FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back Term 2
I extend a warm welcome back to all of our students and families. I hope the holiday break has allowed for some quality family time something which is all too rare in the daily juggle of work, pick-ups, drop-offs and other family commitments. Term 2 is in many ways the most important term of the year for our students. The students are well and truly entrenched into the new work of the year level and their performance in this term often sets the tone for the remainder of the year. The feedback from term 1 parent teacher interviews will point students in the right direction to ensure that they achieve the results that they desire. A consistent approach to work tasks at school and home will place students in a position of confidence when facing exams and assessment tasks at the end of the semester. I encourage parents to be in regular contact with our teachers with any concerns as to their sons and daughters progress over the course of this term.

Whole School Approach to Bullying
Each year we involve our students in a series of activities designed to raise the awareness of the impact of bullying on others. We give our senior students the opportunity to assist in leading these activities because we believe that they can not only influence their peers in a positive way but that they also have a responsibility to help build a school environment where all students feel a sense of security and belonging. As the media suggests bullying is one where support from home is vital if we are to make a difference. I encourage you to talk with your sons and daughters over the coming week on this topic as sometimes only through open discussion can we challenge some of the underlying beliefs that allow and encourage bullying to continue.

VCE Top Art Exhibition
As mentioned previously Michelle Molinari from the VCE Class of 2009 will be represented in Top Arts: VCE 2009 at the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, Federation Square. The showing has just begun and will conclude on the 14th of June. Top Arts presents works created by 57 VCE Art and Studio Arts students including painting, photography, printmaking, drawing, sculpture and short films. Michelle was the winner of the St Peter’s College Principal Prize for Art in 2009 and is currently studying fine arts at Melbourne University.

Staff Changes
Ms Nicole Chessen will be leaving St Peter’s at the end of term 2 to continue with further study. Ms Chessen has been an enthusiastic and positive contributor at St Peter’s in her time here as a teacher of English, Mathematics and Geography and also in her role as homeroom teacher at the year 8 level. I wish her well in her future studies.

Mr Tim Hogan
PRINCIPAL
Positive Relationships at St’Peter’s

“...the worst thing about Bullying? Well, I think it is that it wrecks your peace of mind.” - Year Nine student.
“...whenever you did this for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me!” – Matthew 25: 40

At St. Peter’s, we actively promote the Christian belief that all people, in particular the most vulnerable, have the right to live their lives free of the threat or the reality of harm. Therefore, in the way we interact with each other through our work, our play, our conversations and our increasing use of information and communication technology, we must be mindful that respect and kindness are essential to human beings.

This term, the whole school will take part in a number of activities which are intended to raise student, teacher and parent awareness about the harmful nature of Bullying and Harassment. The activities are also designed to better equip all of us to manage harmful behaviours as soon as they may occur and to gain positive outcomes for all concerned.

This week, two extended homerooms will be run. Students will have the opportunity to re visit the College Bullying and Harassment Policy. They will all take part in a revised form of the National Council against Bullying Survey and will undertake year level based activities lead by student leaders and pastoral care teachers.

Students will interact with different year levels, they will watch thought provoking presentations, engage in challenging discussions and they will share their own knowledge and experiences. It will be a great example of education in action!

Later this term, student forums and assemblies will be initiated to allow students to be part of the ongoing discussion about how we can all contribute to having a positive experience of school.

Our Church believes that Catholic schools should be places where ‘faith, life and culture are brought into harmony’ (CCE). As the child quoted above expressed, the vast majority of our young people believe this too.

We owe it to them to keep working at this important task.

Mrs. Anita Carter
Director of Student Welfare Services

IMMUNISATIONS

City of Casey Health Team will be conducting immunisations at St Peter’s throughout 2010. This year, students in Yrs 7 and 10 will be immunised against a range of preventable diseases. This Friday 16 April, all Year 7 students will have the opportunity to receive the vaccine against HEPATITIS B and Chicken Pox. In addition, Yr 7 girls will receive vaccination against Cervical Cancer (Gardasil).

Each student has been provided with consent forms which MUST be filled by their parent or guardian and you are requested to:

- Read the information about the vaccinations being provided
- Complete and SIGN the consent card. If your child does not require the immunisation, please complete the card and sigh the NO section and return it to the school
- Please note : Children will not be immunised without a fully completed and signed consent card.
- Once completed, please return the consent card to the school by this Friday 16 April.

