



POMPALLIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Diligere Verum

Love the Truth

14 MAY 2010

NEWSLETTER NO. 6

Greetings, Tena Koutou Katoa,

"You knit me together in my mother's womb ... I am fearfully, wonderfully made". (Psalm 139)

When I read this it was Mothers' Day, but I did not dwell on that. I thought about what it means to believe that I am "wonderfully made".

In his book, *"What makes us Catholic"*, Thomas Groome states that Catholic spirituality advocates for authentic self love. It is the self-love where we cherish our humanity as being of infinite worth regardless of achievement or appearances. One that moves us beyond societies expectation to prove one's worth.

It is a self-love which encourages us to remember what matters most. To keep a balance between work and leisure, between discipline and indulgence, between our efforts and God's grace. Being busy is not a virtue in itself, we need to give time to God, to family, to our self each day. *"... love your neighbour as yourself."* (Mk 12:31)

Self-love encourages us to care for our body with regular exercise and discretion exercised over what we eat and drink. Life is a gift that we are entrusted with and something we should treasure on its earthly journey.

This self-love spirituality underpins many of our health policies. It is why we treat the presence of illicit drugs with the utmost concern. Last week a police officer was quoted as saying drugs are a huge issue in Northland schools. We are fortunate not to have some of the issues faced by other schools and the staff and students are determined to keep it that way.

Our health students devised a survey recently on *Young People's Safety Around Alcohol*. These results are available in this newsletter. They provide some useful insights into parental expectations and attitudes, and some good data to counter the teenager who justifies action by claiming, *"Everyone else is allowed"*. The recent tragedy in Auckland clearly shows the need for parents to engage in such conversation.

I believe our College is a safe place and we owe a big thanks to parents and students for promoting behaviour that makes it safe. Our challenge is to ensure that it remains safe. Please don't hesitate to convey any concerns if you believe your child is unsafe at school.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2011

In 2010 we were unable to offer a position to all students who wanted to join us in Year 7 or 8. In order to improve the situation we are now providing parents with the opportunity to make preliminary enrolments at any time of the year.

While this does not guarantee a place at the College, it does help us with decision making for subsequent years and enables us to improve communication with families. It will also simplify the process of formal enrolment.

You can request a pre-enrolment form from the College office, or download one from the Enrolment section of our website.

Our Open Evening will take place in mid-August.

VOLUNTEERS

We are still seeking people who have a few hours to spare. If you, or someone you know, would like to make a time contribution to our College please let me know.

Some of our students need adults to read to them, we need some help with archiving, and with resource preparation. There are many possibilities.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

We will be seeking to integrate the College Hall and complete its development over the next few years.

Also on our two year time frame is the provision of two new classrooms. Other areas of focus include work on the gymnasium and wheelchair access to the Chapel.

Richard Stanton
PRINCIPAL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DAY

Wednesday 19 May 2010

To celebrate Catholic Schools Day this year, our Year 7 students will be travelling to St Francis Xavier Catholic School where they will join with their students celebrating Mass and taking part in a sports afternoon.

Several of our Prefects and Year 12s from our Sports Committee will be joining the Year 7 students to act as referees and assist with the celebrations.

POMPALLIER ONLINE !!!

Visit us at ... www.pompalliercollege.school.nz

VISIT TO NEW CALEDONIA

During the Easter holidays I was one of eight New Zealand teachers who gained study awards from the French Embassy to do a "Stage" in Noumea.

I studied the history, politics and culture of the island, as well as refining skills in French grammar, pronunciation and literature.

This was also preparation towards the College's proposed trip to New Caledonia in October 2011. Quotes and itineraries are now being finalised and interested parents and students will be notified of these details shortly. We hope to keep prices down to a similar level as our 2007 trip.

Accommodation will be a combination of home-stay and hotel. I myself was hosted by a family from Brittany, the father who was a physics engineer / researcher at the university, whom I assisted with the translation of his research.

French students who have yet to express interest in this trip may apply directly to me for further information about this rich and rewarding experience. New Caledonia has recently been declared a World Heritage site, being part of the largest lagoon in the world.

The photos below show members of a Kanak tribe who re-enacted a yam-cultivation ceremony and an organ grinder at the beachside evening craft market.

Nora Elson-White
TIC FRENCH

nora.elsonwhite@pompallier.school.nz



IMPORTANT DATES: Term 2

Please make note of the following events taking place and keep an eye on the Events page on our website for any changes and additions.

- Mon 17 May 9SCI EOTC - KiwiNorth
Head Prefects' Lunch
- Tue 18 May College Cross Country (pp 20 May)**
- Wed 19 May Catholic Schools Day
HIS & 10SOS EOTC - KiwiNorth
- Fri 21 May Indoor Bowls
Winter Sports Tournament (Yr 7&8)
10SOS / ESOL EOTC - KiwiNorth
40 Hour Famine Camp
- Sat 22 May Start of Youth Week
- Mon 24 - Wed 26 Nga Manu Korero
- Tue 25 May Year 13 Health Day
- Thu 27 May NSS Cycling
- Fri 28 May Official Opening of Tech Block
- Tue 1 Jun Visit by Fr Mark Walls
- Thu 3 Jun NSSA Cross Country (pp 10 Jun)
- Mon 7 Jun Queen's Birthday Holiday**
- Tue 8 Jun Mufti Day
- Wed 9 Jun 10BUS Trade Fair
- Thu 10 Jun "The Big Sing" Competition
- Fri 11 - Fri 18 Senior Exams**
- Mon 14 - Tue 15 Stage Challenge
- Wed 16 Jun College Day
- Thu 17 - Fri 18 NNMS National Conference
- Tue 22 Jun Head Students' Forum
Mangakahia Sports Exchange (TBC)
- Wed 23 Jun 10-pin Bowling (Yr 7&8)
- Thu 24 Jun Liturgy - St John the Baptist
- Wed 30 Jun Teams Badminton
Tikipunga Sports Exchange (Yr 7&8)
- Fri 2 Jul Last Day of Term 2**
Mid-Year Reports posted home

Please note: the Teacher Only Day originally scheduled for Friday 4 June has been moved to Friday 23 July, which is also the date of our College Ball.

2010 TERM DATES

- TERM 3** Mon 19 Jul Fri 24 Sep
- TERM 4** Mon 11 Oct Fri 10 Dec

2010 HOLIDAYS

- Monday 7 June Queen's Birthday
- Monday 25 October Labour Day

SPORTS DEPARTMENT NEWS : Term 2, Week 2

COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday 18 May (p/p Thursday 20 May)

The programme for the day and maps of the course are on display around the College and in all Homeroom or Whanau classes.

Year 7 & 8 students will run in Periods 1 & 2.

The Year 9 - 13 students meet their Whanau Teachers on the field after interval (evacuation drill ranks outside the administration building) and head over to Barge Park during Periods 3 & 4.

Age groups have been brought into line with Sport Northland requirements (from the New Zealand Cross Country championship guidelines). Age groups (as at 31 December 2010), and our course distances are:

- Year 7 & 8 2.0 km
- Year 9 (U15) 2.5 km
- Juniors (U16) 3.5 km
- Senior Girls (U19.5) 3.5 km
- Senior Boys (U19.5) 6.0 km

Races should be finished by lunchtime (1.25pm) when all students will then return to the College to eat and change, ready for normal classes in Period 5.

Please ensure a change of clothes is brought - students run in HOUSE colours.

Any students that are not well / injured on the day must bring a note from home and report to the Sports Co-ordinator as soon as they reach the park, as extra marshalls are required on the course.

SECOND-HAND SPORTS GEAR SALE !!

I am clearing some room in the uniform store and all items will be **cheap!!!** Old gear is great for practices or other extra-curricular pursuits.

The gear sale will be held at lunchtime next Wednesday 19 May (Week 5).

If four or five students from the Sport Committee could please see me at the start of Week 5, about helping at the sale, I would be grateful. Thanks!!

YEAR 7 & 8 WINTER SPORTS TOURNAMENT

Friday 21 May (p/p Friday 28 May)

Parent help is being sought to allow as many teams as possible to enjoy this fun sports day. Please ensure you return the slip your child brings home ASAP to their Homeroom teacher.

