

NEWSLETTER 4/7
Friday November 23, 2012

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Dr Peter Casey

Welcome to another big week in our calendar with Speech night, SPAM (St Pats Awards for Media), Valedictory Dinner and rowing functions filling in our evenings and exams, cricket and Pre-Year 12 programmes filling in the days.

At our assembly I paid my respects to the Christian Brothers who have cared for this property for the last 120 years. Their community today consists of Br Ward, Br Zoch and Br Hewitt. Between them they have about 100 years of presence at the College as a student, as teachers and community members. This month marks the closure of the community. While Br Zoch will remain with us, Brs Ward and Hewitt will move to the Edmund Rice hostel at St Kilda. There have been 374 brothers reside here over the 120 years, in good times and in bad. We are grateful for their work and example. Br Ward, a student of the College from 1945-47 addressed the assembly.

At the assembly we presented badges to more of our 2013 student leaders, including the new position of Captain of Boarding to Jay Jack. Jay will join the Year 12 Council along with our College Captain and Vice-captains, and the Captains and Vice-captains of Galvin, Keniry, Nunan, and Ryan.

Captain of Boats Caleb McGrath

Vice-captain of Boats Jaykeb Lench

Vice-captain of Boats Thomas Young

Captain of Music Timothy Crowe

Vice-captain of Music Andrew Groch

Vice-captain of Music Jacob Baric'

Captain of Boarding Jay Jack

Speech Night was a marvellous celebration of what is good about our boys and our school. The speeches of College Captain: Jack Owen, Purton Orator: Kieren O'Reilly and 2008 Vice-captain: Seamus Herrick were well-crafted, logical, passionate and uplifting. These speeches were surrounded by some great musical presentations and the recognition of College-wide awards from Years 7 to 12. I thank all those who, under Ms Elizabeth Till's guidance, brought us such an enjoyable and uplifting event.

May God be with us in our journeying.



2008 College Vice-Captain Seamus Herrick



White Ribbon Day

FROM THE DEPUTY HEADMASTER

Teaching and Learning

Mr Stephen Hill

November 20 College Assembly

Given that this was our last College Assembly for 2012, it was not surprising that we had a number of certificates to present. We began by presenting Headmaster's Excellence and Academic Endeavour awards to a number of Year 7 boys in recognition of their efforts and success in completing the MUS Aural and Theory Examinations as part of the Year 7 Music programme.

The Year 7 boys who received a Headmaster's Excellence certificate were:

- **Joel Batchelor**
- **Joel Gallagher**
- **Caelan Thompson**

Each of these boys achieved 100% for the MUS Aural and Theory Examinations.

The Year 7 boys who received an Academic Endeavour certificate were:

- **Timothy Collier**
- **Ryan Cox**
- **Ryan Dewar**
- **Joseph Dodd**
- **Callum Hofler**
- **Ben Hutt**
- **Nathan Luka**
- **Joshua Rose**
- **Brody Searle**
- **Bailey Squire**

One of the attitudes to learning that these boys share is a recognition that the time and effort a student puts into his studies today is forwarded to him at a later date. Maximising class time, completing all set tasks, seeking assistance, completing additional or extension tasks, not delaying the completion of tasks (including homework), being organised and wanting to show your teacher just what you can do are all examples of the types of activities and strategies that students benefit from in the future – be it the next class, the next assessment task, the end of semester exam or work completed in the next year.

The message from these boys is clear - do the work now and you will enjoy the rewards of your efforts in time to come. Congratulations to each of these boys, their results clearly show the benefits of these learning strategies.

Our final Headmaster's excellence Award for 2012 was presented to Year 9 student, **Nicholas Frawley**, in recognition of the consistently high standard of his work in English throughout the year. Nick averaged 93% for all assessment tasks completed in Year 9 English this year – a level of success definitely worth acknowledging. Nick's success is characterised by diligent work, thorough planning and actively seeking extra help when needed.

Nick spoke to me about the importance he places on fully understanding the topic or concept he is writing about before beginning the writing process. Spending time researching facts and figures, finding relevant quotes and understanding what the experts have to say about a topic all help to make Nick's writing more engaging for the reader.

Like so many other boys who experience success in English, Nick reads widely and uses the knowledge he gains from this to build and expand his vocabulary – an aspect that is a clear strength of his writing. As Nick told me, reading widely helps you to see how words can be used in a variety of contexts and situations which, in turn, builds your capacity to use them in your own writing. Well done, Nick, on a great year of work in English.

Congratulations to each boy who received either a Headmaster's Excellence or Academic Endeavour Award in 2012. I have thoroughly enjoyed looking at, and hearing about, the great work you each did and I am grateful for your willingness to share the strategies that have helped you be academically successful with all boys at the College.

Engineers Australia Encouragement Awards

Representatives from the Ballarat Group of Engineers Australia attended this week's College Assembly to present The Engineers Australia Encouragement Awards. These awards are open to Year 10 students who have:

1. Demonstrated academic achievement in subject areas suitable to progression through VCE and on to Tertiary Engineering study, and,
2. Have demonstrated leadership in another area of student endeavour.

James Liversage (SPC1992-1997) spoke to boys about his experiences as Senior Structural Engineer with TGM Consulting Engineers and role played by engineers in our community. James presented the 2012 Engineers Australia Encouragement awards to **Hamish Clydesdale** and **Noah De Losa**. Congratulations to Hamish and Noah!

2013 Booklist

The first of the 2013 booklists have been printed and distributed. Families of incoming 2013 Year 7 boys will receive their booklist in the mail-out sent earlier in the week. Current Year 11 boys will receive their 2013 Year 12 booklist during their 2013 Year 12 Headstart classes this week. Current Year 10 boys will receive the 2013 Year 11 booklist at the end of their English exam this Wednesday. Booklists for 2013 Years 8, 9 and 10 will be distributed next week.

