

Especean

Vol 30, No 04 – 22 February 2017

Principal

Two are better than one . . . for if they fall, one will lift up the other.
(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of St Patrick's College,

On Heroes and Boys

Most little boys have a hero. Heroes act as a kind of role-model for boys. Often, these heroes are the stuff of comic strips and fantasy movies. The superhero film genre has certainly had a workout in the Hollywood movie industry over many years. These types of heroes represent a mixture of fantasy, imagination and aspiration when we are little, but as we grow up, they can come to represent the kind of person boys would like to be. I wonder though, as our boys head into adolescence, whether or not the kinds of heroes they hold up as being ideal are the right ones to emulate.



As boys grow and change, their heroes often shift from the fantasy world to a more localised setting. Parents and family members become the heroes of many boys, and then later, they frequently move on to heroes who are famous: the movie stars, the rugby league stars or elite sportsmen and the rock stars. I am not so sure that these are the types of people that are best for our boys to admire. These people are not real in the sense that the likelihood of a boy meeting, getting to know and developing a life-giving relationship with them is slim to none! Grayson Perry has this to say about famous role models for young men:

I'm not entirely convinced by the power of celebrity role models. They are exotic, distant beasts. For the role modelling to work, I think boys need the reliable drip-drip of day-to-day contact and attention from a good man, probably his father. A boy need not have his mentor's sensibility rub off on him and reinforced frequently and casually, not just read about him on some gossip website or see him on some chat show. (*The Descent of Man*, 2016, p. 104).

I would much prefer boys to have a *local* hero: someone they can get to know and who grows with them. These people can be found readily in their lives. They are parents, uncles, aunts, family friends, teachers, sports coaches and so on. An ideal hero is not a muscle-bound magical creature who fights evil on a daily basis. An ordinary hero is what I would much prefer boys to have. Ordinary, everyday heroes, to me, are people who can exert influence on a boy's life in an extraordinary way. The great thing about an ordinary or everyday hero is that they are in plentiful supply. They can be a man or a woman. They can be older or younger. They can be found in your family and in your local area. These heroes represent the kinds of ideals that a boy can resonate with. In examining the notion of heroes, it can be instructive as parents and teachers for us to pause to think about who *we* hold in high regard; who our heroes are and the reasons for those choices. Heroes should challenge us to be better people. They can also be helpful in assisting us to describe our own values and ethical views – what it is that we stand for. Heroes give us permission to think about what is possible as opposed to simply settling for what is.

In musing on the place of heroes in our lives, I would ask you to be carefully attuned to the next few times you hear the term “hero” used and the context in which someone is referred to as a hero, or performing an heroic act. Are these actions and people the kinds of examples and characters that we would like our sons to look up to, and what influence do these celebrated heroes potentially have on the lives of our sons?

I offer the following as reflections on what I think a hero can offer a boy:

1. A hero needs not to be perfect. If they are, they're not real; they belong in the stuff of fantasy.
2. Heroes are all the better if they are people boys have an opportunity to know and with whom a boy develops an ongoing relationship.
3. Heroes are people who can be counted on (time and time again). They hang around when the going gets tough. Heroes invest of themselves and their time in the relationship.
4. Heroes model virtues such as kindness, gentleness, honesty and love.
5. Heroes challenge boys to do better and to be better.
6. Heroes call it out when boys get off track or make a mistake. They do so lovingly and with the opportunity for a boy to get it right the next time. They model forgiveness.
7. Heroes send clear messages that there are many “right” ways to be a man and that men come in many different guises, shapes and sizes. They do not subscribe to a stereotypical view of manhood.
8. Heroes can equally be men or women.
9. Heroes let boys know that they are worthy and they seek to capitalise on a boy's gifts and skills.
10. Heroes provide the example and model for boys to emulate. They are values-laden.

Let us not encourage our adolescent and young adult males to idolise those in the “super” category of hero, be it superhero, supermodel, super-athlete or superstar. Rather, I would urge you to let them find and grow in relationship with an everyday hero. I know there are plenty out there.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal

The College has a limited number of vacancies in Years 8-12 for Catholic families seeking enrolment for their sons. Initial enquiries should be directed to the Enrolment Secretary.

