



Especean

Vol 31, No 12 – 2 May 2018



Principal

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

Welcome back to the new term. I trust that the boys had a relaxing and refreshing break and that parents might have had the chance to break somewhat with routine as well.

ACU Carpark

During this term you will note that fencing has gone up around SPC Playing Field Number 4 as work is commencing on the underground carpark with ACU. This venture has been more than seven years in the planning and is an agreed arrangement with the University and St Patrick's College. While the bulk of the carpark will be allocated to ACU, there are mutual benefits to this agreement. Eventually, a FIFA grade synthetic football and cricket pitch will adorn this playing field, and will be a wonderful addition to our facilities for co-curricular sport. The building of the carpark will take 12 months or more and will involve some inconvenience, as all building works do, during this time. We have made alternate arrangements for sport and training and we will be putting in place some contingency for our junior boys to play and run around during the school day as well. Please bear with us during this time. We will be meeting regularly with ACU to ensure that everything proceeds as smoothly as possible.

Staff Development Day

On Monday 30 April our whole teaching staff was involved in a Staff Development Day. The junior staff spent the day concentrating on the teaching of writing while the secondary staff collaborated with two other EREA schools (Edmund Rice College, Wollongong and St Dominic's College, Penrith) in their faculty groups. Each school was given some responsibility for delivering sessions on the day. We shared ideas, programmes, teaching resources and pedagogical approaches to improve learning. It is so important that we take opportunities to learn from others. We do not have a monopoly on good teaching practice, and at the same time, we have so much to offer others, that we should share with our colleagues. Below is an excerpt from the opening address I gave to those gathered at St Patrick's College. I referred to a Liberating Education (one of the Four Touchstones of an Edmund Rice education) as the theme of my address.



I would like to address two things this morning only: firstly, what our call is to providing a liberating education, and secondly, how we might do this with young men.

So, I have already posited that a liberating education, as far as I am concerned, is the most challenging Touchstone to really understand and therefore enact. Naturally, each of Touchstones relies on the others: they are interdependent. We cannot have a liberating education without it coming from a Gospel spirituality. We cannot provide a liberating education if we are not working for justice and solidarity and we would find it impossible if it wasn't in the context of an inclusive community. A liberating education provides us with tools: of inquiry, of curiosity and importantly a desire – a desire to be awakened to three things:

1. The indwelling of the Spirit – God's love for all of us
2. The self: so that I might not just be awakened to my selfhood, but that I might also be liberated from the self. This might sound a bit Buddhist, but we often only construe liberating education to mean "for others". It is for others. But we cannot do this at the expense of ignoring our selves. When we teach our young men, we often talk about what they can do for others, how they might become a man for others. What we need to connect with, and remind them of, in this cultural milieu is what it might mean to be liberated from one's self. To set one's self free cannot be anything but liberating. This is complex and is also about the adolescent trajectory to adulthood. If we liberate ourselves, only then can we become self-less. This is what we are in fact aiming for. Let's not make it all about me. But let's certainly make some of it about "me" so that we might be able to freely make it about the other. It is an education in selfhood. We offer this to our young men. We are anointed by God to do this: the Luke passage that EREA employs

to give us the mandate for self-liberation gives us the clue here: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."* (Luke 4:18-19)

3. Others: only when we have been the recipient of a liberating education for ourselves (literally us, and our students) then we can be about the other. Edmund Rice is clearly a shining example for us and of course, his inspiration for this was Jesus.

If we provide a liberating education that "does the job", then we become the instruments as well as the education itself, to liberate us so that we do shake off that which binds and shackles us, and allows us to be truly free: this freedom is to then go about using what it is that we have been gifted with, to make someone else's life a little better. Hopefully, this has been afforded us in different ways in our own lives. If you ever stop and ask yourself why you are a teacher: I know you will not answer - it's for the money, it's for the six hour day, it's for the 10 weeks holidays, or it's for the grief-free existence we lead. Perhaps though you might say like many before you, it is precisely because it offers me the opportunity to make a difference in a boy's life. Corny, yes, but profound also.

The second thing I wanted to talk about was how we might go about this with the young men who are our students today. A colleague here at St Patrick's flicked me a speech that one of my favourite authors, Tim Winton, recently made about boys and their masculinity. He talks about toxic masculinity and how it is a burden for men. He speaks of his experience of young boys and men today and he feels that we have left our young men to fend for themselves.