Electronic versions of each 2013 booklist will be available on the College website (under the tab headed 'Curriculum').

Use of the Parent Access Module for end of semester reports

In June and September you received letters outlining the introduction of the Parent Access Module (PAM) which provides parents online access to a range of information specific to your son. Currently, you are able to view your son's timetable, his attendance records, daily messages, the College calendar and your son's Interim and End of Semester reports for both the current and previous years.

With the Student Assessment section now open, and having successfully trialled its use to deliver the 2012 Term Three Interim Reports, the College will be extending our use of PAM to include online delivery of End of Semester reports.

While we are asking you to use PAM to access your all of your son's reports instead of the College printing and mailing a paper copy to you, we recognise that some parents will still require or want a paper copy. Parents who want to receive a paper copy of the reports are asked to phone the College on 5331 1688 before Friday, December 7 to confirm this. Parents who previously indicated they wish to receive a paper copy of reports do not need to contact the College again.

The 2012 Semester Two reports for Years 7-11 students will be accessible via PAM from 4.00pm on Friday, December 14. Parents requiring further assistance with their PAM login are asked to phone the College on 5331 1688. A copy of the *Parent User Guide* for PAM has been placed on the College webpage. The College is also in the process of creating a PAM login for non-custodial parents which will be mailed as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College should you have any further questions or concerns regarding the use of PAM.

Careers and Transition

Mr Anthony Meehan

105th Gold Medal and Training Awards

The Master Plumbers Association's 105th Gold Medal and Training Awards took place on June 27, 2012 in Melbourne. 12 awards were handed out to 14 winners, recognising excellence in the plumbing and mechanical services industries. There were also awards to encourage Indigenous secondary school students to continue with their studies. Ken Gardner, CEO of the Master Plumbers Association, said that he was very proud of the achievements of this year's winners.

The Gold Medal and Training Awards, established by the Master Plumbers Association and supported by the Wylie Scholarship Fund, have aimed to encourage and celebrate excellence by students and apprentices since being established in 1908.

Congratulations to **Jacob Yamin** who received The George Stone Pre-Apprenticeship Award, sponsored by Cbus.



Jacob Yamin

Introduction of the Schoolkids Bonus

From 2013 the Schoolkids Bonus will be introduced by the Australian Government.

The Schoolkids Bonus provides a guaranteed upfront payment to support eligible families with the costs of their children's education. To be eligible for the bonus, parents must be eligible for the Family Tax Benefit Part A.

Eligible parents are asked to update your details with the Department of Human Services online at
www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/schoolkids-bonus

FROM THE DEPUTY HEADMASTER

Student and Staff Wellbeing
Mr Chris Caldow

Host Families Required

A Squad of 15 students from St Virgil's College, Hobart will be visiting Ballarat as part of their Victorian Cricket Tour. A 50 over game has been organised against the SPC Intermediate Squad on Tuesday, December 4.

The squad will require billeting on Monday, December 3, until the morning of Wednesday, December 5. Billets will need to be picked up from SPC at 8.30pm on Monday, December 3. The only meals that will need to be catered are breakfast on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. The boys would need to be picked up from SPC after a BBQ on Tuesday evening, at approximately 7.30pm.

We need 10 more families to cater for the boys. If you are able to host one or more students, or would like further information, please contact Mr Gerry Willis on 5322 4376 or email gwillis@stpat.vic.edu.au as soon as possible.

A week of celebrations!

This week the College community has enjoyed some significant celebrations and it has been a pleasure to be witness to and involved in these. Last Wednesday night's Speech Night was a great success and the College was able to showcase a selection of our talented boys and acknowledge the successes of boys across the year levels in the areas of academics, culture, sport and community service. Amongst the highlights were Kieren O'Riley's delivery of his winning Purton Oratory Speech and the speech delivered by Seamus Herrick (College Vice Captain from 2008) about the way that St Patrick's has influenced his career and outlook on life.

Equally, all of the musical items were first class and I wish to offer my congratulations to the College Vocal Ensemble, Concert Band, Concert Band 2, Joseph Zreikat and the Guitar Ensemble.

Again, I wish to congratulate all boys who were presented with prizes and awards at Speech Night this week as well as all of those involved in presenting items of entertainment on the night. Well done to all!

Thanks to all staff for their efforts on Wednesday night in whatever role they performed. Thanks to the staff involved with supervision, backstage organisation or on-stage presentation. Events such as Speech Night cannot run without collective effort from all staff.

This Friday night the College staff will gather with the young men of Year 12 and their parents at their Valedictory Dinner. This is one of the great nights of the year and hopefully this year will be no exception. It is very rewarding to see the pride and the joy amongst the boys and the excitement about having finished this part of their educational journey. Congratulations to all members of the class of 2012, their parents, teachers and all other staff who helped to get them to this point.

At this week's Assembly, the final Assembly for the year – we acknowledged a range of student achievements. We also had two aerial photographs taken at the completion of this assembly. The first of these photographs involved all boys from Years 7 – 11 lining up on the Main Oval tracing the word 'No!' The exclamation mark was outlined by a large number of teaching staff. The purpose of this photograph was to indicate our support for the White Ribbon campaign which highlights the often hidden part of society which is Domestic Violence. The campaign which is celebrated on November 25 is to stop violence against women which is a cause that we wholeheartedly endorse.

The second photograph involved all of the boys outlining the figures of 120 as part of St Patrick's College celebration of our 120th anniversary of the College's formation. St Patrick's College commenced, under the auspices of the Christian Brothers, on January 30, 1893.

All in all, there has been a lot of celebrating lately! It is good for us to do this as a community and gives us all great heart that as a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, we are making great progress with our boys as they make their way towards being young men.