Parents seeking more information can contact the City of Casey’s Environmental Health Team on 9705 5200.

Elizabeth Hanney
Deputy Principal

Year 12 - Bake Sale

To raise money for project compassion this term, a select group of year 12 girls took time out of their busy study schedules to plan, cook and sell a range of baked goods, which included cakes, toffee, biscuits and muffins. Without their efforts we would not have raised $ 263.10! A big thank you goes to Lauren Stewart, Emily Dryden, Rebecca Dodgson, Hannah Binks, Elouise Johnson, Sharni Francis, Elly Briggs, Emma Hurdis and Danielle McDonell for all their efforts in the co-ordination of the bake sale and to those parents who also donated ingredients and sweet treats, which made this sale so successful!

Miss Turner
Teacher
2010 SIS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On the evening of Wednesday 10th March the St Peter’s swimming team along with 5 staff headed to Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre for the SIS Division ‘A’ Swimming Carnival. The whole team is to be congratulated on their efforts and sportsmanship on the night.

There were several fine performances, with the following students/teams winning events on the night:

- Sam Russo    U/14  50m Backstroke
- Skye Brennan    U/17   50mBackstroke
- Skyke Brennan    U/17   100m Freestyle
- Jordan Stewart  U/15 50m Freestyle
- Derek Rammuth  U/15  50m Breastroke
- Brandon Trebilco  U/16 50m Breastroke
- Female U/16 4x50m Freestyle Relay

Congratulations to these students!

Overall St Peter’s finished 6th, which means we will continue to swim in Division A next year.

A special thanks to Mr Brown, Mr Landman, Mr McGrath and Ms Pereira who assisted on the night.

Mr Justin De Goldi
Sports Manager

CAREER NEWS

Work Experience

A reminder to all year 10 students and parents that Work Experience forms are now overdue! Work experience will be taking place towards the end of Term 2, with week 1 being from the 7th June - 11th June and the second week being from the 15th June - 18th June (14th June is the Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday). All Year 10 students are required to undertake work experience during these 2 weeks. The careers room is open before and after school, as well as during recess and lunch, for those students who require extra assistance.

Open Day Dates

A list of University and TAFE open days has been posted on Moodle, as well as in the window of the careers room. These are a good opportunity for students to visit these institutes to talk to staff and gain an understanding of course outlines and structure as well as entry requirements.

The Age VCE and Careers Expo

Is taking place from Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th April at Caulfield Racecourse. It is attended by a majority of the major TAFE’s and Universities and is the first major careers event of the year. There will be over 100 seminars running during the 3 days, including subject specific presentations and presentations from individual institutes. For more info please visit the careers room or contact the school.

Moodle

A reminder to all students and parents that a fortnightly careers newsletter is posted on Moodle. I strongly encourage all senior students to check the careers Moodle page on a regular basis to ensure they have access to the most up to date information and important dates which apply to them.

Cathy Heijden
Sports Teacher

Shannon Maher
CAREERS COORDINATOR
During the holidays, we celebrated the great feast of Easter. In this feast we celebrate Christ’s victory over death. It symbolizes the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in him. The central theme on Easter Sunday is the newness of life in Christ. As a staff, when we gathered on Monday morning to start the new term, we also recalled this “newness of life in Christ”. We reminded ourselves of our new vision statement and how we are being called to a “newness” in our College community. As we begin our journey with our new vision statement, we pray that the risen Christ guides us and encourages us to be people of renewal in this very important adventure.

Project Compassion: A reminder that all Project Compassion boxes will need to be returned to the College so that we can finalise our contribution of this very worthy cause. In the last twelve months so many different disasters have happened in our world which need our help and support. By returning your boxes, we can help other people to a “new” life. Our world can be a place of violence, prejudice and indifference so let us be people of the resurrection and renew the world in which we live.

Next week, our Year 11 students will depart Cranbourne to go on Retreat. The focus of our Retreat is our relationship with God, ourselves and with others. Our Retreat will allow time for students to reflect on God’s presence in their own lives and in the world in which they live. It will be a great time for reflection and prayer.

Bernadette Tolan
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEADER

Lord,
The resurrection of Your Son,
Has given us new life and renewed hope.
Help us to live as new people
In pursuit of the Christian ideal.
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
The will to want to do it,
The courage to undertake it,
The perseverance to continue to do it,
And the strength to complete it.
Amen.

BERNADETTE TOLAN
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEADER