FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

TERM ONE CONCLUDES
Before taking leave last week, Principal Tim Hogan thanked staff for a very positive and smooth start to the 2010 school year. It has indeed been a great term finishing this week with Harmony Day, a wonderful celebration. I trust that all Year 7 students have found St Peter’s to be a safe and welcoming place to learn and contribute to the life of the college. All students are encouraged to rest and reflect on their studies thus far and, further to the Parent Teacher Interviews this week, discuss with parents ways in which they can ensure the most successful completion of Semester One. All families are also invited to enter into the most important period for Christians. Following Christ, our Lenten season gives way to Holy Week where God continues to call us to be transformed, through Christ and in Christ, towards the Easter Mystery of resurrection life.

COLLEGE BOARD AGM
At the Annual General Meeting of the College Board on the 27th of April the terms of two of our Parent Representatives will expire. Mrs Lorraine De Mello has indicated she will not nominate for re-election and I thank her for her contribution to the College Board over the last two years. Mr Robert Carboon is fully eligible to re-nominate as a Parent Representative for a further 2 year term. Consistent with the Constitution of the Board, other parents who are members of the Parish Community may also wish to nominate. In accordance with the constitution Mrs Pauline Hunt is understood to be entering the second year of her two year term as parent representative as is Mr Peter Dam.

Nominations for the two vacant Parent Representatives on the College Board will open as of today and close on the 31st of March. Nomination forms are available from the college office until the end of term and from St Agatha’s parish Office until the 31st of March. All nominations should be submitted to the Parish Office at St Agatha’s which is open from 8.30 am to 3pm Monday to Friday. In accordance with the constitution of the College Board, the newly elected parent representative must be a member of St Agatha’s Parish Community and have a son or daughter enrolled at the College.

Polling if necessary will take place at Parish Masses on the weekend of the 17th and 18th of April.

FRENCH EXCHANGE
This week, Mrs Jacqui Gunovich will accompany 5 students to France as part of our newly established partnership with St Michel de Picpus College in Paris. These opportunities for our students are intensely formative ones and would not be possible without the generous support of parents and the generous commitment of staff. I thank Mrs Gunovich along with Miss Melissa Faulkner (LOTE Coordinator) and Ms Tracy Lockley (French Teacher) for their organisation and determination to bring about this experience for our students. We look forward to their safe return and story sharing.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parents have until 9.00am Thursday morning to make appointments with staff to discuss their child’s progress this semester. I encourage all parents to do so in order to provide the best learning opportunities for students. This year, we have altered the days on which Parent Teacher interviews are held, opting as you would be aware, for an evening/following morning model in this final week of term. I invite parents to offer feedback to us with regard to this so that we can provide the best model of communication in respect of student progress. Please drop us a line via email or phone the College Office from Monday – Thursday of next week : lchristie@stpeters.vic.edu.au or Ph : 59 966 733. We are grateful for any comments and feedback.

C.N.A. LAUNCH
St Peter’s students and teachers are among the first in Australia to benefit from the Catholic Church’s new National high speed broadband being rolled out in partnership with Telstra. This will boost opportunities for all students to access forefront technologies which will best utilise our existing and growing resources. St Peter’s continues to activate its vision of utilising technology for best teaching and learning practice through the great work of our ICT team and the launch of CNA is a welcome complement to this.
Enrolments Year 7 - 2011

Applications are still being taken for Year 7, 2011. If you have yet to lodge your child’s application please do so before the end of term as letters of offer will be sent out mid-April. Please contact the College Office or the Registrar for an enrolment application form.

Kelley Cooper
PA to the Principal
Registrar

HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day was celebrated by Australians on 21st March. This day was set aside to recognise and celebrate the cultural diversity that we are so lucky to experience in this country.

As a College Community, we celebrated the day with a number of activities on Monday 22nd March. This was a first for our College, and was a resounding success.

Students were encouraged to dress in colours and clothing that reflected their culture, ancestry and heritage. This presented a visual reminder as to the vast number of cultures we as a College community represent. In fact, we are represented by no less than 52 different cultures at St Peters.

The day’s formalities started with a whole school assembly. At this assembly, we reflected on Jesus’ inclusiveness with respect to people from all different walks of life. Our prayer also placed a strong emphasis on our Indigenous Australians.

