

Whaia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe me he maunga teitei. Mauri ora ki a tātou katoa

Ko wai ahau e tū nei.

Ko Maunga-Taniwha te Maunga

Ko Tokerau te Moana

Ko Mamaru te Waka

Ko Ngati Kahu toku Iwi

Ko Ngai Tohianga toku Hapu

Ko Oturu toku Marae

Ko Christopher me Judith ōku mātua

Ko David Fromont toku Ingoa

Good Morning and Welcome boys to 2022. I have the privilege and honor of being able to serve you all as your head boy, which I intend to do with pride alongside my deputies George, Dylan, and Ethan, as well as the prefect team.

Looking back, 2021 was a year to be proud of. Despite being under the longest lockdown yet, students managed to maintain excellent passing rates and grades, notably NCEA level 2 achieving a 100% pass rate over all students. Excellence was also found in the co-curricular. The Samoan group demonstrated talent and drive at Polyfest, being crowned the champions after sweeping every category, rowing experienced the most successful national regatta we have known yet, the Concert Band and Combined Orchestra with Baradene maintained a standard of excellence at KBB with gold medal awards. Large school events continued to thrive as well, such as the fair with another outstanding turnout, and the School Production of Sound of Music alongside Marist with another outstanding 10 performances.

You should all be proud of what you accomplished in such a disrupted and distracting year. There is no denying that right now, the world is going through great change, and so to be present in this cultural storm while maintaining and exceeding a standard of success is both impressive and a testament to the potential of every young man here.

This coming year is particularly important for the year 13's, as this year we become the leaders and role models for the school. Regardless of if you have a prefect badge, are a captain, or take any other sort of active leadership role in a group, or if you don't do any of that, as a year 13 you are the model of what a St Peter's Student becomes and are a role model for every younger student that comes after you. I encourage every senior student to make connections with juniors and middle school, to be present in the lives of your younger brothers, to inspire them to reach out and achieve, and to be examples of the schools FRESHP values and Brotherhood.

On the topic of values, I and the prefect team aim to work with and inspire **Heart** and **Empathy**. To be a man of Heart is crucial in a world plagued by apathy and inaction, to be Passionate and Concerned about whatever you do, to be Driven in your work despite hardship. To have Heart I believe is to care about what you do, which is the first step to achieving meaningful success. To be a man of Empathy is becoming increasingly required in the world around, one in which beliefs are constantly being questioned and challenged and human suffering has never been more on global display. To show Empathy is to attempt to understand someone else as a human being, or at the least understand what their situation is and how it affects them. To have Empathy I believe is to care about others.

The prefect team intends this year to promote student belonging in the college through involvement in college life. We intend to create new initiatives focused around this vision, with goals to create stronger bonds between school groups, whether that be the seniors with the juniors or between co-curriculars, and to inspire greater involvement and awareness of St Peter's events and co-curriculars. We hope to promote the image of an SPC Man, to create a shared identity in which we can all aspire to emulate not just to the public but in the class, field, court, and stage.

Lastly, we hope to work with students to understand and solve student-based issues in the school, communicating the voice of the students to those who could make proper change. So, I encourage you all to communicate with your prefects, and for the prefects to be approachable and considerate of what any student might have to say.

This new school year could be another difficult one. The world around is going through many changes, technologically, politically, and in climate. And that's not even speaking of the Covid Pandemic. So, I urge you all to remain focused and driven, to take an active interest in your learning. Ensure that you always pursue academic success and strive for excellence alongside that in all your co-curriculars. Take opportunities whenever they may come to be involved in school events and groups, maybe even try something new this year if you're an older student. I believe that one of the worst things you could leave school with is a regret for missing out on an opportunity, especially when there's so much to get involved in at this school.

2022 is shaping up to be another year of challenges, with the pandemic still on the horizon, however I am incredibly excited to serve you all in my role with my deputies and the prefect, and I hope that whatever my happen, you all take part in what this school has to offer and make the most of what will be another amazing year.