ST. PETER'S COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Opening School Mass
A wonderful communal celebration was held last Thursday to begin the school year. Under our Annual theme for 2012, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water” Fr Darek and Deacon Tony challenged our community to, like Peter, have faith in Jesus when he asks us to do his work on a daily basis.

Our College leaders for 2012 were inducted into their roles and in a year where they have a key role in implementing our new House System they are ready to take on the responsibilities of student leadership following in the footsteps of our Patron Saint Peter who worked tirelessly in the service of others.

I also thank our High achievers from 2011 Luke Lynch (Dux), Mitchell Fly, Mandy Magias and Alisha Mascurine for returning to encourage and inspire our current students to be the best they can be.

College Captains - Skye Brennan & Tyson Tifere  
Social Justice Captain - Kevin Noble  
Liturgy Captain - Amanda Hajj  
Arts Captain - Jessica Watt  
Environment Captain - Danielle Xerri

House Captains
Assisi - Jade Gregory & Daniel Martins  
Augustine - Stephanie Metz & Zachery Davis  
Avila - Kara Spierrings & Liam Wilson  
Kolbe - Marissa Shami & Curtis Moses  
Glowery - Jessica Hall & Taylor Piggott  
Marian - Kaitlyn Wakartschuk & Alexander Russo  
MacKillop - Rhiannon Kyberd & Ethan Maclean  
Romero - Giselle Lazarus & Daniel Tocknell

Official Opening Cranbourne East Campus
The official opening of the Cranbourne East Campus of St Peter’s will take place this Friday, 24th of February. The Blessing of the New Campus by Bishop Prowse and opening by Anthony Byrne M.P is a significant event in the history of the college and is the result of much work invested by many members of the Catholic Education Community in the Diocese of Sale. In particular I wish to acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the staff of St Peter’s who over a number of years of fine service to the community of Cranbourne have built a school reputation that has nurtured and sustained the growth of this new school community.

National Year of Reading

Wednesday 22nd February, 2012  
Term 1 Issue No. 2

To begin our celebration of the National Year of Reading at St Peter’s, school librarian Mrs Gargano and a number of staff launched our “Readarama” program for year 7 & 8 students with the aim of inspiring them to read as many books as possible in a set period of time. The launch included a lunchtime reading session where Staff selected passages from their favourite books to read while students lounged in bean bags, very reminiscent of a bedtime story session. The aims of the National Year of Reading are listed below and provide some food for thought for all parents who want to promote literacy with their children.

- For all Australians to understand the benefits of reading as a life skill and a catalyst for well-being;
- To promote a reading culture in every home; and
- To establish an aspirational goal for families, of parents and caregivers sharing books with their children every day.

Gonski Review
The Gonski review of Government Spending on Education was released this week and I have attached a response to the review from the Executive Director of Catholic Education Mr Stephen Elder.

We are uncertain as to how the Government will react to the recommendations of the review but are very pleased that Mr Gonski has recognised the fine work that Catholic Schools do with less resources and funding in comparison to Government schools.

In the next newsletter I will provide a more detailed analysis of the Government’s response and its impact on our community.

Mr. Tim Hogan
PRINCIPAL
Student Leadership Training Day
On Monday of this week, the 22 elected Year 11 and 12 Student Leaders (College Captains and House Captains) went on an all day Leadership Training Seminar held at the Pearcedale Public Hall.

The aims of this day were to get the Leadership Team to start to think about their roles in the context of Servant Leadership, to give the student leaders some skills on leadership and also conduct some important team building activities.

The students took on all tasks with much enthusiasm and energy and this augurs well for a great year for the Student Leadership Team.

I would also like to thank the staff who accompanied them for some part or all of the day. Ms Goss, Mrs Esmaty, Mrs Hanney, Mr Nash, Deacon Tony and Mr Hogan.