YEAR 9 - 13 COLLEGE DAY: Wednesday 16 June

Sports being offered this year are Table Tennis, Futsal, Hockey (6 a-side), Senior B Netball, Sports Climbing and Ripa Rugby.

Only teams that are already participating in a competition or currently have a Teacher/Coach in charge will be allowed entry into this event. Staff support is being sought to allow teams to enter before general information and permission slips are circulated.

SPORTS RESULTS

• Netball - Intermediate Team 2

vs Huanui College	lost 0 - 2
vs Waipu Intermediate 2	lost 24 - 6
vs Kamo Intermediate 5	lost 0 - 13
vs Tikipunga Titans	lost 6 - 8

• Football - Girls

vs Tauraroa Area School	lost 0 - 2
MVP - Sonja Chisnall	

• Football - Boys

vs Kerikeri High School	lost 0 - 4
MVP - Sean Kerwick	

• Netball - Senior Team 3

vs WGHS Purple	won 22 - 3
vs WGHS Silver	won 13 - 2
Player of the Day - Vanessa Price	
Fair Play Award - Molly Farrell	

HOCKEY NORTHLAND COACHING & DEVELOPMENT

• Year 7 & 8 Skills Days

Sunday 16 May & Sunday 23 May, 10.30am - 12 noon

This will be run at the turf for any players registered to a JMC club and playing 11 a-side hockey.

Players must attend in hockey clothing (no beach shorts) and have the correct safety gear. There will be **NO** cost.

To register, please phone: 470 1430.

• Goal Keeping Coaching Clinics

Monday 17 May & Monday 24 May, 5.00 - 7.00pm

Cost is \$10 per keeper and per clinic

To register, please phone Bevan Gibbs on 437 3830 or email - rdm@northlandhockey.co.nz

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE PARENTS OF ATHLETIC CHILDREN

(Reprinted from "The Young Athlete" by Bill Burgess)

1. Make sure your child knows that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love him, appreciate his efforts, and are not disappointed in him.

This will allow him to do his best without a fear of failure. Be the person in his life he can look to for constant positive enforcement.

2. Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletics ability, his competitive attitude, his sportsmanship, and his actual skill level.

Watch for the next instalments in future newsletters.

Chantelle Yorke
SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR
chantelle.yorke@pompallier.school.nz

RESULTS: Parent Survey on Young People’s Safety Around Alcohol

Thank you to the 77 of you who responded!!

From the responses it appears that Pompallier parents **do** ask the questions that tend to keep our teenagers safer. Most of the parents who responded appear to be excellent role models for sensible drinking behaviour.

We appreciate all your comments.

The Health Team

SURVEY RESULTS

At what age would you let your MALE teenager go to a party where there might be alcohol?

13 years	0%	16 years	32%
14 years	0%	17 years	17%
15 years	6%	18 years	43%

At what age would you let your FEMALE teenager go to a party where there might be alcohol?

13 years	0%	16 years	29%
14 years	0%	17 years	18%
15 years	5%	18 years	46%

Would you trust your teen to NOT drink at a party where you knew there would be alcohol?

Yes	44%
No	21%
Sometimes	33%

Do you allow your teen to drink alcohol regularly at home?

Yes	3%
No	69%
Sometimes	26%

Do you contact party organisers before you allow your teen to go to a party?

Yes	64%
No	6%
Sometimes	28%

Before you allow your teen to go to a party, do you check that there will be:

a) Adult Supervision?

Yes	86%
No	4%
Sometimes	9%

b) Alcohol Limits?

Yes	90%
No	5%
Sometimes	4%

c) Transport Home?

Yes	97%
No	2%
Sometimes	0%

d) Sleepover Available?

Yes	72%
No	16%
Sometimes	10%

e) Food Provided?

Yes	82%
No	15%
Sometimes	2%

Do you ask your teen about who is “sober driver”?

Yes	79%
No	16%
Sometimes	4%

Do you ask about Cellphone (is there money on it, is it charged, will there be coverage)?

Yes	95%
No	2%
Sometimes	1%

Do you get a landline number for the party venue?

Yes	64%
No	16%
Sometimes	18%

Do you ever purchase alcohol for your underage teen?

Yes	5%
No	79%
Sometimes	15%

Would you pick your teen up, from anywhere, at any time of the day or night, if they were stuck for a ride home?