We have few meaningful rituals and rites of passage to manhood that are helpful. He says: "How do you live a life in which all of us must eventually surrender and come to terms? Too many men are blunt instruments... Because of poor training, they're simply not fit for purpose. Because life is not a race, it's not a game, and it's not a fight." I wonder how many times we have fallen into the trap of reinforcing these imperatives.

Winton goes on to ask "Can we wean boys off machismo and misogyny? Will they ever relinquish the race, the game the fight, and join the dance?" And folks, here comes the clincher for me, he then, as only Tim Winton does, (can you tell I'm a fan yet?) says: "I hope so. Because liberation – a process of disarmament, reflection and renewal – isn't just desirable, it's desperately necessary."

So, the only thing we have to do as parents and as teachers is ensure that we disarm, and are disarming, reflect and renew – and expect the same of our boys. You see, we must do this firstly as *ourselves* (as I have previously suggested) before we can allow our boys to do so.

Your job and mine, as teachers in a Catholic school in an Edmund Rice tradition, is to make explicit that which calls us to provide a liberating education. Every learning experience you provide is an opportunity. It is a gem of an opportunity – to engage, to arouse curiosity, to provide the tools for the future and to inspire a child to want to know more. To want to be a better human being, and to want to make an active contribution to the world in which *he lives*, so that he might make it a better place in which to *live*. We can only do this if we subscribe to a theology of hope.

I will close with a comment made by a Year 11 boy, who is a member of our College Board sub-committee for Identity. He was speaking about a liberating education and he was talking about the values that are inculcated in the boys at St Patrick's and how this helps liberate them because it "forms us into being people who need to bring about liberation in others." Wise words.

Condolences

Please pray for Joshua Wodson (Year 7) and his family as, sadly, his great grandfather Newton Stagg passed away last week at the age of 103. Please also pray for Jasper (Year 6) and Luka O'Connell (Year 9) and their family as they mourn the loss of their grandfather Douglas Parnaby. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal



JUNIOR SCHOOL

I warmly welcome families back to another great term of learning in the Junior School. I hope the holidays were a time of connection for your families, and a chance to wind down and refill the tanks for the boys.

A major change has taken place that will be obvious to anyone who has been in the Junior School since the holidays. Construction works have begun on SPC oval no. 2 meaning the Junior School students no longer have access to this field for either lessons or break times.

We have organised that in place of SPC 2, we will now use SPC 4 during the lunch break. PE and Games lessons will take place on SPC 4, the Basketball courts, or Breen Oval. Although losing SPC 2 is an inconvenience in the short term, we look forward to the great facilities the building project will result in.

In the meantime, I am excited about the learning opportunities the project presents – there is so much potential for great learning in English, Mathematics and Visual Arts that spring to mind. Perhaps we'll soon read stories about the unexpected time capsule unearthed during excavation; perhaps we'll see equations verifying the volume and mass of earth excavated. The possibilities are limited only by our imagination!

Ben Munday—Director of Junior School

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Congratulations Lucas Martin, who, in the holidays was selected to represent NSWCIS in Tennis. Only in Year 5, it is anticipated that Lucas has a huge future in Tennis. Good luck in the upcoming tournament.



Well done to the Rugby squad that travelled to Armidale on the first weekend of the holidays. The SPC Black team performed exceptionally well winning 4 out of their 5 games including the final on the Sunday. Congratulations to the entire squad, especially Mitchell Woods who scored 10 tries throughout the tournament and Alex Conti who scored 6, including a hat trick in the final. The SPC Gold team had a tough couple of days, coming up against some tough A teams. Hopefully the boys still enjoyed the experience and are match ready for their season starting this Saturday. I would like to thank Mr Leary, Mr Clarke and Mr Davis for their



assistance on the tour and to Moose and Lila who looked after us all on the Friday night on their farm. A big thank you to all the parents for your continued support of the Junior School Rugby. We are all looking forward to an enjoyable season.

This Saturday sees our first round of IPSHA winter sport. Please make sure that all boys know exactly when and where they are playing and are dressed in the correct uniform. With limited training I'm sure some boys will be very rusty. It is important that we try our hardest and show excellent sportsmanship both on and off the field. A reminder that all of the Junior School will be in supporter's day this Saturday as well, meeting at the Powell Pavillion at 1.00pm.

Grant Andrews—Junior School Sportsmaster



COLLEGE MASSES – TERM 2

Everybody is warmly invited to Friday morning Masses in the Chapel again this term. Most Fridays will be led by the students of the different College Houses, as follows:

- Friday 4 May—** Rice House—I especially encourage everyone to come this Friday as we celebrate the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice (which is on Saturday).
- Friday 11 May—** *Mothers' Day Masses in the Gym*
7.45am – Berg, Coghlan, Crichton
9.30am – Hanrahan, Hickey, Rice
- Friday 18 May—** Hanrahan House
- Friday 25 May—** Coghlan House
- Friday 1 June—** Crichton House
- Friday 8 June—** *No Morning Mass (Founder's Day Mass for staff and students only)*
- Friday 15 June—** Hickey House
- Friday 22 June—** Berg House
- Friday 29 June—** Year 5

Part way through this term we hope to welcome Fr Jack back, and as we do, we give thanks for the many wonderful priests who have joined us for our celebrations over the past year.

Our House Masses this term are very special as we remember the legacy of the Brothers who helped build St Patrick's College and who played significant roles in our 90 year history. We will call to mind the virtues they espoused and together we will celebrate and strengthen our communal relationship with God.

Please join us as often as you can at 8.15am in the College Chapel.

Gillian Daley—Director of Identity

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

A reminder that the Canteen would like to extend an invitation to the SPC community for potential volunteers from the commencement of Term 2.

Volunteers would help in serving our students at recess and lunch and some food preparation.

Those interested or would like to find out more can contact the Canteen Manager Rose on 0410 481 150.

Thank you to those parents that have already expressed an interest in volunteering their time at the Canteen.

Richie Chacon—Assistant Director of Business Services

CURRICULUM

Year 10 Academic Attainment Tests

Next week, on Thursday 10 May, students of Year 10 will sit for a series of external tests set by Academic Attainment Services. These tests will take a snap-shot assessment of both performance and aptitude in Mathematics, Reading, Writing and Reasoning – scholastic tools required for successful performance in the Higher School Certificate. The results and data from these tests will assist students about making informed subject selection choices for Year 11 next year.

Parents of Year 10 students will receive their sons' reports in due course and the results therein should be interpreted in the context of their sons' College academic record, study habits, abilities and interests.

More information about the Year 11 2019 subject selection process will follow over the next two terms.

The National Assessment Programme – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

In two weeks' time, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 from schools across Australia will sit the national tests in Literacy and Numeracy. The tests will ensure national consistency in benchmarking Literacy and Numeracy standards across all Australian educational jurisdictions.

The NAPLAN tests will be carried out for all four Year groups on the following days:

- **Tuesday 15 May:** Language Conventions; Writing
- **Wednesday 16 May:** Reading
- **Thursday 17 May:** Numeracy

Parents and students of Years 5, 7 and 9 are reminded and encouraged to visit the NAPLAN site at: <https://www.nap.edu.au/>. Sample test items and marking guides are available as are tests from previous years. In particular students ought to practice and familiarise themselves with both the persuasive and narrative styles of writing, as one of these will be the genre for the writing task this year.

Student Involvement in External Academic Competitions

Many St Patrick's College students participate in a variety of national or state-based academic competitions, for example, the Australian Mathematics Competition or the ICAS Science Competition or the da Vinci Decathlon. Generally, participation in academic competitions primarily benefits students who have demonstrated ability or a special interest in a particular area.

Full details about each competition will be supplied to students prior to the event with ample notice. Ordinarily, all students who are invited to participate are expected to participate. The cost of student entry, if applicable, will be included in the relevant term fee account.

Should parents have any questions or concerns about any external academic competition, please contact the relevant Studies Coordinator at the College charged with administering the competition.

Michael Cutrupi – Director of Curriculum

FOUNDER'S DAY 2018

Friday 8 June marks the celebration of Founder's Day. We would like to advise parents/carers of the following:

- Compulsory attendance by all boys in full **College uniform** is expected. Boys who are absent on the day will be required to obtain a medical certificate and present it to their homeroom teacher on their first day back.
- **Boys** are required to attend school at the **normal time** and they will be **dismissed** at **2.00pm**. Younger boys will be escorted down to Strathfield Station by members of the College's Student Leadership Team.
- **Boys will not be required to bring bags/belongings to school on this day.** The exception to this may be competitors in the annual Waterford Mile who can store any clothes in their lockers.
- Boys will be expected to attend the **Founder's Day Mass, Concert and Waterford Mile.**
- Canteen facilities will operate during Recess with all menu items being available.
- A **BBQ lunch** will be provided for all boys following the Founder's Day Concert.