Uniform
Generally speaking, the uniform has been worn well so far this year.
However, I do want to make a couple of points regarding uniform:

Shoes: I have noticed a couple of students wearing new shoes that resemble skate shoes but are black leather. These shoes are not acceptable as the school shoes need to be hard soled (as stated on page 12 of the Student Record Book). Please err on the side of being conservative when purchasing new shoes for your child. When in doubt, it is best to purchase the shoes you have in the past.

Hair Ties: A reminder that hair below shoulder length needs to be tied back at all times. Hair ties are available for purchase for 30 cents from student reception.

Absences/Signing in Late
Parents are reminded to notify the office where possible if a student is absent.

Students should also be bringing a note in their record book to present to their Learning Advisor when they return to school.

When students arrive late to school in the morning, they must sign in at student reception and take their late pass to their next class.

Mr Banks
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL-STUDENTS

CRANBOURNE EAST NEWS

Information Evening
Monday Night saw a great gathering of parents from year 7 and 8 upstairs in the Science/Technology Building. The evening provided an opportunity for parents to hear first-hand information on developments and events for 2012. Parents also met with their child’s Learning Advisor for 2012. The evening concluded with an informal chat over coffee and tea.

Official Opening
Friday morning will see the official opening of the campus and the blessing of the stage one buildings at 10am by Bishop Christopher Prowse and Federal MP Anthony Byrne. It has been a long journey that has at times been difficult but always rewarding and the opening will allow us to celebrate this achievement that we have all been part of.

Yr 7 Camp
Next Monday 27th February all of the East Yr 7 students will head off to Camp Rumbbug for 3 days. Students from Romero and Kolbe Houses at the West Campus will also be in attendance. Students are required to at school at 8.30am on Monday and will return at 2.30pm on Wednesday for a slightly earlier finish. The camp is always a highlight on the calendar and this year promises the same again.

Payments
A reminder to parents and students that all payments are to be made via the West Campus. There are no payment facilities at the East Campus at this stage. We will keep you informed of any developments in this area.

James Roberts
HEAD OF CAMPUS- CRANBOURNE EAST

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION.

Our first meeting for 2012 was held last Tuesday evening. Thanks to those who attended, in particular those new parents attending for the very first time. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

The focus on the meeting was on fundraising, both the raising of funds via current programs and on new opportunities. Several members have taken up the challenge of gaining further information on new ventures.

All meetings begin with a guest speaker, and includes report presentation from the Executive and Principal.

We encourage all college families to become involved in the Association, by way of supporting fundraising initiatives, but particularly we would welcome as many new members to our meetings as possible. We particularly wish to invite all new families, Year 7 students families and East Campus families to join us at our future meetings. Follow our news via the College website, and if possible make a diary note today to come along to our next meeting at our East Campus on Tuesday 27th March at 7.30 pm. Guest speaker will be Ms Jodie Connell, Learning Advisor.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) 2012

The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to parents of eligible students under 16 years of age, and the student is enrolled in a Government or non-Government School in Victoria on census day.

The Education Maintenance Allowance will be paid in two instalments and to be eligible you must be enrolled on the first day of 1st Term (1 February 2012) for the first instalment and on the first day of 3rd Term (16 July 2012) for the second instalment:

(a) be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, OR
(b) be a Veteran Affairs Pensioner (TPI), OR
(c) be a foster parent.

EMA applications forms maybe collected from the College office

Applications must be submitted to the College by- 29 February 2012
SPORT NEWS

SIS SENIOR GIRLS SOCCER REPORT ROUND 1

The first game of the SIS Senior Girls Soccer competition took place at Ballam Park last Thursday. The girls worked hard all game and had numerous opportunities to score but just could not get the ball past the opposition goalie. Shannan White and Megan Collier worked tirelessly in defense and Caitlyn Machaya produced many good running attacks up the wing. Lauretta Lekakis utilised her strength and skill at both ends of the pitch. Despite a valiant effort the girls went down to Woodleigh in a very close encounter. The final score was a 1-0 win to Woodleigh.