Junior School

Next Tuesday and Wednesday nights, 28 February and 1 March, the Junior School will be holding Parent Teacher interviews. These interviews are seen as an opportunity to meet your son's classroom teacher, discuss your son's background, his learning needs, any medical or social issues that are relevant and receive some feedback on how well he has settled into the new school year. As you can imagine, there is limited academic feedback the teacher can provide for you at this stage of the year, so the emphasis is on building a profile of your son that will assist the class teacher in meeting his needs in 2017. A letter has been sent home regarding these interviews which asks you to select your preferred time slot for the interview. Please return these as soon as possible.

On Friday, 17 March Year 5 will be involved in Peer Support Day for 2017. On this day, a selected group of Year 10 boys will take the Year 5 boys through a day of activities designed to build confidence, become more attuned to their SPC identity, form friendships and simply enjoy each other's company. The Year 10 boys will have been through a "Train the Trainer" Day in which they are prepared for the Peer Support Day through skill development in leading and managing groups and some input about what makes a 10 year old tick! Both Year groups are anticipating this day eagerly. It is always a great day.

Jim Walters—Director of Junior School

Junior School Sport

Congratulations to all boys on a wonderful Junior School Swimming Carnival last Friday in trying conditions. Well done to all the House Captains and Vice Captains for your enthusiasm and support on the day. Congratulations to Noah Doran and Jaden Samaan in Rice House for taking out the trophy in one of the closest contested Carnivals in over 10 years.

Junior school

Rice –	344
Hickey –	338
Hanrahan –	330
Coghlan –	328
Crichton –	320
Berg –	252

Age Champions

U10 –	Jaiken Poon –
U11 Yr 5 –	Olivier Boudan–Stanic –
U11 Yr 6 –	Marco Garigliano –
U12's –	Noah Kite –

Hanrahan
Berg
Hickey
Crichton

Runners Up

U10's –	Samuel Avvenevole –	Rice
U11 Yr 5 –	Nathan Devine –	Coghlan
U11 Yr 6 –	Dylan Parks –	Berg
U12's –	Lachlan Macher –	Hanrahan

Well done to all boys last Saturday for your efforts in the first round of our IPSHA competition. Some very pleasing results across all sports. In particular the Prep A Cricket against Scots and all of the Year 5 Cricket teams winning. Special mention goes to Patrick Miholic in the 5B team who took a hat trick with his 2nd, 3rd and 4th balls of the innings, all bowled. This was Patrick's first ever game of Cricket. An outstanding achievement.

It is important that all boys and parents register for this year's Junior School X-country /CUA Fun Run as soon as possible. Please go to schoolfundraising.com.au and follow the links. All students should have received this information last week.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster



Junior & Senior Swimming Carnivals



Where Are They Now?

As you may be aware, the Old Boys Association has been relaunched and now has its own dedicated website. This site enables Old Boys to register, update their details and ultimately provides a link between past and present SPC communities. Access is available by visiting <http://oldboys.spc.nsw.edu.au> or via the College website under 'Quick Links' at the top.

Both the College and the Association are aiming to increase the number of Old Boys we can communicate with, especially those for whom we have no details. If you have family and friends who are Old Boys, we would appreciate it if you would encourage them to visit the site and register. **Greg Dening—SPOB Executive Officer**

College Co-curricular Uniform

Parents and students are reminded that the “new” **College Tracksuit and Supporter’s Shirt** are the garments to be worn to replace the older styles as at the commencement of 2017. The “older” style Tracksuit and Supporter’s Shirt may still be worn at afternoon training but, boys may not wear those garments on their way home if they using public transport. Clearly, the older garments **are not to be worn** on Saturdays at Co-curricular activities, Swimming and/or Athletics Carnivals, Reflection Days, Excursions, etc.

Steve Fochesato – Director of Co-curricular

News from the Bandmaster



Year 5 and 6 Instrument Suitability Testing

Last week a large number of students in Years 5 and 6 completed an instrument suitability testing. This applies to all parents who submitted a Music Tuition Interest form for their son, either late last year or early this year. The Music Tutors are currently contacting all parents regarding their sons commencing lessons. Please be mindful that not all first choices preferences can be accommodated due to instrument suitability, availability and overall ensemble balance.

Would your son like to learn a musical instrument? Now is the perfect time to start! Please contact Mr Rose at derek.rose@spc.nsw.edu.au or (Ext) 8705 9258 or visit [the school website](#).

Derek Rose—Bandmaster

Invitation to Parents, Staff, Students – Faith at Work Dialogue

What makes a Catholic school Catholic? It sounds like a simple question but you’d be surprised at the variety of answers. So varied, in fact, that it’s been chosen as the focus of this year’s first Faith At Work Dialogue. Conducted by the Catholic Commission for Employment Relations (CCER), the Dialogues feature prominent Australians whose ideas stimulate debate and promote reflection on how our personal, Catholic beliefs translate into our professional lives.

CCER Director, Tony Farley will launch 2017’s Faith At Work series by speaking with Professor Richard Rymarz, Head of Religious Education and Director of Research at the Broken Bay Institute (The Australian Institute of Theological Education).

You are invited to join them in examining the nature of Australia’s Catholic education system and its changing role in a society that has become increasingly secular. They will be asking what parents want from Catholic schools, and consider what makes a school uniquely, authentically Catholic?

WHERE: CCER Offices Level 14, Polding Centre
133 Liverpool Street, Sydney

WHEN: Wednesday, 8 March 2017

TIME: 5.00pm - 7.00pm

The event is free and interested staff, parents and students can register via this link: www.cceratholic.org.au/register Alternatively you can contact CCER on (02) 9390 5255 or email events@ccer.catholic.org.au

Strathfield Symphony Entrée

Strathfield Council has introduced an initiative open to all students of our College and others in Strathfield. It is about bringing together two critically necessary elements for modern society – the interaction of children and youth with older generations strongly aiding the development of younger people and intergenerational engagement for older residents which has proven benefits in healthy ageing.

For the first time, the Council is asking young people to bring a Senior to their Symphony performance at no charge. It does not need to be a relative, merely someone they know who would enjoy the afternoon. The program will include performances of Tchaikovsky and Strauss. Supervision and refreshments will be provided.

The event is capped at 200 seats, so tickets will be allocated on the basis of first in, first allocated. Bookings can be made by calling the Bookings with Age and Disability Officer on 9748 9646.

Growing up digital:

young people, technology and mental health

#growingupdigital #livingwellnsw

Living Well
ideas · learning · conversations



Are you a first generation digital parent? Or are you interested in young people and mental health?

Every parent wants their child to be happy, fulfilled and mentally healthy. But when you are raising the first generation of ‘digital natives’ the challenge can seem daunting.

The NSW Mental Health Commission invites you to join experts in online culture, digital media and youth mental health to answer your questions and explore how parents and community can act now to increase the mental wellbeing of young people today.

Who’s on the panel?

- **Mia Freedman** – Co-founder, Mamamia Women’s Media Company and digital journalist
- **Samantha Yorke** – Public Policy and Government Affairs, Google
- **Jono Nicholas** – CEO of ReachOut.com

Jono Nicholas, CEO of ReachOut.com said, “Today’s parents are dealing with unprecedented issues when it comes to raising their children, and are having to navigate issues like cyberbullying, social media, screen time and their kids’ mobile phone use, on top of the normal challenges of adolescence. The rapid changes in technology can make some feel cut off from their children’s digital lives and anxious about their online activity.”

This FREE event is for anyone interested in online culture and how it affects emotional lives. It promises to challenge, enlighten and inspire parents, pointing the way to better wellbeing not only for their children but for themselves.

Tickets are limited so register now.