Founder's Day Barbecue Parent Helpers:

Parents who are available between 11.00am and 1.30pm on this day to assist with the organisation and preparation of the barbecue are asked to email Mrs Viney at ingrid.viney@spc.nsw.edu.au and provide their name, telephone number, son's name and son's House by **Thursday 31 May**.

The College will then be in contact in advance of the day with further details. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. We require 10 parents per House.

Dietary Requirements:

If your son requires gluten free ingredients for the Founder's Day BBQ, please ask him to see Mr Simpson or email robert.simpson@spc.nsw.edu.au by **Thursday 31 May**.

Robert Simpson – Director of Wellbeing

BLUE, BLACK & GOLD DINNER

There is one week left to purchase your Blue, Black and Gold Dinner tickets via <http://www.trybooking.com/utf8>

We are still looking for any donations or prizes we could use for fundraising at this dinner, please contact vickidening@yahoo.com.au if you can assist.

DRESS CODE CLARIFICATION: This is not a Fancy Dress event. As the College is celebrating 90 years (1928-2018) you may wish to be inspired by the Gatsby theme. Alternatively cocktail or evening attire is suggested.

Yours sincerely,

Jamey Poyaoan – President, Parents & Friends Association

SPORTS FIXTURES – SATURDAY 5 MAY 2018

RUGBY					FOOTBALL				JUNIOR SPORT FIXTURES					
1st XV	v	Trinity	3.15	Breen Oval	1st XI	v	St Spyridon	1.15	SPC 3	FOOTBALL				
2nd XV	v	Trinity	2.00	Breen Oval	2nd XI	v	St Pius 3rd	12.00	SPC 3	Prep A	v	Knox	8.00am	Bark Huts 1
3rd XV	v	Trinity	1.00	Breen Oval	3rd XI	v	St Pius 2nd	8.00	Walsh Field	Prep B	v	Knox	8.45am	Bark Huts 1
4th XV	v	Trinity	12.00	Breen Oval	4th XI	v	St Spyridon 2nd	11.00	SPC 3	Prep C	v	Knox	9.30am	Bark Huts 1
5th XV	v	Trinity	11.00	Breen Oval	5th XI	v	Kings 7th	11.30	Mason Park 3	Prep D	v	Knox	10.15am	Bark Huts 1
16A	v	Trinity	10.00	Breen Oval	6th XI	v	Kings 8th	10.30	Mason Park 3	Prep E	v	BYE		
16B	v	Trinity	9.00	Breen Oval	7th XI	v	Kings 9th	9.30	Mason Park 3	11A1	v	Newington Wyvern	8.00am	Wyatt Park 1
16C	v	Trinity	8.00	Breen Oval	8th XI	v	Kings 10th	8.30	Mason Park 3	11B1	v	Newington Wyvern	8.45am	Wyatt Park 1
15A	v	Trinity	10.00	TGS 1	16A	v	St Spyridon	8.30	Mason Park 1	11C1	v	Newington Wyvern	9.30am	Wyatt Park 1
15B	v	Trinity	9.00	TGS 1	16B	v	Oakhill B	9.30	Mason Park 1	11D1	v	Newington Wyvern	10.15am	Wyatt Park 1
15C	v	Trinity	8.00	TGS 1	16C	v	St Pius B	10.30	Mason Park 1	11A2	v	Trinity Prep	9.30am	Cooke Park
14A	v	Trinity	10.00	TGS 3	16D	v	Kings D	10.30	Mason Park 2	11B2	v	Trinity Prep	8.45am	Cooke Park
14B	v	Trinity	9.00	TGS 3	16E	v	Kings E	11.30	Mason Park 2	11C2	v	Trinity Prep	8.00am	Cooke Park
14C	v	Trinity	8.00	TGS 3	16F	v	Sydney Boys High E	12.30	Mason Park 2	11D2	v	Kings	8.00am	Price 3
13A	v	Trinity	12.00	Hudson Park	15A	v	St Spyridon	8.30	Mason Park 2	10A	v	Trinity Prep	8.45am	SPC No 3
13B	v	Trinity	11.00	Hudson Park	15B	v	St Spyridon B	9.30	Mason Park 2	10B	v	Trinity Prep	8.45am	SPC No 3
13C	v	Trinity	10.00	Hudson Park	15C	v	Oakhill B	1.00	Hermann Oval	10C1	v	Trinity Prep	8.00am	SPC No 3
13D	v	Trinity	9.00	Hudson Park	15D	v	Kings C	10.00	Massie 3	10C2	v	Trinity Prep	8.00am	SPC No 3
TENNIS					15E	v	Kings E	8.00	Massie 3	RUGBY				
Div 1	v	St Pius	8.00	Love n Deuce	15F	v	Sydney Boys High G	1.30	Mason Park 3	Prep 1 st XV	v	Barker	9.30am	Taylor field
Div 2	v	St Pius	8.00	Strathfield Sports Club	14A	v	St Spyridon	2.30	Mason Park 2	Prep 2 nd XV	v	Barker	8.45am	Taylor Field
Div 3	v	St Pius	8.00	Love n Deuce	14B	v	St Spyridon B	1.30	Mason Park 2	Prep Black 7s	v	TBC	10.20-11.20	Koola Park
Div 4	v	St Pius	8.00	Strathfield Sports Club	14C	v	Oakhill B	10.00	Hermann Oval	Prep Gold 7s	v	TBC	10.20-11.20	Koola Park
Div 5	v	St Pius	8.00	Love n Deuce	14D	v	Kings C	9.00	TKS Old Boy's 2	11A	v	Scots	10.00am	David Phillips
Div 6	v	St Pius	8.00	Strathfield Sports Club	14E	v	Kings D	8.00	TKS Old Boy's 2	11B	v	Scots	9.15am	David Phillips
Div 7	v	St Pius	8.00	Love n Deuce	14F	v	Newington F	12.30	Mason Park 3	11C	v	Scots	8.30am	David Phillips
Div 8	v	St Pius	8.00	Strathfield Sports Club	13A	v	St Spyridon	1.30	Mason Park 1	10A	v	Mosman	8.30am	Terrey Hills
Div 9	v	St Pius	8.00	Love n Deuce	13B	v	Kings B	10.00	Massie 1	AFL				
Div 10	v	St Pius	8.00	Strathfield Sports Club	13C	v	Redlands C	12.30	Mason Park 1	Team A	v	Knox Grammar	8.00am	Acron Oval
CROSS COUNTRY					13D	v	Oakhill D	11.30	Mason Park 1	Venues:				
Barker Invitational			8.30	North Ryde Common	13E	v	Kings D	8.00	Massie 1	Bark Huts – Elliot St, Belfield				
					13F	v	Newington F	2.30	Mason Park 3	Wyatt Park – 49 Church St, Lidcombe				
					13G	v	Trinity F	9.00	Flockhart 1	Cooke Park – Madeline St, Belfield				
					13H	v	Trinity G	8.00	Flockhart 1	Price 3 - Inside the King's School – Pennant Hills Rd, Parramatta				

