



# POMPALLIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

*Diligere Verum  
Love the Truth*

28 MAY 2010

NEWSLETTER NO. 7

**Greetings, Tena Koutou Katoa,**

## ERO REVIEW REPORT

Our Educational Review Office report is now available on-line. The report is very affirming of many things happening in the College and has highlighted a few areas that we need to work on.

The report highlighted our on-going academic success and number of students attaining merit and excellence endorsements in NCEA and our future direction.

Of particular note is the reports comment that we demonstrate caring relationships aligned with Marist values.

Some areas were identified for improvement. Staff have already been devoting considerable hours towards matters such as data collection and analysis to better inform teaching practice. We are moving towards a more student-centred style of teaching and learning throughout the College, which is already very evident in Years 7 and 8.

I would encourage you to read the report on-line. It can be found at:

[www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz)

## SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to all of you who responded to our recent Looking Forward survey. Our overall rating was rather positive. Of particular value are the comments people express. They enable us to be more reflective upon current practice.

International Cambridge A-Levels are offered by a few schools locally, but we are not one of them. Having taught Cambridge A-levels for eleven years in three subject areas I feel confident enough to express my belief that the Cambridge curriculum and examination process is of limited educational value in the New Zealand context.

The subject matter tries to connect with diverse nations and communities and in doing so often lags behind the "real world" experience of students in New Zealand. It is very narrow in its scope and uses assessment methodology that favours rote learning and recall over an ability to critique, evaluate and create new learning. Students can pass an A-level with scores as low as 42%, well below what is considered an acceptable pass in a New Zealand context.

In my mind it is greatly over-rated and trades upon misconstrued status rather than its ability to meet the needs of our students in a New Zealand society. I would certainly not advocate for it as an alternative to NCEA.

I am enough of a realist to appreciate that some parents opt for it because of the perceived status it confers on their child, but that is hardly a sound educational judgement. I firmly believe that the New Zealand Curriculum and NCEA assessment is of greater educational value for our students.

Parent feedback in our survey expressed concern with the movement of students between classes with little or no parental consultation. We will seek to ensure that this does not happen again. We have been operating a system of streaming Year 9 and 10 classes upon Maths and English grades for some years. The alignment of students has been at the discretion of the teachers and sometimes this has required movement between classes.

We are going to review our data to determine whether this streaming has made a positive difference relative to schools who don't stream. If no positive difference is evident we will move to mixed ability classes in 2011. These classes will be established upon sound analysis of data and, with rare exceptions, there will be no movement of students between classes.

We are currently reviewing our Year 9 and 10 curriculum to ensure that it is both broad and engaging for all students. This will better utilise existing staff resources, and provide greater flexibility for subject choice in the senior school. The improved alignment will enable us to run smaller classes for Years 11 to 13. There should be no reduction in the number of subjects available for students to choose from.

The survey rates our communication with parents as being both helpful and frustrating. For most issues, parents' first point of contact is the Whanau Teacher. Usually this will be via email or phone calls. If you are having difficulties with this channel please do not hesitate to contact the College office and ask for a message to be left for the teacher and /or write a note for your child to deliver to their whanau teacher. Communication between home and school is very important for us, but please be aware that it is sometimes very difficult to free enough time in a full teaching day for an immediate response. (see page 4 for complete results)

## 2011 ENROLMENTS

In order to plan for 2011 we are now taking pre-enrolments. Last year we had to close enrolments for Years 7 and 8 and we expect that trend to continue. There will be fewer vacancies available in Year 9 and 10 for new enrolments in 2011, so if you know of people who wish to enrol please encourage them to do so early. **Enrolments for 2011 will close on Friday 24 September**, the last day of Term 3.