Exams

Currently all boys are either completing their end of year exams, or preparing for them. These exams are another important method of assessment and it is important that the boys approach them seriously and work hard to achieve the best set of results via these in each subject. I would like to stress to all boys the importance of talking with their individual teachers about the content and structure of the exams – they should not leave anything to chance! I encouraged the boys to find out as much about the exam from their teachers and begin their preparation based on this information.

Successful revision or study requires many different ingredients – one of the key elements that I wish to touch on briefly this week is the importance of sleep! Regardless of normal routines it is absolutely vital that our young men get regular sleep.

Do you know how much sleep the average teenager requires according to the very latest research?

The actual research shows they require a minimum of 9.25 hours and that one of the biggest problems is that we have teenagers being the most sleep deprived segment of the population. We need to take the whole issue of sleep as one of the most important issues, when it comes to setting boundaries we need to fight over things that matter and that's generally stuff that relates to their wellbeing.

In the context of completing exams successfully, it is absolutely important that our boys are fresh and alert when they sit for them. Regular sleep without the distractions of mobile phones, i-pods or MP3 players, TVs or computers is essential for academic success and for the well-being of our boys!

Seven Must Knows About Boys

No. 1: You must like them

Take the time to nurture a relationship with your sons or the boys that you interact with. Some boys like to talk; others like to share an activity; some like you as an adult to do something for them; others are very kinaesthetic and love to be touched, cuddled and hugged; while some just love gifts and mementoes. Work out the relational preferences of the males in your life.

No. 2: Most boys just want to blend in

Boys are group-oriented by nature. They want to fit in. They tend to play group games and form themselves into structured friendship groups. Boys generally don't want to stand out from their crowd.

No 3: They are hierarchical and they like to know who is in charge

Boys like limits and boundaries as they make them feel safe and secure. They also like to know that someone is going to enforce those rules so don't be afraid to be 'in charge'.

No 4: Many boys hide behind a mask

Some boys, eight years of age and older, wear a mask to protect themselves from being hurt or to portray a tough guy image. They will attempt to communicate with that mask. Refuse to communicate with a mask. Make them feel comfortable, joke with them, even tickle them but get them to drop the mask if you really want to get through to them.

No. 5: Loyalty is an incredibly strong driver for boys

Understand that a boy's loyalty to friends, family, teachers and cause are key male drivers and you go a long way to understanding the male psyche. They are incredibly influenced by their peers, which can hold many of them back. It takes a brave boy to get too far ahead of the pack so they often hold each other back when it comes to achieving.

No 6: Use short-term goals to motivate them

Want to know how to motivate a boy to learn? Just make sure he can see some type of benefit in the task he will work hard to get it. You need to make sure the benefit is tangible and the gain is foreseeable.

No. 7: A boy's brain matures differently than a girl's brain

In the first five years of life a boy's brain is busy developing gross motor skills, spatial skills and visual skills. So boys often start school with a distinct disadvantage when it comes to learning and fitting in.

Michael Grose

Second-hand Textbook Trading

I am delighted to inform you of the College's new initiative to provide parents with the ability to trade second-hand textbooks via the online resource, *Sustainable School Shop*.

The College is conscious of improving recycling levels and for the need of an improved mechanism that can service well all families at St Patrick's.

Results from other schools have been excellent; families enjoyed a more comprehensive and convenient method of trading second-hand textbooks. Families are assisted to list For Sale & Wanted advertisements online and this new system matches buyers with sellers.

We welcome the Sustainable School Shop's offer of free access for 12 months, and we would encourage parents to take full advantage of this opportunity.

For families who have unsold textbooks from previous years, now is the time to list them for sale. The books you list will be the first to sell during the normal end of year trading period.

You need to nominate the school when you register on the Sustainable School Shop website to receive your free Annual Family Membership which is valid until August 31, 2013.

Website: www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

For the best results:

- List now any unwanted textbooks for sale
- When the new 2013 booklists are received, list 'Wanted' and 'For Sale' ads, parents tell each other their requirements.
- The school's booklists are loaded into the system to make listing ads easy.
- The system matches the ads of buyers with sellers and notifies the buyer (Wanted ad) via email.
- Buyers contact sellers and arrange where and when to trade.
- Most trading will occur with other parents from the school.
- Parents are well supported with telephone (1300 683 337) and email help lines.
- Over a little time you will see which parents have the most books you need.

The service provides access to second-hand textbooks, calculators, stationery, musical equipment, etc all year round. Parents can even trade with other parents from different schools and sell textbooks no longer in use at St Patrick's.

If you don't have a computer, internet access or an email address, please call the Sustainable School Shop for assistance.

All enquiries should be directed to the Sustainable School Shop on: 1300 683 337 or help is also available through 'Contact Us' on their website.

2013 Booklist distribution

Current Years 10 and 11 students will this week receive a copy of the *2013 VCE English Studies Booklist*. The English Studies Booklist is distributed at this time of the year to ensure that all Year 11 and 12 students have access to their 2013 novels before the end of the school year so that they can complete the required reading before the beginning of classes in 2013.

Please note that the VCE English Studies Booklist must be returned to the College by next Friday (November 9). Ballarat Books will deliver ordered books to the College ready for distribution to students on Friday, November 30.

A PDF version of the *2013 VCE English Studies Booklist* will be accessible via the College's website.

All other 2013 Years 7-12 booklists are in the final stages of preparation and will be distributed to parents within the next two weeks.

DIRECTOR OF MISSION

Mr Geoff Brodie

'No one can say "I have the truth". It is the truth that possesses us.' This was the message of Pope Benedict in a homily offered on September 2 this year. His claim is at once immediate in our experiences and rejected by many. When we consider our family, our friendships and our world, we properly experience them as gifts that bring us great joy. But gifts come with instructions. If we truly value the gifts we have received then we are called to act wisely. This wisdom becomes the 'moral laws' that allow us to flourish as God wishes.

However, to speak of 'moral laws' in a modern pluralist culture is to raise the ire of some people. But when a staff member contemplates the gift of their students, or a parent their child, they are possessed by a desire to only do what is best for them.

