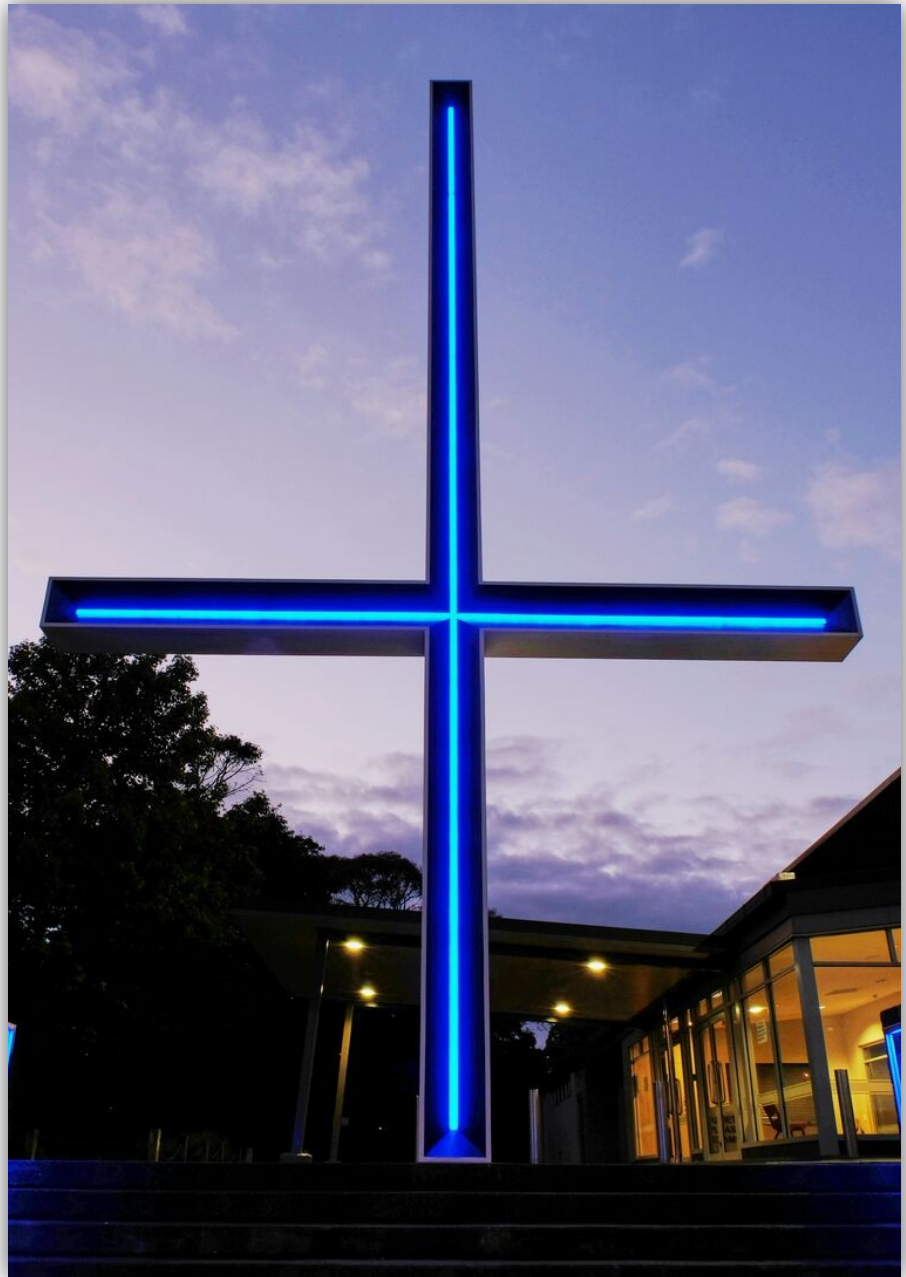




SPCOBA

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2019



**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE**

PG. 2

Message from the Chair

2018 Academic results

PG. 3

Tomorrows Schools – what you need to know

2019 1st XV Schedule

2019 SPC Fair

Just a reminder...

**ST PETER'S COLLEGE
OLD BOYS'
ASSOCIATION**



NEWSLETTER MARCH 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

KIA ORA, WELCOME

Dear St Peters College Old Boys and Friends

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2019, and a special welcome to those old boys who have recently reconnected to St Peters College. Please remember you are welcome to attend the Old Boys Committees and we hope to see you at the 1st XV home games.