*continued on next page ...*

**POMPALLIER ONLINE !!!**

Visit us at ... [www.pompalliercollege.school.nz](http://www.pompalliercollege.school.nz)

## ... continued from page 1

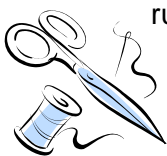
### STAFFING

Unfortunately Mike Martin will not be returning to the College. He has opted to take Medical Retirement. After many years at the College his legacy has been profound. Staff and students alike will certainly miss his presence.

**Richard Stanton**  
PRINCIPAL

### VOLUNTEER WANTED!!

Is there a keen sewer out there who can help us by running up some simple curtains for our Library and Assembly Hall?



All materials and equipment will be provided - we just need you!

If you can help, please contact:  
**admin@pompallier.school.nz**

### 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.



### INFORMATION MEETING

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

You are invited to a meeting of all parents whose children have signed up for the **Sacramental Programme**.

The purpose of the meeting is to allow you to see what the course entails and to understand the commitment that goes with it for your child. You are welcome to bring your child with you.

Fr John and Sr Sesilina will speak about the programme and answer any questions you or your child may have.

The meeting will take place as follows:

- Date:** Thursday 10 June  
**Time:** 6.00pm  
**Venue:** Staffroom  
Pompallier Catholic College

**Andrea Cook**  
DIRECTOR, RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES ...

Thank you to those of you who took the time to vote in our recent Trustee election. Your new Board of Trustees is:

- Tania Jeeves Parent Representative
- Rhonda Kaire Proprietor's Representative
- Fr John Mori Proprietor's Representative
- Philip Morton-Jones Proprietor's Representative
- Neelam O'Neill Student Representative
- Stewart Otene Parent Representative
- Warren Pearson Proprietor's Representative
- Lynda Perkins Staff Representative
- Trish Schoonderwoerd Chair, Parent Representative
- Kevin Singleton Parent Representative
- Richard Stanton Principal
- David Wills Parent Representative

The Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month (during term time) at 6.00pm in the Boardroom here at the College. These are public meetings and all are welcome to attend. The next meeting will take place on **Monday 28 June**.

Anyone wishing to contact the Board can do so through the Board Secretary, Jane Woolston, via the email below:  
bot@pompallier.school.nz

### IMPORTANT DATES: Term 2

Please keep an eye on the Events page on our website for any changes and additions.

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tue 1 Jun              | Visit by Fr Mark Walls              |
| Thu 3 Jun              | NSSA Cross Country (pp 10 Jun)      |
| <b>Mon 7 Jun</b>       | <b>Queen's Birthday Holiday</b>     |
| Tue 8 Jun              | Mufti Day                           |
| Wed 9 Jun              | 10BUS Trade Fair                    |
| Thu 10 Jun             | "The Big Sing" Competition          |
| <b>Fri 11 - Fri 18</b> | <b>Senior Exams</b>                 |
| Wed 16 Jun             | College Day                         |
| Thu 17 - Fri 18        | NNMS National Conference            |
| Tue 22 Jun             | Head Students' Forum                |
| Wed 23 Jun             | 10-pin Bowling (Yr 7&8)             |
| Thu 24 Jun             | Liturgy - St John the Baptist       |
| Mon 28 Jun             | BOT Meeting                         |
| Wed 30 Jun             | Teams Badminton                     |
|                        | Tikipunga Sports Exchange (Yr 7&8)  |
| <b>Fri 2 Jul</b>       | <b>Last Day of Term 2</b>           |
|                        | <b>Mid-Year Reports posted home</b> |

#### Notes:

1. **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.**
2. **The College's entry in Stage Challenge, taking place on 14 June, has been withdrawn after consultation with students.**

## SPORTS DEPARTMENT NEWS : Term 2, Week 6

### COLLEGE CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Our Cross Country Champions for 2010 are:

	<i>Girl</i>	<i>Boy</i>
• <b>Year 7</b>	Maddie Turner	Joshua Young
• <b>Year 8</b>	Demi O'Halloran	Samuel Pram
• <b>Under 15</b>	Leo Powell	Callum Inder
• <b>Junior</b>	Nicola Kelly	Harry Linford
• <b>Senior</b>	Nicola Pryor	Hamish Thorpe

The winning House was **CHAVOIN**.

### NSS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

These are being held at Barge Park next Thursday - 3 June. The College is sending a team to compete against students from other Northland schools, and also some of our Year 10 students who will be assisting as Officials on the day.

The **LAST** day to return permission slips and entry fees is **Monday 31 May** - bring slips to the Sports Office and runners pay your \$3.00 to the College office please.

### LUCKY DRAW - SPORTS FEE PAYMENTS

Thank you to all students and families who have ensured that sports fees were paid by the due date. Congratulations to the winner of the lucky draw - **Lucy Farrell** and her family. The Sports Department hopes you enjoy using the \$50 Wilkinson Sports store vouchers.

A reminder to all players with outstanding fees - these are due at the College office now. If you have a hardship issue and need further time to pay, or would like to make special payment arrangements, please contact Mrs Adams at Reception, or phone me on 438 3950 ext 844. Thanks!

### COLLEGE DAY - Wednesday 16 June

This one-day event requires all team members to have **returned slips and money by Wednesday 9 June**. Each team must have a Team Manager.

The following sports are being offered for our students - Senior B Netball, six-a-side Hockey (juniors only) and Sport Climbing or Table Tennis for individuals.

As the date coincides with Senior Exams, all students will need to check their exam schedule carefully first please. See me for more information and sign-up at the Sports Office next week.

### ASICS SPORTS AWARDS

These awards focus on Intermediate aged students, who are at a crucial age in terms of setting foundations for their future. There will be five monthly regional winners who will receive \$250 worth of Asics gear and one supreme winner announced at the end of the year.

Nominations can come from sport co-ordinators, coaches, teachers or proud parents. Just visit the website and tell Asics why you think the nominee should win. Get on-line to find out more:

[www.asicssportsaward.co.nz](http://www.asicssportsaward.co.nz)

### SPORTS RESULTS

- **Netball - Intermediate Team 1**  
vs Maungatapere win 5 - 2  
vs Kamo Intermediate 2 loss 5 - 6  
vs Kamo Intermediate 2 win 18 - 6
- **Netball - Intermediate Team 2**  
vs Parua Bay Hoops win 11 - 10  
vs Tauraroa Area School loss 7 - 15
- **Netball - Intermediate Team 3**  
vs Ngunguru win 8 - 2  
vs Ngunguru loss 4 - 5  
vs Kamo Intermediate 8 win 13 - 5
- **Netball - Senior Team 1**  
vs Whangaruru win 35 - 14  
vs Old Boys win 25 - 13  
vs WGHS 4 win 26 - 16
- **Netball - Senior Team 2**  
vs WGHS Green win 18 - 12  
vs WGHS Brown win 19 - 7
- **Netball - Senior Team 3**  
vs Tauraroa Area School loss 13 - 19  
vs Excellere College win 11 - 8
- **Football - Girls**  
vs Kamo High School 3 draw 0 - 0  
vs WGHS 2 win 2 - 0  
vs Tikipunga High School loss 1 - 3
- **Football - Boys**  
vs Kamo High School loss 0 - 4  
vs Bream Bay College loss 0 - 1

### UNITED SOCCER 1 - GOAL KEEPER TRAINING

Training sessions designed specifically for goalies begin at Tikipunga Park on Wednesday 19 June and run from 4.30 - 5.30pm.

For further information and to register, either phone 437-7294, or email: [cbaker@unitedsoccer1.org.nz](mailto:cbaker@unitedsoccer1.org.nz)

### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE PARENTS OF ATHLETIC CHILDREN

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

3. Be helpful, but don't coach him on the way to the pool/court/field, or on the way back or at breakfast, and so on. It's tough not to, but it's a lot tougher for your child to be inundated with advice, pep talks and often critical instruction.
4. Teach him to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying", to be working to improve his skills and attitudes. Help him to develop the feel for competing, for trying hard, for having fun.