That desire is the law of God's love written on our hearts that enables us to respond **wisely**. Pope Benedict continues...

In Deuteronomy we see the 'joy of the law': law not seen as a constraint, as something that takes from us our freedom, but as present and a gift... [The people of Israel] know: this 'law' was not made by them, it was not the fruit of their genius, it was a gift. God showed them what the law was. God gave them wisdom. The law is wisdom. Wisdom is the art of being human, the art of being able to live well and of being able to die well. And one can live and die well only when the truth has been received and shows us the way: to be grateful for the gift we did not invent, but that we were given, and to live in wisdom; to learn, thanks to the gift of God, how to be human in the right way.

DIRECTOR OF BOARDING Mr Alex Hunt

Dear Parents/Guardians and Pupils (present, past and new)

Well, the year is almost over. I am sure I am not the only one breathing a sigh of relief, as the past few months have been a tiring time for all, culminating in the exam period and a busy end of year all round. I would like to take this opportunity once again to bid our 23 Year 12 leavers the very best of luck for the future. Whether that be in the AFL, at university or along the myriad other pathways individuals are choosing to follow, I thank them again for all they have given to the boarding community over the years and hope that we see them back for a visit now and again and at Old Collegian events.

In 2013 we look forward to welcoming a good number of new boys from close by and far afield. We have boys joining us from Year 9 through to Year 12. I know all our seasoned boarders will do all they can to settle them in quickly and make them feel at home and part of the tight knit boarding community.

We say goodbye to a number of staff from boarding this year but I know they will maintain a link with our community. Rick Balchin is stepping down as Housemaster and Assistant Director of Boarding. He will focus on the important role of Indigenous Education Manager. Brett Dickinson will no longer be Housemaster of McCann House but stays on at St Patrick's College as a teacher in the PE department.

Replacing Rick in Sturt House is Mike Silcock who brings with him a wealth of experience in boarding. He will be the Assistant Director of Boarding and also teaching English and History in the Junior school. He is joined by his wife Ainslie who will be teaching in the Food Technology department. Andrew Schuyler, Housemaster of Nangle, will be joining the teaching staff full-time next year which will enable him to have an even greater influence within the boarding community.

As ever, we are hugely indebted to our Housekeepers. They have done a fantastic job, sometimes in trying circumstances!

I decided to increase the hours and number of Housekeepers partway through the year, as I am only too aware of the important role they play in a boarding community. I, along with many others, feel this has been to very good effect. The boys have been afforded even greater levels of care and it has been very noticeable in the appearance of the Houses. I would like to thank the maintenance team for all they have done throughout the year.

The Catering Team also deserves recognition and thanks for having worked hard all year to cater for the boys. Bernie and his team work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, always with the boys' well-being in mind. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our three GAP

students who contribute to the boarding community in a wide variety of ways.

The boarders have involved themselves in a wide variety of sporting and cultural activities throughout the year. The boarders' football team beat all before them under the guidance of Rick and Bernie. We had valuable contributions from a number of boys in the rugby teams while the basketball teams were dominated by a group of extremely talented boarders.

We had a dedicated group giving their time to tutoring at St Albans, which is such a worthy and valuable pursuit. Local football clubs benefitted from the talent and dedication of many in our community and the TAC Rebels were very well represented by St Patrick's boarders. We have made our weekly trips to Mass which has been a time to reflect on the week past and the week ahead and the way in which we conduct our lives. We have always been welcomed at St Columba's and the congregation held a coffee and cake evening after a recent Mass to say farewell to our leavers and wish all the boys luck with their exams.

In the last month an enormous amount of money has been spent on furniture in all the boarding houses. I felt a need for this and it was something that many of you also felt necessary, as was highlighted in the recent online surveys many of you completed. Each boarding house, from January 2013, will have fit-for-purpose beds with an under-bed locker on wheels, new residential quality wardrobes and new desks so that all boys have somewhere to study. The boys are slowly but surely beginning to get the message about locking valuable items away, although unfortunately there are still mobile phones, iPods and laptops left out during the day. Every boy has a secure area, i.e. a locker and a combination safe. Please reinforce the message at home that it is **their** responsibility to lock items up when they are out of the house.

Damage to property, personal items and thefts have been minimal this year, which is pleasing, but they do still happen on occasions. We know that damage is occasionally caused and it has been very encouraging that most of the time the culprits come forward and acknowledge it. Long may that continue! I will, once again, be reinforcing the need for all new and existing school property to be treated with respect.

As many of you are aware I implemented a number of changes to the boarding system throughout the year, a few of which have been met with a good degree of resentment. These are changes that I, and others, felt necessary and vital to the on-going safety and well-being of your boys here at St Patrick's College. Increased levels of supervision and a more proactive approach to 'boarding duty' is something I am continually pushing to instil in my boarding team. A programme of professional development for all boarding staff is planned for 2013 which will further enhance our team.

In an effort to build an even more cohesive community and increase the level and quality of pastoral care we are changing the boarding structure in the Houses from January 2013. From next year, Sturt House, our boarding house on the other side of Sturt Street, will become a weekly boarding house. It will shut on Friday afternoons and reopen on Sunday evenings.

This will result in the other three Houses being more highly populated over the weekends and therefore allowing a more vibrant atmosphere to exist for our full boarders.

One of the roles of our new Assistant Director of Boarding is to develop, with input from the boys, a weekend activities programme. I know from conversations with our current boarders that many just want to relax and do their own thing after a busy week but others want the opportunity to partake in organised activities. Go-karting, movies, bowling and fishing have proved popular this year so I am sure that all of these and more will be on offer to those interested in getting involved next year.

Joanne and Adam and I wish all boarders and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing everyone rested and refreshed in January. As always, please do get in touch if you would like to discuss anything further.