At this assembly, we were lucky enough to hear from two of our staff (Ms Lockley and Ms Chessen) who relayed their experiences of growing up in another country and migrating to Australia. Two of our students (Shaelli Kelly and Shannon White) performed an Irish folk dance, and to finish, we had a vocal group perform a rousing rendition of “We are Australian”. This was a great way to finish the assembly, with such a positive vibe.

At recess, a number of activities took place. We had a food stall, organised by the Food Technology classes as well as Mrs Nadan and Mrs Verghese. This was well patronised by our hungry students and staff, at both recess and lunchtime.

At recess, we had a costume parade where we had on display our best cultural costumes for the day. This event was won by Akansha Singh and Ashley Swamy.

The “World Game” (Soccer/Football) was played between our staff verses Yr 12 students at recess as well.

After the Yr 12s scored the opening goal within minutes, the Staff team struck back to draw the match one all.

At lunchtime, a Cultural Concert was held in the Multi Purpose Hall. A number of acts entertained over 200 students and staff, with a variety of dances and songs.

A special thank you must go to our Year 12 Captains and Mr Phillips who were the driving force behind many of the ideas and activities for the day.

Overall, we managed to raise over $2,154.65 for Caritas. An outstanding effort.

But the ultimate success in the day can be found in the way our students and staff truly celebrated our cultural diversity and showed the compassion and tolerance that Jesus taught us.

Well done to all!

Mr Banks - Deputy Principal

Yr 11 Media Students

The Yr 11 Media class has been participating in a competition conducted by the RACV and Channel 7. The competition is called “Transition” and involves the students preparing an advertisement on road safety. The entries are due next term, and we are hoping to get to the semi-finals.

Joel Walker 11A

Our Year 11 Media Studies class are split into groups to conduct and participate in the RACV Tr ansmissions competition for Year’s 9 to 12 all around the state of Victoria. Our issue is on a road safety topic ‘Speak up and look after your mates’. We as a group are trying to create a 30 second ad that would raise the awareness of drink driving to prevent further statistics increasing on Vic Roads. We hope each and every individual at St Peters College will pass our message across to others.

Adonis Bitanga 11F
FINALS: SENIOR CRICKET

The semi-final was memorable for a spectacular century by Jessie Bice off just 56 balls. His clean hitting and placement were the best that has been seen in many years on our oval. He got good support from the consistent Sean Hinkley and Andrew McInnes.

Batting: Liam Bice(102 not out), Sean Hinkley(15 not out), Adam Hanger(13) and Andrew McInnes(10).
Bowling: Todd Roscoe(2/9), Brendan Hunt(2/16), Ben Milano(1/11), Shehan DeMel(1/1) and Glen Salter(1/2).
Scores: St. Peter’s 4/165 def. Beaconhills 78

The Grand Final was played against St. Francis Xavier College on our home ground. We lost the toss, but posted a competitive 7/120. In a dramatic finish we were not able to prevent St. Francis from passing our score with three balls to spare. It was a bitterly disappointing end to a fantastic campaign. This team is to be congratulated for its great spirit and sportsmanship. Jessie Bice lead the team brilliantly, with back-up from Adam Hanger and Brendan Hunt. Andrew McInnes’ catch on the boundary epitomised the spirit of all the members of this squad.

Batting: Jessie Bice(45), Sean Hinkley(29), Brendan Hunt(19) and Andrew McInnes(12).
Bowling: Shehan Demel(2/6), Brad Tanner(2/17) and Adam Hanger(1/19).
Scores: St. Francis Xavier 7/122 def. St. Peter’s 7/120

EMA CHEQUES

are ready to be picked up and if not collected by the 12th April will be receipted to family accounts.