HEAD OF SECONDARY SPORT

Welcome back to Term Two where the winter sport season gets into full swing.

The ISA season for Football and Tennis commences this weekend along with the Rugby preseason fixtures. The ISA Rugby season will commence on Saturday 16 June.

Black and Green Shield

This coming weekend all Rugby teams play Trinity Grammar in the traditional local derby where they will compete for the Black and Green Aggregate Shield. Unfortunately, due to scheduling constraints, we will not be able to contest the shield in its full capacity, i.e., we will not play Trinity in Football or Tennis this year. The premise behind the shield was that all teams playing in evenly graded fixtures had the opportunity to contribute towards the shield, meaning that on the day, the 13F Football had just as much importance as the 1st XV Rugby in terms of aggregate points. St Patrick's are the current holders of the shield so I'm sure all boys will be keen to put forward some strong performances in an effort to retain the shield and see it housed in the College vestibule for another year. You must train hard and play as a team. Focus on the little things, have faith in your team mates and battle away till the final whistle.

Well done to all those who travelled on the North American Rugby tour over the term break. It was a great success and we look forward to a tour report and photos being published in next week's Especean.

Anthony Calavassy – Head of Secondary Sport

YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO ST MARTHA'S PARISH FOR A SPECIAL EVENT SATURDAY 19 MAY 6PM

SAM CLEAR 'WALK4ONE'



The man who walked around the world for Christian unity is coming to St Martha's Parish to share his amazing journey. You will not want to miss this event!

"Let Sam intrigue you as he navigates through one of the most extraordinary stories you will ever hear, filled with humour, disaster, heart-stopping moments and encounters with the very essence of what it is to be human." (www.walk4one.com)

Everyone is invited – family, friends and neighbours. Sam will speak in the school hall straight after St Martha's Parish 5.00pm Mass.

Refreshments will be served, please RSVP for catering purposes to info@stmstrathfield.com.au

Ms Judy Gustin & Ms Sharene Connolly – St Martha's Catholic Primary School



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 or via the Team App.

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