Best wishes



Alex Hunt
Director of Boarding

Dates for your diary and important information for 2013:

- Boarders return **Wednesday 30 January**. There will be a BBQ and drinks on the lawn outside McCann House from **2pm**. Please endeavour not to return your boys before this time as staff will be involved in other school commitments and the Houses may not be open. There will be an activity organised for all the boarders on the Wednesday night before lessons commence on the Thursday morning.
- Boarders' Family Dinner Saturday 23 February (Term 1)
- Boarders' Family Dinner Saturday 27 July (Term 2)
- Boarding Parent-Teacher Interviews Monday 15 April 3:30pm-5:00pm
- Boarding Parent-Teacher Interviews Monday 15 July 3:30pm-5:00pm

Weekly boarding

- To ensure equity and fairness for all families, any boys enrolled as weekly boarders who wish to stay at College over a weekend will be charged \$110 per weekend. We will be working on the premise that, from January 2013, all weekly boarders will go home on Friday afternoon unless arrangements have been made with the Director of Boarding in advance. Leave arrangements for full boarders choosing to go home or stay with friends at weekends need to be made with the Housemaster by the Thursday prior to the weekend. If you have any queries about your son's enrolment status a call to our Business Manager, Shirley Walters, should clarify your situation.

Housekeeping

- On a housekeeping note we would request that all boys arrive in January with a rigid rectangular plastic laundry basket. We recommend the type sold in Big W or K-Mart for around \$10. Please do not send your son back with a collapsible basket as it makes life very difficult for our Housekeepers when they are moving to and from the Laundry. Any boys returning without a laundry basket will have one purchased by us and the cost added to their bill.
- It is advisable that each boy brings two combination padlocks: one for his under-bed locker and one for his desk.

Exeat weekends

- Each year there are published Exeat weekends which provide a chance for boys and staff to take a break from school and recharge their batteries. I have listed them below so please make note of the dates as the boarding houses will be closed to all students on these weekends. It is expected that boys will make their way home or arrange to stay with family or friends on these weekends.

Boarding Houses closed

- Friday, March 8 from 4:00pm to Monday, March 11 at 5:00pm (Labour Day holiday)
- Friday, June 7 at 4:00pm to Monday 10 June at 5:00pm (Queen's Birthday holiday)

- Friday, August 23 at 4:00pm to Monday, August 26 at 5:00pm
- Friday, November 1 from 4:00pm to Tuesday, November 5 at 5:00pm (Melbourne Cup weekend).*

*boys in years 11 and 12 with exams on the Monday may stay at College.

There are student free days on Monday, May 20 and Friday, June 14. On these weekends a limited number of boarding houses will be open but boys are encouraged to make use of the weekend by going home or staying with friends if possible.

HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr Neal Arthurson

With exams beginning in a little over one weeks time, all students should be busy summarising and revising their semester notes. Apart from regular distractions such as mobile phones, texting, television and Facebook, another common distraction involves that of negative self-talk.

Listed are a few ways to identify and deal with self-defeating self-talk.

Self-talk that Interferes with Studying

When confronted with the decision to study or not to study, you may engage in a little talk with yourself. In the list below you will find some of the statements people make to convince themselves not to study. These statements lead to the conclusion "I will not study now."

However, the statements are not always true, rational or realistic ways to describe your situation. By learning to identify self-defeating self-talk you may be able to talk to yourself in more helpful ways, thus leading to more self motivation, less procrastination, and better study attitudes. Some of the more common negative self-talk is listed below.

When you hear yourself talking or thinking these thoughts, recognize that you are giving yourself permission not to study. Although you may enjoy not studying at the moment, the long-range outcome is often one that you do not enjoy (for example, poor grades, cramming, or feeling guilty).

Check this list every day to see how many negative self-statements you are using. Try to eliminate as many as you can.

- I. I don't feel like studying...
 I'm hungry...
 I'm sleepy...
 I'm bored...
 I'm not in the mood to study...

- II. This material is too difficult..
 This is too hard...
 I don't have the background for this...
 It's hopeless...

- III. I'll never need to know this...
 This is stupid stuff to spend time on...

- IV. I don't need to study now...
 I studied this yesterday (in the past)...
 I can do it later...
 I have plenty of time to do this...
 If I study this now, I'll forget it by test time...

- V. This is too much material to cover...
 I won't have time to finish anyway...
 The teacher just expects too much...

- VI.**
 - ___ It doesn't make any difference whether I study or not...
 - ___ It's really no use to study...
 - ___ Studying doesn't help in this course...

- VII.**
 - ___ I don't like the teacher
 - ___ The teacher doesn't care...

- VIII.**
 - ___ I can't concentrate...
 - ___ My mind wanders too much...
 - ___ People distract me...
 - ___ I can't study here, (or any other place)...

- IX.**
 - ___ I can't study now; I'll miss...
 - ___ I'll miss things I want to do if I study now...
 - ___ I can't study *and* do things I want to...
 - ___ I have other things I need to do now...
 - ___ Things are happening that I'll miss if I study now...
 - ___ Nobody else is studying...

All Year 7 and 8 Academic, Sporting and Cultural awards will also be presented to winners on the night. Please bring the family along to what promises to be an entertaining evening.

Boys will require their musical instrument at school on Thursday as a rehearsal will be held that afternoon. Boys will also need to bring along any additional items, music books, CDs etc... for return next Friday.

Year 7 Study Day

Year 7 boys are not required at school on Tuesday December 4, as the Orientation Day for 2013 Year 7 students will be held.

This year's Year 7 boys will have a study day at home to assist them with preparations for their Mathematics, Science and Humanities exams.

DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Mr Chris Gleeson

Host Families Required

A Squad of 15 students from St Virgil's College, Hobart will be visiting Ballarat as part of their Victorian Cricket Tour. A 50 over game has been organised against the SPC Intermediate Squad on Tuesday, December 4.

