



PARENT WEEKLY UPDATE

9 MARCH 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS ON FRIDAY 16 MARCH: The day starts with the Big Boy's Breakfast (see details below). Students are to wear formal uniform. There is a Mass in the College Chapel at 9am for Year 9 students which parents are most welcome to attend. Year 9 students will be allowed to go home at 2.30pm that day. Please note that there will be no afternoon school buses operating apart from the Mana bus to Porirua. At 1.30pm there will be Mass at St Mary of the Angels for Years 10 to 13. This is the first time since 2011 that we have been able to have a school Mass at St Mary of the Angels which as a Marist Church has a long connection with our College. It will be a very special occasion. We expect the highest standards of behaviour from our students. It is a special honour to have the new Bishop of Christchurch, Paul Martin SM, DD as our main celebrant. Buses will transport the students into town at 12.45pm and the boys will be released home at the conclusion of Mass between approximately 2.30 to 2.45pm. Year 10 to 13 students will need to leave their school bags at school overnight. Students will need to make their own way home from St Mary of the Angels after Mass.

FRIDAY 16 MARCH - ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS - PARENTS' ASSOCIATION BIG BOY'S

BREAKFAST: At 7am, the St Pat's Parents' Association will host the Big Boy's Breakfast, an opportunity for our students with their father/uncle/grandfather or any other significant male in their life to start the St Patrick's Day celebrations by attending a formal breakfast in the school hall. This year the breakfast is proudly sponsored by our architects Designgroup Stapleton Elliott. This is a wonderful annual school event. Guest speakers are former Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand and Hurricanes and All Black rugby player TJ Perenara. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased now from the school cashier.

DATES TO DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK:

- **MONDAY 12 March** – Year 9 Kennedy Camp through to Wednesday 14 March. Polynesian Parents Association meets in the staffroom at 6pm.
- **TUESDAY 13 March** – a reminder to Year 9 parents that we have our first *Patricians* evening with Wine & Cheese on Tuesday 13 March from 7.30pm till 8.45pm in the College hall. We would like at least one parent of every Year 9 student to be present. Please make this meeting a priority. If you are unable to attend please email your apology to Gerardine Parkinson, the Rector's PA – admin@stpats.school.nz.
- **WEDNESDAY 14 March to FRIDAY 16 March** – Year 9 Watters Camp.
- **THURSDAY 15 March** – Old Boys Association Mass in the Chapel at 5.30pm and AGM in the staffroom afterwards.

GRANDPARENTS MORNING TEA FOR YEAR 9 PATRICIANS: The College, in partnership with the Foundation is hosting a Year 9 Grandparents' Morning on Thursday 12 April from 9.30 to 11.30am. If you would like to attend please contact Louise McKenzie, Development Manager before 26 March on 939 5416 or email development@stpats.school.nz

WCC PROPOSED CYCLEWAY OUTSIDE THE COLLEGE: We are concerned about the Council's plans for a proposed cycleway directly outside the College on Evans Bay Parade. The College will be making a submission as the proposed cycleway will have a significant impact on the College. If you would like to see

details and make your own submission you can do this online with your feedback due by **5pm, Monday 19 March**. For more information please visit transportprojects.org.nz

Three weeks ago I wrote a short note to parents about a serious altercation on our Turf at interval on 13 February involving a group of mainly senior students. I am pleased to say that the incident has been dealt with properly. A number of students faced serious disciplinary action. The Police have been involved. Last week we held a large restorative conference involving almost all the students and their families. Mr Gerard Tully, former Rector of both our College and St Patrick's College Silverstream facilitated the conference. While the conference was difficult for everyone, it helped the students face up to the serious consequences of their actions and started to restore some of the damaged relationships.

Our first responsibility at the College is to keep our students safe. We will always do our best to manage student behaviour well, and will continue to expect high standards of behaviour from our young men.

You will have heard the results from **McEvedy Shield**. We congratulate the Wellington College Athletics team on a fine win. There were some outstanding performances from our Athletes. We will recognise these students in Assembly next week. Student behaviour from some spectators was again a concern for all the schools involved and consequently we are reviewing how we will organise this event in the future.

Kind regards

Neal Swindells
RECTOR