Watch for the next instalment ...

**Chantelle Yorke**  
**SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR**  
[chantelle.yorke@pompallier.school.nz](mailto:chantelle.yorke@pompallier.school.nz)

## RESULTS: 2010 Term 2 - Looking Forward

### SURVEY RESULTS

**1. Pompallier Catholic College is a Marist community where Christian values are lived.**

1 - strongly agree	22%
2	42%
3	20%
4	15%
5 - strongly disagree	0%

**2. Students are well-rounded, outstanding citizens, confident to participate and contribute fully.**

1 - strongly agree	22%
2	37%
3	35%
4	2%
5 - strongly disagree	2%

**3. All students can achieve success through the Pompallier Catholic College curriculum.**

1 - strongly agree	20%
2	40%
3	30%
4	5%
5 - strongly disagree	5%

**4. Family and whanau are welcomed as partners in student education.**

1 - strongly agree	22%
2	35%
3	27%
4	5%
5 - strongly disagree	10%

**5. Discipline is firm but loving (restorative justice).**

1 - strongly agree	15%
2	35%
3	35%
4	10%
5 - strongly disagree	2%

**6. Communication with teaching staff is easy.**

1 - strongly agree	17%
2	42%
3	25%
4	7%
5 - strongly disagree	7%

**7. Communication with administration and support staff is easy.**

1 - strongly agree	20%
2	42%
3	12%
4	15%
5 - strongly disagree	10%

### YOUR COMMENTS ...

**Please tell us about the aspects of education at Pompallier Catholic College you are most pleased with - and want us to make sure we keep.**

"We are very pleased with the education that our daughter is receiving and find that her special needs are being well catered for."

"There is an extremely strong focus on morals and values which is fantastic - keep it up - our kids of today and the future really need this."

"As a new parent to Pompallier I like the family caring atmosphere of the school as well as the God factor values. The arts and music departments have a very positive impression on my son."

"I feel that the teaching staff are good educators who have sound curriculum knowledge and understanding. I feel that Pompallier College encourages independence and self motivation."

"Telephone calls and/or emails from teaching staff letting us know if our child/ren are behind on any homework or general tasks, or are having any issues. Encourage this more!!!! Excellent email system with admin staff. Good to pay fees directly into bank account and a portion each term. Newsletters via email. Online booking for parent teacher interviews."

**Please tell us about any aspects you are concerned with - and how we might make improvements.**

"Sometimes too hard to get in touch with teachers, understand they are busy teaching, but when are we supposed to contact them if they are in class all day and unavailable after school and don't return calls at lunchtimes etc?"

"As a new parent I would like to see a language like French available to the intermediates. The students brains are like sponges for new information and it is such a good time to encourage this. I see it is only available for senior students. At another intermediate school a teacher decided to take on learning French for the 1st time and teaching it as well - a challenge yes but very rewarding for both parties. I would love to see that on offer. Another area for improvement is to offer Cambridge Exams to all students. The exams are recognised world-wide and the new private school is offering them."

"Communication with parents/caregivers. I feel that when big decisions are made about my child's education that I am the last to know and only get told the opinion of my child as to why the decision has been made. With regards to communication I also feel that when items of high monetary value are confiscated the school should inform parents/caregivers that same day that it has been confiscated, the reasons why and when my child would be likely to get it back."

"2. Staff should keep the 'My Classes' homework instructions up to date - it is difficult as parents to know what homework has been assigned and when it is due.

3. We live 'out of area' - it is thus difficult to 'feel' part of the school community...not sure how to address this but I'm sure there are many families in the same position who would like to feel more included in some way."

*continued on next page ...*

## ... continued from page 4

“Reporting to parents in plain language - making sure we understand what is being reported on and what it means - eg. is my child going to be able to achieve success at Year 12 even though he is only Year 8 now? Maintaining the links with the church community and with St Francis Xavier school.”