LOST PROPERTY

Dear Parents and Students, There are a number of uniform items in lost property, particularly “Rugby Tops”. Please check lost property before the end of Term if you’ve lost something. Unamed College Uniform remaining at the end of Term 1 will be given to the Second Hand Uniform Shop.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Scott Weirkmeister - Congratulations to Scott (Yr 7) who has been given a role as part of the choir in Opera Australia’s “Tosca”. There will be 10 performances at the State Theatre and he will be 1 of 9 boys in the choir singing Italian. An outstanding effort!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

At this mornings’ assembly we celebrated Harmony Day. It was a wonderful celebration of unity within diversity and was celebrated with a great spirit. We began of course in prayer and the Scripture reading was taken from St Paul “...we are all members of the one body...together you are Christ’s body; but each is a different part”. We see and hear only too often of the consequences of a lack of respect for a particular race or culture. Hatred cannot grow from a society united in Christ. The students and staff were reminded that St Peter’s College is a real, functioning multi ethnic community where everyone is respected equally and their gifts appreciated. Not everyone in our College community is Catholic, however, everyone knows that we are united around the Word of God and accordingly each person is treated with respect in accordance with their human dignity.

The Gospel for Sunday the Fifth week of Lent was the story of the woman taken in adultery and the mob that was prepared to stone her. When Jesus was asked His opinion about how this woman was to be punished, even though the question was an attempt at entrapment, He replied “.....Let whoever is without sin cast the first stone.” In our case, the stones can be racist comments, or lies about a person. There can be no harmony where we are judgemental and prejudiced. There can be no harmony where we will not accept differences. We strive to teach that all people, as children of God have the right to live in peace and be treated as equal in our society. For us to do or say anything other than this is to deny the teachings of Christ and His Church.

As Jesus said to the mob, He says to us, “Let whoever has no faults be most critical of others”. We are in danger of our social standards being set by the media commentators rather than our belief in the teachings of Jesus. None of us has the right to claim superiority over another, none of us has the right to incite hatred by our words or actions. Rather, we are reminded of the words of Jesus,
"Whatever you do to the least of these, you do unto me.

Harmony Day is a government initiative and yet it fits in beautifully with the Catholic ethos of St Peter’s with our many nationalities and cultural backgrounds. Many students dressed in the national dress of their cultural origins, it is inspiring to see how well this is accepted, truly we can learn a lot from our children. We look forward to bigger and better Harmony Days and the reality of respect and harmony in our society.

Prayer For Peace (St Francis of Assisi)
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
For it is giving that we receive;
In pardoning that we are pardoned;
And in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen
Deacon Tony Aspinall
College Chaplain

ST. AGATHA’S NEWS


THE TIMES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION BEFORE EASTER; will be (along with normal times) Thursday 25th March 10am (after the 9.30am Mass) till 10.30am, Friday 26th March 10am-10.30am, Saturday 27th March 10.15am-10.55am, Monday 30th March 7.30pm Tenebrae & 2nd Rite of Reconciliation (6 Priests available), Wednesday 31st March 10am-11.30am, Holy Thursday 1st April 5pm-5.30pm, Good Friday 2nd April 10.30am-11.30am (during after Stations of the Cross) and after the 3pm Solemn Ceremony, Holy Saturday 3rd April 10am-11am.

4th ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY YOUTH GATHERING; Sunday March 28th at 1pm St Joseph’s Parish, Witton Street Warragul. Bishop Christopher Prowse will lead young people from across the diocese in praying the Way of the Cross, & Palm Sunday Mass. A BBQ & live music will follow. Everyone welcome!

Greg Nelson
ST. AGATHA'S PARISH REPRESENTATIVE

HOLY WEEK/EASTER TIMETABLE

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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>Palm Sunday – normal Sunday Mass times</td>
<td>Mass 11.00am</td>
<td>Mass 8.00am</td>
<td>Tenebrae &amp; 2nd rite of Reconciliation 7.30pm (7 Priests)</td>
<td>Mass 9.30am followed by Reconciliation till 10.30am</td>
<td>Reconciliation 5.00pm – 5.30pm</td>
<td>Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7.30pm, Watching with the Lord until Midnight.</td>
<td>Reconciliation 10.30am – 11.30am &amp; after the 3pm</td>
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<td>Masses – 9.00am, 10.30am &amp; 6.00pm</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross 10.30am</td>
<td>Ecumenical Way of the Cross 11.00am (beginning at the corner of Lamb &amp; Sladen Sts)</td>
<td>Solemn Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion 3.00pm</td>
<td>No Morning Mass of Holy Hour, Reconciliation 10.00am –</td>
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