The squad will require billeting on Monday, December 3, until the morning of Wednesday, December 5. Billets will need to be picked up from SPC at 8.30pm on Monday, December 3. The only meals that will need to be catered are breakfast on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. The boys would need to be picked up from SPC after a BBQ on Tuesday evening, at approximately 7.30pm.

We need 10 more families to cater for the boys. If you are able to host one or more students, or would like further information, please contact Mr Gerry Willis on 5322 4376 or email gwillis@stpats.vic.edu.au as soon as possible.

Cricket

Director of Cricket

Mr Michael Busscher

1st XI Cricket
SPC 1st XI T20

SPC 1st XI 3/76 (13.3 overs) defeated BGS 10/73 (19.5 overs)

SPC has continued its winning run in T20 cricket with a resounding 7 wicket win against Ballarat Grammar School. SPC got off to a great start with debutant Nick Thacker moving quickly to throw down the stumps to run out the Grammar opener, Jack Peeters (1/12 from 4) bowled a tight line to restrict the Grammar batsmen removing the dangerous Sam Hooper for 13 courtesy of a brilliant take from Andrew Fay. From there Billy Hoye (2/10 from 4), Nick Thacker (2/21 from 4) and Harli Givvens (1/10 from 4) were able to grind Grammar down to dismiss them for 73 from 19.5 overs.

In reply SPC it was initially slow going for SPC losing Mitch Walsh and Jack Peeters early, but a 50 run partnership between Blake Thomson (13 from 13 balls) and a match winning knock from Blayne Baker (41 from 45 balls) saw SPC pass the total with 27 balls to spare.

Congratulations to Harli Givvens (year 9), Nick Thacker (year 10) and Michael Richardson (year 11) on their 1st XI debuts.

Year 9 Exam Timetable

The Year 9 Exam Timetable is available in this edition of The Crest.

HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Mr John Richards

Junior School Exams

Junior School exams are only a few weeks away. At this stage in the year, boys should be scheduling regular review of topic areas as part of their nightly study routine. All year 7 boys have formulated a review programme for Mathematics and Science as part of the Year 7 Transition programme, a review programme for Humanities will be done over the next couple of weeks.

Exams occur between December 3 and December 7, it is an expectation that boys sit exams. It would be appreciated if dental and medical appointments not be made during exam times. Exams will only be sat during the designated times, no alternate arrangements will be made for students absent during exam week.

Exam	Date	Time
Year 7 English	Monday, December 3	Sessions 4 & 5
Year 8 English	Tuesday, December 4	Sessions 4 & 5
Year 7 & 8 Mathematics	Wednesday, December 5	Sessions 4 & 5
Year 7 & 8 Humanities	Thursday, December 6	Sessions 4 & 5
Year 7 & 8 Science	Friday, December 7	Sessions 4 & 5
Year 7 & 8 PAT Maths Test	Friday, December 7	Sessions 7 & 8

Junior School Presentation Evening

This year's Junior School Presentation Evening will be held in the O'Malley Sports Centre on November 29 at 7:30pm. On this evening, all Year 7 boys will perform on their instrument as part of two massed bands. This is the culmination of this year's Instrumental Music programme. It is an expectation that all Year 7 boys attend.

SPC 1st XI Saturday One-day Cricket

SPC 10/119 lost to BCC 8/211

A young and inexperienced SPC side took on Ballarat & Clarendon College in the second one-day match of the year. SPC was able to get off to a great start removing both dangerous BCC openers in the first 2 overs and a third wicket 4 overs later courtesy of a tight first spell from Xavier Vearing (3/33 from 10). From 3/30 however, BCC middle order was able to capitalise on some short and wayward bowling to push on to a total of 211 from their 50 overs. Luke Wilson (1/23 from 9) and Joseph Clarke (1/24 from 8) along with Vearing were the pick of the bowlers.

In reply SPC got off to a slow and shaky start falling to 5/47 from 26 before a solid 54 run partnership between Marshall Lee (24 from 46 balls) and Luke Wilson pushed the score up past a hundred. Wilson batted with great control and patience bringing up his 50 from 100 balls. He fell shortly after for 54, triggering a mini collapse which saw the SPC innings end at 119.

Congratulations to Tom Baxter (year 10), Joseph Clarke (year 10) and Laurence Cashin (year 9) on their 1st XI debuts.

BAS Second XI Cricket

BYE

BAS Intermediate Cricket

SPC Blue won on walkover from SPC Green.

BAS Junior Hockey

SPC Blue- 0 drew with Ballarat Grammar - 0

SPC Blue started out their final game of the season under constant pressure from the opposition due mainly to the fact that we were 3 players short. However, the boys weathered the storm through some great defensive tackling from Tom Lyon and managed to go into the half time break without conceding a goal.

After the break the SPC boys begin to attack at all costs knowing that they had nothing to lose against a team that hadn't lost a game all season. They were unfortunate not to score through Luke Prendergast and Lawrence McCrabb. In the end neither team could break the deadlock, although this was a fantastic result for an undermanned team against a team that won the competition overall.

SPC GREEN 6 - defeated BHS - 0

SPC Green went in the final game looking a little tired and took some time to click as a team. Although once Harrison McPhan managed to break some tackles and set up Pat Willis for the first goal of the game the flood gates then opened. Two goals each to Pat Willis and Harrison McPhan as well as one to Ryan Cox set up a very good victory to end the season.

Well done to all of the Junior Hockey boys for 2012.

St Patrick's College vs The Crusaders

Crusaders - 5/157 defeated SPC - XI 7/134

In one of the most anticipated events in the SPC cricket calendar, The Crusaders cricket organisation was able to come away with their first win in 3 years against a determined SPC 1st XI. The Crusaders side featured Merv Hughes and Jim Higgs (both former Australian Test cricketers), 3 SPC Old Boys- Justin Graham, Dean Jennings and Matthew Begbie, as well as high quality cricketers from Zimbabwe,

England (including one England's top up and coming women cricketers) and the Melbourne Premier League.