Event details

Date: Tuesday 28 February 2017
Time: Doors open 5:00pm, 6:00pm start
Venue: Lower Town Hall - Sydney Town Hall
483 George Street (entry via Druitt St)
Sydney, NSW 2000
Cost: Free

Sports Draw - SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2017

CRICKET			
1st XI	v	Oakhill	10.00 Oakhill College
2nd XI	v	Chevalier	10.00 Breen Oval
3rd XI	v	Scot's Bathurst	10.00 Main Oval Scots (Bathurst)
16A	v	Sydney Grammar	9.00 Reg Bartley Oval
16B	v	BYE	
15A	v	Epping Bulls	8.30 Curtis Oval
15B	v	Epping Bulls	8.30 Doyle Park 2
14A	v	Concord Briars	8.30 Rydalmere Park
14B	v	Dundas United	8.30 Strathfield Park 1
14C	v	Sydney Grammar D	1.30 Strathfield Park 1
13A	v	Dundas United	8.30 Mason Park 2
13B	v	Holy Cross	8.30 Brush Farm
13 White	v	13 Red	1.30 Phillips Park 2
13 Gold	v	Newington White	11.00 Old Boys 2 (Newington)
13 Red	v	13 White	1.30 Phillips Park 2
13 Green	v	13 Blue	1.30 Mason Park 2
13 Blue	v	13 Green	1.30 Mason Park 2

BASEBALL			
1st IX	v	Riverview	8.30 Riverview 1B
16 Blue	v	Riverview	11.00 Major's Bay Reserve 3
16 Black	v	Thornleigh	8.30 Oakleigh Oval 1
14 Blue	v	Stealers	8.30 Golden Jubilee 5
14 Black	v	Macquarie	11.00 Major's Bay Reserve 1

BASKETBALL			
1st V	v	Oakhill	1.00 SPC Gym
Open B	v	Blue Mountains	10.00 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 1
17A	v	Oakhill	12.00 SPC Gym
17B	v	Blue Mountains	11.30 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 1
17C	v	Oakhill Navy	9.00 Oakhill Gym (CSC) 1
17D	v	St Paul's	8.00 St Paul's Gym 2
15A	v	Oakhill	11.00 SPC Gym
15B	v	Blue Mountains	9.00 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 1
15C	v	Oakhill Navy	9.00 Oakhill Gym (CSC) 2
15D	v	St Paul's	9.00 St Paul's Gym 1
15Black	v	Oakhill Yellow	11.00 Auburn 2
14A	v	Oakhill	10.00 SPC Gym
14B	v	Blue Mountains	10.00 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 2
14C	v	Oakhill Navy	8.00 Oakhill Gym (CSC) 2
14D	v	St Paul's	9.00 St Paul's Gym 2
14 Black	v	Oakhill Yellow	10.00 Auburn 2
13A	v	Oakhill	9.00 SPC Gym
13B	v	Blue Mountains	9.00 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 2
13C	v	Oakhill Navy	8.00 Oakhill Gym (CSC) 1
13D	v	St Paul's	8.00 St Paul's Gym 1
13 Black	v	Oakhill Yellow	10.00 Auburn 1
13 Gold	v	Blue Mountains	11.00 Blue Mountains Grammar Ct 2

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT WEEKLY DRAW SUMMER ROUND THREE 25/02/2017

CRICKET	OPPOSITION	VENUE	TIME
TRAD 6A	Cranbrook	Cooke Park	8.00am
TRAD 6B	Cranbrook	SPC NO 2	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6A	Waverley	Queens Park 4	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 6B	Trinity	Rudd Park	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 6C	Scots	Rudd Park	9.30am
SUPER 8'S 6D	Waverley	Queens Park 4	8.00am
TRAD 5A	Barker	Taylor Field	8.00am
TRAD 5B	Barker	Phipps Field	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 5A	Waverley	Phillips Park	8.00am
SUPER 8'S 5B	Barker	Phillips Park	9.30am
BASKETBALL			
TEAM A	Barker	Auburn 1	9.00am
TEAM B	Barker	Auburn 1	8.00am
TEAM C	Barker	Auburn 2	9.00am
TEAM D	Barker	Auburn 2	8.00am
TEAM E	Barker	Auburn 3	9.00am
TEAM F	Barker	Auburn 3	8.00am
TEAM G	Barker	BCJS GYM	10.30am
TEAM H	Barker	BCJS GYM	9.40am
TEAM I	Barker	BCJS GYM	8.50am
TEAM J	Barker	BCJS GYM	8.00am
TEAM K	Barker	Barker Senior Gym	8.50am
TEAM L	Barker	Barker Senior Gym	8.00am
TENNIS			
TEAM A	Shore	River Road	8.00am
TEAM B	Riverview D	SPC Courts	8.00am
SOFTBALL			
TEAM Black	St Pius X	Oxford Falls	8.00am