Cathy Heijden
COACH

SIS SENIOR BOYS SOCCER VS JOHN PAUL REPORT

The seniors kicked off the campaign against John Paul with the team built around the strong spine of Beckham in goal, Schruers and Ramnuth in defence, Lekakis in midfield and the lively Willshire up front. It wasn’t long before Collier’s guile created an opportunity for Lekakis; whose finish was far steadier than the Greek economy. A second goal was added by Willshire and all was going according to plan until JP pulled one back and the nerves began to jangle. It took an excellent strike (or was it a cross?) from Letelier to settle things down again and the team saw time out to record an excellent 3-1 victory. Many positives can be taken from the game. Methakul’s ‘twinkle toes’ shone, Cref displayed a good attitude on his debut, Noble, Johnson and Mikha all had good moments in defence, Blackburn’s fitness nearly held out and the Ramnuth/Birt hairstyles stood up well in the hot conditions. With the next game away at Woodleigh, Ramnuth’s booming piledrivers from outside the box may be the secret weapon needed to secure another victory.

Mr Broadley (looked over again for the vacant managerial position at Fortress Elland Road)

SIS CRICKET

St Peters College vs John Paul College @ The Skydome.
JPC 85 for 6, SPC 111 for 3. SPC wins by 26 runs, Kayle Henderson 41, Zac Davis 26.

On a toasty Thursday afternoon Matt Crozier “steamed” in and bowled into the corridor of uncertainty. Ethan McLean is a clone of Ben Hillfinhaus as run dried up wickets tumbled. Fine overall fielding, Kayle Henderson took a spectacular outfield catch, Damon Constable’s leg spin defied projectile motion theory thanks to Jeremy Jakupi for the Lemon Lime + Bitters and cucumber sandwiches.

Pat Grant and Paul Gyulavary
COACH ASSISTANT

WANT TO BECOME A
FOOTY UMPIRE?

AFL Victoria is offering the opportunity to run an Umpires Academy here at St Peters College, beginning early 2012.

- Earn great $$$$ being a field/boundary umpire
- Free uniform!
- Training once a week after school here at St Peters (no need to travel to Dandenong) beginning early 2012
- Open to Males or Females of all ages!
- Umpire at local grounds in local competitions
- Get fit, learn a new skill, earn $$$$ and a free umpires uniform!

To register your interest, get in contact with Mr De Goldi ASAP!

YEARS 2013

ENROLLMENTS NOW OPEN

Applications are now being taken for Year 7 2013 at both the Cranbourne West and Cranbourne East campus. Application forms are available from the College Office.

Enrolments close Friday 9 March. Please contact our Registrar Kelley Cooper for more information.

MATHS HELP AFTER SCHOOL EVERY MONDAY 3.30-4.30 In McGuigan Computer Room with Expert Math’s Teachers

ALL STUDENTS ALL YEAR LEVELS WELCOME

Love 2 Read Valentine’s Day National Year of Reading Launch

Students wondered why St Peter’s College staff were parading around the school last Tuesday with heart-adorned balloons attached to their favourite book. It was the launch of the National Year of Reading and as the slogan is Love 2 Read, St Valentine’s Day was the perfect day for staff to share with students a book they loved. Books varied from childhood fantasy favourites such as Wind in the Willow to thought-provoking Why men can’t listen and women can’t read maps! Many staff members complained that it had been very difficult to choose one book from the many they had loved throughout their lives.

…46% of Australians can’t read a newspaper; follow a recipe; make sense of a timetable or understand instructions on a medicine bottle… www.love2read.org.au

The National Year of Reading is a collaborative project between the Australian Government, libraries and community groups. Their aim is to promote books, reading and literacy throughout 2012. One of our Launch events was the Luncheon Time Library Reading Session where several teachers read from their favourite book to an entranced audience. This sharing of stories will be a regular occurrence throughout the National Year of Reading. Students will also be invited to share their favourites. Visit the NYR website featured above and look out for many more exciting National Year of Reading events and activities at St Peter’s College and in the community.

