



Especean

Vol 31, No 16 – 30 May 2018

Principal

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



On Following Rules

I reckon that Strathfield drivers may well be the worst in the whole world! I never cease to be amazed by the incompetence and sheer madness of what some people will do on the road. I recently witnessed a spectacular near-miss with a person in a car doing a U-turn at a busy set of lights into a petrol station, just as an oncoming car nearly collected them. I have also recently learned that the left hand indicator sometimes (in Strathfield at least) means "I want to turn right". And, the converse is also true with a right turn indicator meaning "I want to turn right". Then there is a third category of drivers who put their indicator on left or right and have no intention of making a turn in any direction. The only trouble with this is that us sane drivers have to guess what the other driver's intention actually is! I kid you not, I saw a woman set off, then stop in the middle of an intersection at a set of lights, so she could respond to a text.



Why is it that so many people do not want to follow the rules? The gym I attend has posters plastered around

the walls instructing everyone to replace the weights on the racks after use, and that if gym members do not do so, they risk losing their membership. Clearly, this rule is not being followed! Now, I confess to being a little obsessive when it comes to organisation and neatness, however, rules are put in place to promote safety, good order, good management and plain old good manners. I also know that some rules, from time to time, can be difficult to adhere to. But for the most part, they are there for good reason. Without rules, chaos would certainly reign, if not anarchy. If there are too many rules, then people will simply ignore them. If there are too few, people make up their own. I worry when people decide that they want the rules to apply to everyone else, except them, because it just doesn't suit.

Schools by their very nature have to have some rules in place. We are bound by an ever-increasing number of rules. These invariably come in the form of legislation. Recently the Executive team members have been walking through the rules that we need to adhere to in order to meet our registration and accreditation for the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA). These amount to a whole manual of rules complete with nine chapters. There are about 30 pages of compliance, governance, quality assurance and teaching standards evidence that we need to supply to the Authority in the coming 12 months. We are also bound by countless other forms of Commonwealth and State legislation, as most entities are these days.

From a local community perspective, we are in the business of educating young people. There are more than 1400 students at our school. They have to abide by some rules so that good order and discipline is in place. For the most part, our boys are very good at following rules. They are expected to use their manners; addressing staff either by their name or as "miss" or "sir". They are bound by rules when it comes to assessments and examinations around cheating, plagiarism and due dates. Our boys are expected to come to school each day prepared for a day's learning and we expect them to treat each other

and themselves with dignity and respect. Our boys are often complimented on their attitude, manners, grooming and pride in their College. They are also affirmed for their successes in the classroom and beyond.

There is nothing wrong with having rules in place, so long as they are there for the benefit of the many, i.e., they promote the common good. I am sure that you have rules in place in your home. One of ours is no phones or devices at the dining table. Another is if you cook the meal, you do not have to do the clean-up after dinner. Sometimes, a re-visiting on the rules becomes necessary when people get lazy or forgetful. They serve as reminders. If someone in the house deliberately flouts the rules, then pressure is brought to bear. I very recently threatened my 20 year old that I would wash everyone else's clothes in the house except his, unless he started making more effort to check whether washing that was hanging on the line needed to be brought inside. Such are the joys of parenthood; the ones that never appear in the utopian magazines! We forgive our children when they make a mistake, but they must learn from it. When they repeat the offence, this is when the consequences must kick in. Otherwise, the rules become a farce.

As a society, I wonder if we only follow rules if there are sanctions applied to those who refuse to follow them. I know that I only drive at the speed limit because a) I will no doubt get a fine if I speed and b) I need to be safety conscious. There is inherent goodness in following rules because they are both a self-protection mechanism as well as a protection mechanism for everyone else. Largely, they promote fairness. The Bible provides countless good advice and a few simple rules to follow. The Beatitudes give us eight rules for living, the 10 commandments give us rules to govern our lives as well, but Jesus gave us the most concise: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: 'Love your neighbour as you would love yourself' (Mt 22: 37-40). Imagine how absolutely amazing our world would be if we did just that. I am sure you will recollect the Episcopalian Bishop who gave the homily at a fairly famous recent wedding in England. His message was only about love. His repetition and insistence with the lines beginning "when love is the way..." impressed upon us that love can conquer poverty, violence, hatred and hunger and we will all be the beneficiaries.

Maybe all of our rules should reference love. Every rule could commence with: we do these things out of love - love for one's self and love for one another. And who knows, it might just help some of our local drivers improve their love of the road rules.

Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to Mr Grant Andrews on his appointment to Cranbrook school as Deputy Head of their Junior School. While we are delighted for Grant on this appointment, we will sorely miss him at our College. Grant will take his leave from St Patrick's at the end of Term 2. Congratulations also to Mark O'Halloran (PDHPE teacher) and his wife Jacinta who welcomed Toby James, 3kg and 50cm long on Monday. Both Jacinta and Toby are doing well.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever.

Craig Wattam
Principal



JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Da Vinci Decathlon

It was my pleasure to accompany the Junior School students who represented the College, along with Ms Davidson, to Knox Grammar for the Decathlon last week.

The challenges *really* stretch the students – believe me they are very demanding. You can see past challenges online if you're interested. But despite the high demands placed on the boys during the day, the benefits of being in a room with over a thousand critical and creative thinkers their age are many. The boys have come back to the College and enriched their classes with their learning and some tips and tricks they gleaned throughout the challenges.