VENUES:

Auburn Basketball Centre: Wyatt Park, Church St, Lidcombe
 Cooke Park: Madeline St, Belfield
 SPC Courts, No 3, No 4: Edgar St, Strathfield
 Phillips Park - Nicholas St, Lidcombe
 Rudd Park: Cnr Clarence & Vardell Sts, Belfield
 Barker College - College Crescent Waitara
 Shore - TENNIS - River Rd, Lane Cove. You enter off River Rd into the Lane Cove Golf course.
 Oxford Falls - Cnr Dreadnought Rd and Wakehurst Parkway, Oxford Falls
 Queens Park - Darley Rd, Waverley
 Taylor Field - College Crescent Waitara
 Phipps - College Crescent Waitara



ISA Cricket and Tennis Trials

Congratulations to Michael Redman (Captain), Matthew Bryson and Harry Manenti who were selected in the ISA Cricket Representative team as well as Sean Cliff, Joseph Cliff and James Stathak who earned a place in the ISA Tennis Representative team. Good luck to all four boys as they represent their College and the ISA.

House and Age Swimming Championships

The 73rd Annual Swimming House and Age Championships took place at the Sydney International Aquatic Centre, Homebush last Friday. Hickey again claimed victory through a combination of outstanding Swimming and excellent rates of participation, not to mention vociferous cheering which persisted throughout the day.

The Senior students were outstanding, with the Year 12 students leading the way with their House spirit and amazing costumes. Particular mention must go to the six House Prefects and the College Captain and Vice-captains for their efforts on the day. Unfortunately they were defeated yet again by the staff relay team. Better luck next year.

Congratulations to all the Age Champions and those boys who broke records:

Finn O'Connor 16 Years 50m Breaststroke - 30.55 secs
 Finn O'Connor 16 Years 50m Butterfly - 26.30 secs
 Se-Bom Lee 16 Years 50m Backstroke - 28.30 secs
 Se-Bom Lee Open Years 200m Individual Medley - 2:15.55 mins

Final results are as follows:

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House Championship

1 st	Hickey	860 Points
2 nd	Berg	780 Points
3 rd	Coghlan	688 Points
4 th	Hanrahan	680 Points
5 th	Crichton	620 Points
6 th	Rice	528 Points

College Age Champions

Opens

1 st	Callum McKenzie
2 nd	Brendon Benvenuti
3 rd	Dominic Thomas

15 Years

1 st	Tomas Kapocius
2 nd	Joshua Kite
3 rd	Charly Simoni

13 Years

1 st	Spencer Ling
2 nd	Hayden Ling
3 rd	Edward Newton

16 Years

1 st	Se-Bom Lee
1 st	Finn O'Connor
3 rd	Louis Melocco

14 Years

1 st	Anthony Sukkar
2 nd	Lewis Taylor
3 rd	Marc Giangrasso

12 Years

1 st	James Kozub
2 nd	Patrick Cleary
3 rd	Cristian Caponi

Mitchell Kearsley—Head of Secondary Sport

FIXTURES AND GROUND LOCATIONS are published live online (includes cancellations):

Go to <http://www.spc.nsw.edu.au/co-curricular/sporting/> or visit the College website and select Sports Fixtures on the Quick Links menu

WET WEATHER UPDATES: call 02 9763 1000 and follow the prompts; Twitter at <http://twitter.com/SPCSeniorSport>; or on the Fixtures Pages above.