2012 Readarama Roller-coaster Launch - Everyone’s a Winner!

On the same day, St Peter’s College Library took the opportunity to launch the unique Readarama Roller Coaster Program at a Year 7 Assembly. Surprised Year 7 students were ushered in to the hall to the rousing tune of Everyone’s a Winner and treated to Mr Hampson’s charming tribute to the wonderful world of books, and a fun quiz. Readarama is the reading program that has been implemented by English and the Library as an alternative to the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Everyone will be a winner with Readarama as every student will be expected to complete the Readarama Roller-Coaster Ride. All they have to do is read for 25 hours between now and the end of Term 3.

Of course, some students will want to complete more than one ride and the biggest readers in each class and year level will receive some great prizes. The competitive streak in both students and teachers will most likely come to the fore as the Year 7 and 8 classes which read the most will win a free lunch.

Another great feature of Readarama is that students can read whatever they like: fiction, information books, magazines or newspapers. Parents can help their child by encouraging them to read for about ten minutes a night and by signing the sheet in their Record Book. Your child’s reading progress will be included in their English report. We look forward to your support. Happy reading!

Angela Gargano
TEACHER AND LIBRARIAN

Happy reading!
Welcome back! 2012 has come around so quickly! On the students first day back, we gathered in the Donnelly foyer for our first ever House assembly. The students were introduced to the Learning Advisors: GLA - Ms Carla Edgenton, GLB – Ms Angela Gargano, GLC- Miss Karissa Roberston, GLD – Mr Justin DeGoldi, GLE – Mr Barry Fisher and GLF – Ms Jacqui Gunovich. These teachers are the first point of call for students and parents, should you have any concerns or information to communicate. All of the Glowrey House students have been presented with their House badges, which they have been wearing proudly on their blazers. 

Our House colour is purple, and students and staff have been busy making decorations and costumes for the upcoming Swimming Sports – good luck to our swimmers and supporters.

This year, many students in Glowrey will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra-curricular activities to earn points for our House. I would like to acknowledge two students who displayed their artistic achievements last year; Paige Bailey (12 GLA) winner of the Principal’s prize for art 2011 – “Spark” (Dragontfly photograms) and Tyler Monaghan (12 GLA) winner of the Technology award – Hall Table. Congratulations! I hope that many other Glowrey students will be inspired by their work and enter artworks in competitions throughout the year!

Another student who has achieved great things in the swimming pool is Sam Russo (10 GLF). Sam recently competed in the Sydney NSW Open and achieved personal best times in all of his events. In March, he will travel to Adelaide to compete in the Olympic Trials and in April he will travel to Brisbane for the National Age championships. Good luck Sam!!

Special Congratulations to Glowrey House Captains Jessica Hall Yr12 GLF and Taylor Pigott Yr 11 GLF.

Dr Sr Mary Glowrey (1887 – 1957) is our House Patron. She was a remarkable woman; born in Birregurra, Victoria, she was one of the first women to be awarded a doctorate in medicine. Mary was also the first general president of the first Catholic women’s organisation in Victoria, now known as the Catholic Women’s League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga. She left Melbourne for India and arrived in Madras on 11 February 1920. Mary was received into the Order of the Sisters of the Society of Jesus, Mary and Joseph on 28 November 1920 and became the first nun missionary. Mary had to gain special permission from Pope Pius XI to perform her medical mission work, for nuns had not been permitted to practice as doctors. She took on the name of Sister Mary of the Sacred Heart. In December 2012, Archbishop Denis Hart announced that the preliminary phase of the cause for canonisation of Mary Glowrey had commenced.

At the Glowrey House Information night last week, I spoke of Mary’s amazing work and how “great things come from ordinary people”. I am sure that the students of Glowrey House will become inspired by her good works and that we will see “great things” from them too.

Ms Gina Goss
GLOWREY HOUSE LEADER

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

As we move into Lent on Wednesday (Ash Wednesday) a long period of prayerful preparation for Easter begins. Our students, as will most Catholics, will receive blessed ashes on their forehead with an accompanying prayer such as “ Turn away from sin, live for the Gospel” or “Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return”. 