Yes	100%
No	0%

YOUR COMMENTS ...

“At home we allow our 16 year old boy an occasional bottle of beer or a small glass of wine to be drunk with a meal. We feel it is better to introduce him to alcohol in our own home in a sensible way. By setting a good example ourselves, we hope to help him make sensible choices in the future.”

continued on page 5 ...

... continued from page 4

"I would just like to make sure that my child was safe and that they can communicate honestly with me as a parent about what is happening in their lives. Although I would much rather that they didn't indulge in alcohol at parties the reality is that they will at some time so I would like to feel that they are able to cope with it in a safe situation. I would hope that I have laid strong foundations morally so that they will make the right and safe choices when faced with the big decisions in life."

"By keeping to the boundaries highlighted in this survey, I have managed to get one young man safely to 21 years of age who has a RTD sometimes and really only if his mates are going to drink. He chose not to drink at home. We are not big drinkers (parties) but rather a wine and beer (or two) every night. We don't expect that we will change anything with our daughter who is 13. You have to have trust. You have to be seen to be checking up too."

"Parents need to be aware that no matter how strict you are others are not always as strict. This is usually the reason the party is not at your home but somewhere else. You need to give your kids the facts about alcohol and pray they adopt a sensible approach to consuming it. The old theory applies, the more you say no the more they want it. Education is the key, experience is the answer..."

"Although I did answer "no", if I let my teen drink regularly at home, he is allowed to taste any alcohol that we might be drinking. Fortunately, he dislikes almost everything he has tasted. Also, I would let him attend a party at 17 years because it would be too hard to try to keep him from his friends if they were having a party. I could try to stop him, but it would cause resentment and give him the feeling I distrust him. At 17, he should have developed the responsibilities and I believe that he would make the right choices."

"My Teen shows no interest in drinking but then we don't drink in the home and he's only 11."

"If there is alcohol at party I would insist on being the driver for pick up and offer the service to their mates. This allows me to gauge where they are at, and they know mum will see it. At 17 I would let them out with a sober driver if they asked and I meet the driver. I allow the children a small drink on special occasions or as a family they might have a little drink. This is so that they learn how to treat alcohol appropriately, how to enjoy it properly, not as a means to getting drunk."

"Our teens need a lot of help through these years to make clear informed decisions on drinking to keep themselves safe. Anything you can achieve to help this would be a step in the right direction. I have experienced both sides of the coin with two teenagers and it was a very hard time."

Please note: Although there were 77 respondents, not everyone answered every question, nor did every respondent leave a comment.

PREPARING FOR EXAMS ...

Senior exams will be held in **Week 8 and 9** of this term. It is never too early to start studying!

Over the next few newsletters we will be giving the students some helpful study tips to ensure they are prepared to succeed. We hope that students are always striving to achieve their best - **"aim for the stars and you could land on the moon!"**

Parents you can help your children by ensuring that they have a special area in which to study.



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. Find a quiet place to study where you will not be disturbed by TV, family, friends etc. **Turn off your mobile phone.**
2. Set up the area with everything you will need – books, writing paper, pens, cookies (!)
3. **START!** It's a good idea to have a clock or watch close so that you can see how long you have studied for and when it is appropriate to take a break.

KIWI-NORTH MUSEUM VISIT

10YE and all our History students will be attending the Anne Frank Exhibition at the KiwiNorth Museum on 19 May from 1.30 to 3.00pm.

As this is part of the "Free Museum Week" there will be no cost to students.



DOVE NORTHLAND

Saturday 15 May
St Francis Xavier Parish Hall



1.30pm (or from 1.00pm
if you like to have a cuppa and chat)

The crèche will be operating, so that mums are able to attend. The guest speaker for May will be Diane Andrews.

NZQA FEES - EARLY REMINDER!

Payment of \$75.00 is due at the College Office **no later than Monday 6 September** so mark this date on your calendar.

Payments after this date must be made direct to NZQA and incur a \$50.00 late payment fee!

Families wishing to apply for Financial Assistance with exam fees should contact the Principal's Nominee (ext 843) **before Monday 2 August.**

A reminder slip will be sent home with the fee statements at the beginning of Term 3.