SPC was able to get off to a dream start with Aden Nestor (1/16 from 6) picking up the prized scalp of Matt Begbie first ball of the game courtesy of a great catch from Andrew Fay. Dallas Willsmore (2/30 from 8) was able to strike twice in the one over to have the Crusaders reeling at 3/8 however a big recovery partnership between form SPC student Justin Graham (41) and Englishman Jon Griffiths (89 not out) pushed Crusaders up to a competitive total of 157. Leg-spinning year 9 student Billy Hoye was again exceptional picking up 2/20 from his 8 overs.

In reply, SPC got off to a similar start to the Crusaders with Merv Hughes (3/9 from 10 overs) showing the wealth of his knowledge and experience to bring SPC to 3/23 from the first 20 overs. A big mix-up also cost the wicket of Blake Thomson which put SPC right onto the backfoot. Matt Noonan (31 inc. 3 fours and 1 six) and Billy Jones (25) gradually brought SPC back into the game but unfortunately both were dismissed within one over of each other to put the game almost beyond SPC. A quick flurry of runs from Andrew Fay(21 from 21 balls) and Harli Givvens (18 from 11 balls) gave SPC a brief moment of hope, but the result was all but written by then.

After the game Merv Hughes and Jim Higgs shared their thoughts with the boys and were really impressed with the ability, appearance, behaviour and professionalism with which the boys held themselves.

Thank you to all the staff and students who came down to support the boys.

Tennis

BAS Junior Tennis November 20, 2012

A Grade

SPC Blue - 4 sets 24 games defeated DC - 0 sets 1 game

SPC Green - 0 sets 9 games lost to BHS - 4 sets 24 games

In a very challenging last match of the season, BHS proved too strong for SPC Green. The boys put up a gallant effort but were outclassed in all sets. Thanks for your effort throughout the BAS Junior Tennis season.

B Grade

SPC Gold - 4 sets 24 games defeated SPC - 0 sets 8 games

Both St Pat's teams enjoyed playing each other in their final encounter for the season. The sets were short but were played in fine St Pat's spirits. Well done to all boys who contributed throughout the tennis season.

SPC White - 2 sets 12 games defeated DC - 0 sets 0 games Volleyball

BAS Junior Volleyball

SPC Green - 3 sets 65 points defeated SPC Blue - 0 sets 35 points.

BAS Intermediate Volleyball

November 21, 2012

SPC Blue - 2 sets 62 points defeated SPC Green - 1 set 47 points.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Mr Paul Nolan

Enrolment @ St Patrick's College 2014 Year 7

To receive a 2014 Enrolment Package please contact Ms Caitlin Bennett on 53 311688 or cbennett@stpats.vic.edu.au

The closing date for all 2014 Year 7 enrolment applications is Friday February 15, 2013.

Scholarships at St Patrick's College

The 2014 Scholarship programme is now open for students entering Year 7, 10 and 11 in 2014.

ACER Online Candidate Registration System

Applicants are to register via the ACER Online Candidate Registration System via the St Patrick's College website at **website at** <http://www.stpats.vic.edu.au/scholarships.php>

The fee for ACER online registration is \$90.00 which is payable at the time of registration.

The closing date for registrations is midnight Monday, February 4, 2013.

Scholarship Levels

Please note that Level 1 refers to Year 7 entry level (current Grade 6), Level 2 is Year 10 entry level (current Year 9) and Level 3 refers to Year 11 entry (current Year 10).

All applicants will be considered for an Academic Performance Award based upon their test results. Follow-up testing and interviews for art, sport, music and performing arts may be required. Individual candidates will be contacted in March to confirm details of category specific testing.

White Ribbon Day

About 1200 Year 7-11 students and 120 staff took a unique stand against domestic violence this week.

In the lead-up to White Ribbon Day on Sunday the St Patrick's College community gathered on the school's main oval to spell out the word "NO!" and show their commitment to stamping out domestic violence.

Headmaster Dr Peter Casey said it was the first time the school had organised such a large-scale and unique event to echo the messages promoted through White Ribbon Day.

"Our students are the husbands and fathers of tomorrow so we believe it is vital that they are now made aware of the importance of White Ribbon Day," Dr Casey said.

"Supporting strong community messages and initiatives is a crucial part of life at St Patrick's College and being the only boys school between Melbourne and Adelaide, we believe that it is important that we show our support for White Ribbon Day and encourage our boys to take a stand against domestic violence."

2013 College Captain Peter Oakley said he believed the students gained great benefit from being involved in such a campaign.

"If an event like this encourages just one student to continue the discussion about stamping out domestic violence, then this will be a success," Peter said.

"It's important that our students make such a public stand in support of the White Ribbon Day message, but it's more important that we carry that message through and live to it as we grow older and start our own families."

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Please refer to the attached letter available on this week's edition of the E-Crest, to view changes for eligibility for Conveyance Allowance for 2013. This is a letter to the community from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat.

The letter is also available on the College website at www.stpats.vic.edu.au

CONDOLENCES

We pray for Gary Werndly (Staff) on the death of his sister, Anne-Maree Smerdon from a very long illness.

Anne-Maree was a past parent of SPC with sons Mathew (SPC 2000-05), Nathan (SPC 2000-03) and Nicholas (SPC 2001-06). Anne-Maree's ex-husband was John Smerdon (SPC 1975-77).

May she rest in peace.

THE COLLEGE SHOP Ms Michelle Lloyd

MYKI Cards

Boys who have ordered MYKI Cards can now collect these from the College Shop at \$3 per card.

College Shop Hours

The College Shop is open from Monday to Friday each week from 8.45 am to 3.30 pm. All other times by appointment.