Included below are the 2018 academic results which clearly speak for themselves and are certainly a great reflection on the teachers, support staff and students of SPC. T

The 2019 SPC Fair is coming up fast on the 24 March, the Old Boys have grown its contribution to the fair from about \$2,000 to \$14,000 in 2018. This is only achieved with the support of goods for the quick fire raffle. To all old boys, if you think you can help please note the contact details below.

On a less positive note, the Government has issues a discussion paper from the Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce. We support the desire of the government to ensure all schools are operating at a similarly high level. The proposed approach seems to ignore mainstream research on what it takes to build culture and a successful environment. This proposal risks bring schools down to a similarly low level instead of driving uplift. If you believe in retaining the special character of SPC and its desire to reflect the wider community of Auckland, please read on below and ensure you add your feedback into the Government. Inaction is by default agreeing with the plan.

On behalf of the SPC Old Boys we pray that 2019 is a great year for you and the students and staff of SPC.

God bless Rob Downie

Chairman

SPC Old Boys association

2018 ACADEMIC RESULTS

* 2018 has again seen SPC achieve outstanding academic results. While being the National Rugby Champions is fantastic, the boys are primarily at school to learn and our results indicate that we are among the top academic schools in the country. (Importantly, it's worth noting that all the boys in our first XV squad passed their UE exams.)

* Our UE pass rate for 2018 was an exceptional 98%. As a benchmark, the NZ average pass rate is 46% and the Auckland average is 49%.

* The school is particularly proud of the Maori and Pasifika achievements...our UE Maori pass rate was 100% and Pasifika 97%.

* Scholarship success is the highest benchmark for academic achievement and SPC achieved 51 Scholarships last year, with 8 of them categorized as Outstanding. For perspective, SPC achieved almost twice as many scholarships than all the Catholic schools outside of Auckland combined. Sacred Heart managed 15. It is also pleasing to note that St Pauls achieved it's first Scholarship in 40 years under Kieran's leadership.

* In the Cambridge exams we had 5 boys who were placed top in NZ for their respective subjects, and one boy who placed top in the world !

* We should never take for granted the outstanding results the schools is achieving. Michael Mullins does an outstanding job leading our academic efforts, and he is strongly supported

by a senior teaching staff, and school leadership team that is focussed on the boys academic success.

* The bar has been set very high, and the senior leaders, led by James Bentley are determined to maintain our outstanding success.

Tomorrow's Schools

The Tomorrow's Schools proposal outlined by the govt task-force raises serious concerns. Several of the key proposed actions would have a significant impact on how SPC is governed and led and impact on the special character SPC is known for.

If you are not aware of the revolutionary changes proposed, a summary of the taskforce recommendations can be found via the following link <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/tomorrows-schools-review/>

This link below provides a summary on the concerns of the school and how it is expected to impact SPC (<https://sway.office.com/h5ekcs5swOE10j6l?ref=Link>).

The SPC community, of which the Old Boy network is a critical part, has been asked to make individual submissions to parliament, and to voice our concerns.

This is a serious issue. It risks taking away the very essence of our school, its special character

Submissions close in April, so we are asking you to take the time to submit and to act urgently. To make a submission, tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz. Taking no action is by default endorsing the proposal.

2019 Fair

This year's Fair will be on Sunday March 24th.

The Old Boys will again be running the Quick-Fire Raffle and we are keen for any prizes that can be donated. We have grown our profits over recent years, and we're again aiming for over \$10k as our contribution to the Fair takings. This is largely dependent on the help and support of Old Boys.

If you can help out in any way please contact Richard Davey at richard@travelproductions.co.nz

2019 1st XV Season

This year our First XV will be defending National and Auckland Champions and of course Moascar Cup holders.

The season kicks off for SPC on Monday May 13th at 2pm at the Cage. We will have our first defence against MAGS, traditionally tough rivals. We are hoping for a massive turn-out so please come and support the guys.

Our season starts on a Monday, and later than the official first round, as our boys will be in Japan late April/early May playing in the World Schools Championship.

ONCE THE SEASON KICKS OFF PROPERLY, THE OLD BOYS WILL AGAIN BE HOSTING DRINKS BEFORE AND AFTER HOME GAMES IN THE HALL AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

JUST A REMINDER.....

Please let us know if there is someone you know who would want to be added to our database. Also, if you would like to actively help out and be more involved with the Old Boys and Friends Association, you are always very welcome. If you are keen to join please contact Callena Lewis at clewis@st-peters.school.nz