“1. I would like to see the Catholic Character of the school improved. I feel that in an attempt to ensure non-Catholic children feel comfortable that the Catholic Character is being watered down and lost.”

“Students going to university realise that many subjects taught in accordance with Government curriculum are not sufficient and compared to private schools Pompallier is still far behind the expected university requirements. Students at universities are expected to have dealt with these matters at school. Suggest that there is a better communication between universities and the school.”

**Thank you for your responses. We will conduct another survey next term.**

## SHORT TERM HOMESTAY FAMILIES WANTED

The College is again this year hosting a large group of students from a Japanese High School.

The 15 and 16 year olds will be here for a two week period from Sunday 25 July to Saturday 7 August and we are looking for homestay families.

If you are interested in hosting a student, or for more information, please contact:

**Gretchen Magrath**  
☎ 432 2288 or gmagrath@xtra.co.nz

## MOTHERS' DAY RAFFLE

The winners of the French Trip Mothers' Day fundraiser raffle are:

1st: Mel Marsden Ticket 54A (orange spade)  
2nd: Lea Turner Ticket 76 (yellow star)



*Our winner, Mel, with her basket.*

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a compulsory school uniform and we expect that our students will wear it with pride.



We are very proud of our College and, as our students are seen by members of the wider community both before and after school, we wish to ensure that our uniform is worn correctly.

For this reason we insist on the correct uniform being worn to and from school, as well as during school hours.

We appreciate that the onset of colder weather has come suddenly, however, provision has been made for this with several regulation options available; including jackets, polar fleeces and scarves.

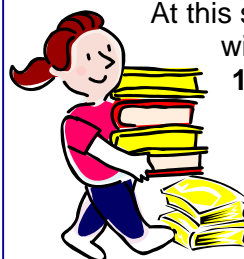
**Please note that navy or black stockings and knee-length white socks are not part of our uniform.**

Your assistance in enforcing this is greatly appreciated.

## PTFA PHONE BOOK DELIVERY

Help is again needed for the annual PTFA fundraiser delivering telephone books

Our allocated area for 2011 is Whangarei West



At this stage it is expected that deliveries will be made during the weekend of **17 & 18 July**, however, this will be subject to final confirmation.

40 families = 100 books each (approx. one or two hours work)

For more information, or to register your offer of help, please contact:

**Sheryl Raravula**  
☎ 435 4063  
or txt: 021 100 6639

## MARSDEN BAY HOLIDAY CAMP

[www.marsdenbay.com](http://www.marsdenbay.com)

**Ages 9 - 13 years**

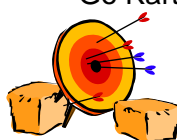
**Sunday 4 - Friday 9 July 2010**

**Marsden Bay Youth Camp, One Tree Point**

Go Karts • Motor bikes • Flying Fox •

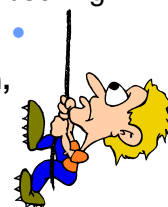
Archery • Air rifles • Abseiling •

Night Games • Sports •



**For more information, contact:**

Helena Lamason ☎ 09 444 7456  
hlamason@hotmail.com



## SENIOR HEALTH DAY - Year 13



### HOUSE COLOURS !!

A reminder that all students new to the College this year should already be wearing regulation PE T-shirts in House colours. **These will be compulsory for all students up to Year 10 from the start of 2011.**



### STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is going to be away from school, please ensure that you ring and let us know first thing.

The Student Centre can be reached on ext 840 and has an answer phone, so you can leave a message outside school hours if necessary. Thank you.



### REMINDER TO ALL VISITORS (including parents)

**You MUST report to Reception upon arrival at the College.**

Please **do not** go directly to your child's classroom, or elsewhere in the College grounds, without signing in at Reception first. **This is a Health & Safety issue and is also a legal requirement.** Thank you.