White UV long sleeve tops are for sale at 20% discount off the normal recommended retail price. The tops are ideal for underneath rowing suits.

EVENTS AROUND THE COLLEGE

LOST PROPERTY

A LARGE NUMBER OF UNIFORM ITEMS HAVE BEEN HANDED INTO LOST PROPERTY AT STUDENT SERVICES. ALL ITEMS ARE UNNAMED.

All unclaimed items will be donated to St Vincent de Paul at the end of the year.

Canteen

Canteen Roster Monday, November 26 to Friday, November 30. Please, if unable to attend phone Veronica 5335 6244, Cheryl 5339 3655 or the College Canteen on 5322 4481.

Monday November 26

Elaine Collier, Jenny Gilbert, Janet Santilli, Jill Watkins, Louise Miles, Denise Gillingham.

Tuesday November 27

*Kerry Fiegert, *Helen Turley, Maria Madden, *Debbie Lauton,
*Lauretta Gaffrey, Loretta Toohey.

Wednesday November 28

Helen O'Brien, Monica Kirby, Gabrielle Fraser, Robyn Lavery, Molly Martin.

Thursday November 29

Kerry Guest, Sharren Mullane, Christine Jennings, Jo Alexander, Maxine Pryor, Louise Martin.

Friday November 30

Janice Holloway, Debbie Jew, Barb Peters, Jodie Butler, Julia Walker
Jodie Ilsley, Amanda Elliott, Heather Savage/Trudy West, Karen McPherson.

***Not in attendance for the entire canteen duty**

COMING EVENTS**Monday November 26**

2013 Year 12 Headstart Week
Year 10 Exams
Concert Band 2 rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)
Guitar Ensemble rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)

Tuesday November 27

2013 Year 12 Headstart Week
Year 10 Exams
Year 11 Final Day (3.25pm Finish)
College Assembly (10:15 am-10:50 am)
Senior School Awards Ceremony (10:55 am-12:25 pm)
Concert Band 3 rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)
Music Industry Junior Master Class (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)

Wednesday November 28

Year 10 Melbourne Experience

Thursday November 29

Year 10 Melbourne Experience
Year 10 Final Day (3.25pm Finish)
Junior School Presentation Night (7:30 pm-9:00 pm)

Friday November 30

Year 10 Callback
Contemporary Vocal Ensemble rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)
First XI Cricket v BCC (Away) (4:00 pm-6:00 pm)

Saturday December 1

BAS Rowing 1000m Regatta Yr 9 - 12 Crew (Lake Wendouree)

Monday December 3

First XI Cricket "Crusaders T/20 Merv Hughes Cup" (Away)
Year 9 Exams
Australian Schools Championships - Basketball
Concert Band 2 rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)
Concert Band 2 rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)
New Boarding Students Orientation Night (4:00 pm-7:00 pm)

Tuesday December 4

First XI Cricket "Crusaders T/20 Merv Hughes Cup" (Away)
Year 9 Exams
Year 7 Student Free Day
Australian Schools Championships - Basketball
Year 7 2013 Orientation Day (9:00 am-3:00 pm)
Year 8 - 12 2013 New Student Orientation Day (9:00 am -3:00 pm)
Year 10 Cricket v St Virgils (10:00 am-4:00 pm)
Concert Band 3 rehearsal (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)

Music Industry Junior Master Class (3:45 pm-5:00 pm)

Wednesday December 5

First XI Cricket "Crusaders T/20 Merv Hughes Cup" (Away)
Year 7 - 9 Exams
Australian Schools Championships - Basketball

Thursday December 6

Year 7 - 9 Exams
Australian Schools Championships - Basketball
Year 8 and 9 Cricket v St Kevin's College (10:00 am-4:00 pm)

Friday December 7

Year 7 - 9 Exams
Year 7 - 9 Final Day (3.25pm Finish)
Australian Schools Championships - Basketball (12:00 pm-3:00pm)
Senior and Year 10 Rowing Camp

Saturday December 8

Senior and Year 10 Rowing Camp

Sunday December 9

Senior and Year 10 Rowing Camp

Thursday December 13

College Shop Closes

Friday December 14

Last Day for Teaching Staff
Year 9 Rowing Camp

Saturday December 15

Year 9 Rowing Camp

Sunday December 16

Year 9 Rowing Camp

Monday December 17

End of Year Rowing Mixed Combo followed by BBQ (4:00 pm-8:00pm)

Exam Timetable - Year 9 December 2012

All other classes as Normal

Date	Subject	Time
Friday November 30	Public Speaking Japanese 9B Art 9A Multimedia 9D Science of Human Conflict 9D Design Technology –Metal 9E Systems Engineering 9C Design Technology –Wood 9E Wilderness 9E	1.55pm (Session 8 & 9)
Monday December 3	English	9.00am (Session 2 & 3)
Tuesday December 4	Science	8.55am start (Session 1 & 2 & 3)
Wednesday December 5	Maths Advanced Maths (other classes as normal)	9.00 am (Session 2 & 3) 1.10 pm (Session 7 & 8)
Thursday December 6	Humanities Art 3D 9A Criminology 9C Gadget Science 9A Multimedia 9C Science of Human Conflict 9C Design Technology –Wood 9D Japanese 9A Wilderness 9D Music 9A	9.00 am (Session 2 & 3) 1.55 pm (Session 8 & 9)
Friday December 7	Religious Education	9.00 am (Session 2 & 3)



***The famous SPC College Ball is back,
a night of fun, dancing and festivities!***

**Saturday March 23 2013
Old Collegians Pavilion**

save the date!

**7.30pm
Band: Green with Envy**

\$30 per person includes finger food and drinks on arrival

Dress Code: 'After Five', Drinks at bar prices

Tickets can be purchased from the

St Patrick's College Shop prior to March 15, 2013. Please remember to bring your ticket on the evening for entry and door prize. All funds raised on the night will go to projects that help all students at the College.