Bodkin

Top relay team in Year 7	Lynch
Top relay team in Year 8	Bodkin

House Points

1st	Bodkin	745 points
2nd	Treacy	635 points
3rd	Lynch	625 points

The day was finished off with the last relay of students versus staff where the staff were winners convincingly. A fantastic day all round and thanks must go to **Mr Wood** for organising such an impressive day.

Michael Mullin

**Assistant Headmaster Middle School**



**St Peter's College Golf Day**  
**Maungakiekie Golf Club**  
**4 person Ambrose**  
**Friday, 6 November 2015**

**New Entry Fee Announced**

- Individual \$90
- Team (4): \$340
- Team/ Hole Sponsor \$550

**Entry includes:**

- Green Fees
- Pre-game BBQ and Beverages
- Buffet Meal
- Great prizes

Enquires to Sue Casey – [sport@st-peters.school.nz](mailto:sport@st-peters.school.nz)



## History never repeats?

During the first weekend of Term 4 most senior CIE students were busy studying for their upcoming external exams, however, **Liam Powell** (Year 12) was eager to participate in the International History Bee and Bowl competition. Given that **Liam** had won the individual competition (the Bee) last year, he was motivated to repeat the success in 2015. **Liam** entered the team competition (the Bowl) as a sole competitor representing St Peter's College against the likes of 4 person teams from Auckland Grammar, Auckland International College and Hillcrest (from Hamilton). **Liam** performed magnificently to take out the individual title with some ease. He breezed through the qualifying rounds and qualified in top spot. During the finals, **Liam** displayed some excellent knowledge and won the final 3 person eliminator to the delight of his growing supporting crowd. **Liam** had also qualified in 3rd place (out of 8 teams) in the team competition. Unfortunately, **Liam** bowed out to the eventual champions in the semi-finals by only 10 points (one question). Overall, **Liam** showcased his superb encyclopaedic history knowledge and reclaimed his Auckland title for 2015. Additionally, he has qualified for the bi-annual History Olympiad which is due to be held in Hawaii in 2016.



Above: Liam Powell



## SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

Please note that the PTFA will hold a second-hand uniform sale at St Peter's on Saturday

November 21st between 9.30 and 11.30am.

The sale will be held in a room behind the uniform shop - please go to the uniform shop and follow the signage.

Your PTFA would greatly appreciate the donation of any second hand St Peter's uniform you may have on hand. Could you please ensure the items are clean and current.

All donations can be handed in to the main school office.

Any queries, please contact Emma Malloy at [malloyclan@hotmail.com](mailto:malloyclan@hotmail.com), or on my mobile

021319716. Many thanks in anticipation



## Sports Photos

Sports photos are available for collection from the Sports Office.

Photos are still available to order online. Orders placed from now on will be mailed home at an additional charge of \$6 dollars.

## Junior Sports Prize Giving Cup return

Please return Cups by **Wednesday Nov 4th** in a clean condition.

## Water Polo Challenger Cup Report:

St Peter's Junior A team participated in the Challenger Cup held in Hamilton during Labour Weekend.

Wins against Kirstin and St Johns in pool play saw the side progress through to semi-final against Rosmini. Despite a strong showing in the semi-final the side lost which meant a 3/4th play off game against Hamilton Boys. The team played their best game of the tournament to record an impressive 11 – 6 win.



## Summer Sports

With the resumption of the cricket season and various other summer codes it is timely to remind parents of the obligations boys have in being part of a team. These include;

- Attending meetings promptly
- Attending practices on time
- Wearing the correct playing uniform with pride
- Having a responsible and positive attitude
- Once your son has been selected in a team they are committed to that team for the entire season.

## St Peter's College Junior Tennis Championships – Year 7 - 10

9th-10th of November - 3:30-6:00pm

Reserve Day: 11th November

## Cricket Registrations

Now open on SPC Website under Sports

## Water polo

Preseason Senior training for all interested players. Meet at Dio Pool on Monday, 2 November from 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm. See Mr Illman.

## Congratulations

The following boys have been named as finalists for the Young Sportsperson of the Year Awards for their respective sports.

**Sean Wilson** – Gymsports

**Samuel Pallas** – Gymsports

**Aiden Takarua** – Lawn Bowls

**Joseph Kohlhasse** – Softball

**Eric Ah Tani** – Named as one of three outstanding Player Awards at Challenger Cup Junior Water Polo Tournament held in Hamilton at Labour Weekend.



# FOUHY'S FAREWELL CELEBRATIONS

## **FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2015**

IN THE GYM (CNR KHYBER PASS & MOUNTAIN ROAD)

5.30 P.M. ONWARDS – *Everyone Welcome!*

DRINKS AND NIBBLES AVAILABLE

Come and say farewell to our Headmaster and enjoy an evening of our St  
Peter's College - cultural performances.

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## **SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2015**

DINNER HELD AT THE ELLERSLIE CONVENTION CENTRE

*(Farewell to Mr Fouhy and Welcome to Mr Bentley)*

*'Changing of the Guard'*

THE EVENING COMMENCES AT 7.00 P.M. WITH PRE-DRINKS

FOLLOWED BY DINNER AND AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION

\$55.00 PER PERSON

( or \$500 for a table of 10 )

Cash Bar available

Please contact Tania Fernandez (Development Office)

[tfernandez@st-peters.school.nz](mailto:tfernandez@st-peters.school.nz)

PHONE: 09 524 8108 x 7339

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## **SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

**MASS** - *Further details to come....*