This ancient practice is a sign of repentance which calls us to change our ways and become renewed in our faith. While this call to repentance and renewal is addressed to each, all has an obligation to help others achieve this. We hear so much about peer pressure today and we seem to accept it as inevitable and completely unavoidable. Let’s think about that. Who are these peers? these people who make us behave in ways that we don’t want? They are our sons and daughters, our brothers and sisters, they are us!

We don’t exist in a vacuum, we live as part of several communities, home, school, work, footy club etc. The behaviour of each person in these groups affects the others. This Lent maybe each of us, student or adult, either parent, guardian or friend could reflect on what impact our behaviour, our language and our attitudes have on those around us. Peer pressure can be a positive thing, let’s make it so.

In Sunday’s Gospel we saw a wonderful example of four friends who went out of their way to get their friend into Jesus’ presence. They climbed on a roof because of the crowds and made a hole big enough to lower him through so that he could be healed. All of us need healing in some way, let us remember that we can be a negative influence and our words and actions do count. Equally we can be the sign that someone needs we may have the words that make a difference. We pray “ .....forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” We all sin and we are all capable of great and good things, this Lent let us begin a new era of “Peer Pressure”. Let us pray that we are an influence for good, an influence for God.

Deacon Tony Aspinall
COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

A Prayer from a High School Student

Please be with me today.
Give me the courage to stand for and do what’s right.
Help me to change the things I can,
To accept what I can’t change,
And wisdom to know the difference.
Anoint me with your power
that I might make a difference for you.

Amen

ST. AGATHA’S NEWS

HEALING MASS: A Healing Mass, with Praise & Worship and Adoration, will be celebrated by Fr.Varghese Parackal VC, Director of the Retreat Centre in Perth, on Monday 27th February at 7pm in St.Agatha’s Church.

CAR RAFFLE: There are 3 cars & 11 Coles Myer gift cards on offer in this amazing raffle. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses. Tickets $2 each of $20 per book. Vic Permit No.10731/11.

Mr. Greg Nelson
St Agatha’s Parish Representative

TERM 1 2012 CALENDAR

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<td>Kolbe &amp; Romero House Info.Nights WEST CAMPUS</td>
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Monday 20 February 2012

**Catholic Education welcomes consultation on Gonski Review detail**

Catholic Education looks forward to examining the detailed recommendations of the Gonski Review and the Australian Government’s response to ensure they meet the needs of every student in Catholic education, the Executive Director of Catholic Education, Stephen Elder, said in response to the release of the Gonski Review today.

“The government has recognised that families already face financial pressures in relation to school fees. Catholic education will now analyse the report to ensure it does not put further pressure on Catholic families and the fees they pay,” said Mr Elder.

“The final report of the Gonski review has confirmed what many parents know – Victoria has a very good schooling system and Catholic education plays a very important role.

“I welcome the government’s commitment to detailed and extensive consultation on the recommendations of the review. We look forward to working constructively with the government to test the proposals in the Gonski review.

“The Gonski review has recognised that Catholic schools in Victoria operate with lower resource levels and less government funding compared to government schools. On average Catholic schools receive less than 80 cents for every dollar in government funding for government school students.

“Including fees from parents, Catholic schools operate on around 90% of the cost of education in a Victorian government school. There is a lot of work to be done before we can be confident that we will have a funding model that meets the needs of every student.

“If the government delivers at least the current level of funding to Catholic schools with increases that keep pace with government school costs and avoids school fee increases, it will go a long way to ensuring the needs of students are met.

“Parents and teachers will welcome the possibility that students with a disability and special needs would receive the same level of government funding regardless of the school they attend.

“This policy change would likely allow Catholic schools to welcome thousands of students with disabilities and special needs that have previously been discouraged by the huge funding disparity between Catholic and government schools.”

*Further information from David Ahern, Catholic Education Office Melbourne, Media, on 9267 0228 or 0418 351 383.*