We remember from the parable of the Talents that much is expected of those to whom much has been given. These children made the most of their talents and intelligence and I congratulate all the participants!

Ben Munday – Director of Junior School

Last Thursday two teams of Year Five and Six students competed in the Da Vinci Decathlon. The Da Vinci Decathlon is an academic competition, designed to challenge and test young minds. This year at the Decathlon, we had 10 challenges to complete over the course of the day: Ideation, English, Science, Creative Producers, Cartography, Maths, Engineering, Art and Poetry, Code Breaking and General Knowledge. It gave us the opportunity to put all our learning into practice, something Da Vinci himself would be proud of - "Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears and never regrets".

(Jeremy, Joshua and Thomas)

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Well done to Fin Mitchell and Alex Conti who have made it through to represent the NSW CIS in Rugby League and to Mitchell Woods, Nate Tucker, Justin Ryan, Oliver Quinn and Thomas Charles who were members of the NSW AFL side that won the PSSA Championships last week. Congratulations to Mitchell Woods who was captain of the CIS team and has now made it through to represent NSW in AFL. Justin Ryan was named the sportsman of the CIS team. St Patrick's is extremely proud of all these boys.

Congratulations to the Prep Football teams against Scots last week with some excellent performances. Well done to our U11's with some really close games. The U10's continue to go from strength to strength. Another really strong performance from our Boys in AFL, saw them jump a division last week and yet still win by nearly 100 points. It looks like they may have to go up again.

Well done to the 10A Rugby Team who played Kings and had a hard fought 14 – 5 victory. The U11's were outplayed against a very strong Waverley side and the Prep 7's had 2 wins a loss and a draw.



Mitchell Woods



CIS Touch Football

The highlight of my weekend was watching the Prep A and B teams play on Breen oval. The B's had a hard fought 12 - 12 draw. The Prep A's, after conceding an early try to Riverview, came back with their best Rugby all year to secure a 42 – 14 victory. Alex Conti was outstanding as Captain, scoring 4 tries, setting up one and kicking 6 goals. Having the war cry sung loud and proud in the middle of Breen on a beautiful Saturday morning was a memory I will hold on to for a very long time. You should be extremely proud boys.

Congratulations to Oliver Quinn, Alex Conti, Jacob Chidiac, Mitchell Woods, Jamie Carroll and Fin Mitchell who have all made the NSW CIS Touch Football side. An amazing achievement to get all 6 boys through.

Next Wednesday 6 June is the Annual Junior School Athletics Carnival on Breen oval starting at 9.15am. All boys are to come to school in their house coloured shirt and will compete in the 100m and 200m and 'novelty' races. The 800m and relays will be decided on the day. Over the past couple of weeks boys have been trialling for shot put, discus and high jump, which will take place throughout the carnival (discus will have already been decided). All parents are more than welcome to attend. A programme of events will be on the website and Team App by the end of the week.

Grant Andrews – Junior School Sportsmaster

JUNIOR SCHOOL CURRICULUM

- Junior School Semester One Reports will be posted online on Thursday 21 June (Week 8).
- Junior School Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will be held in Week 9, Term 2 (Monday 25 – 29 June). A note will go home in Week 7 in order for families to choose preferred times from the class interview schedule to discuss their son's academic progress.

Dan Fields – Junior School Curriculum Coordinator

ENROLMENT VACANCIES

There are vacancies available in Year 11 for 2019 and limited vacancies available in Year 7 for 2019. Applications are invited from practising Catholic families seeking enrolment for either of these Year groups at St Patrick's College in 2019. Initial enquires should be directed to the Enrolment Secretary. Email address is enrolment.secretary@spc.nsw.edu.au or (02) 9763 1000, option 1 for Enrolment.

FOUNDER'S DAY 2018

Founder's Day Barbecue Parent Helpers:

Many thanks to those parents, particularly the mums, who have contacted the College offering assistance on Founder's Day. We are still looking for parents, especially **some dads**, from students in

Hanrahan (3), Rice (3) and most of all from **Coghlan (7)** to assist on the day between 11.00am and 1.30pm with the organisation and preparation of the barbecue. Please email Mrs Viney at ingrid.viney@spc.nsw.edu.au and provide your 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.

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



CURRICULUM

2017 Grades for Years 10 and 11

Details of the grades awarded to 2017 Years 10 and 11 students have been recently published on the NESA website.

A to E grades are awarded by schools to each student who completes a Stage 5 or Stage 6 Preliminary HSC course, except Life Skills and VET courses. Stage 5 courses are usually completed in Year 10, and Preliminary courses are usually completed in Year 11.

A comparison of the distribution of grades awarded to the students of the College, across all courses, with the Year 10 students of the state in 2017 are given below. (Please note that due to rounding the total may not equal 100 exactly.)

Year 10 2017	A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)	E (%)
SPC	28	37	31	3	1
State	19	30	32	13	5

A comparison of the distribution of grades awarded to the students of the College, across all courses, with the Year 11 students of the state are given below:

Year 11 2017	A (%)	B (%)	C (%)	D (%)	E (%)
SPC	24	34	32	9	1
State	19	30	33	14	4

According to NESA, grades are awarded by schools for students' work over the year and are monitored by NESA for quality assurance and state-wide consistency before they are finalised. Teachers compare their students' work with work samples published by NESA in accordance and alignment with course performance descriptors.

To further strengthen the consistency of state-wide grading, NESA requires schools to maintain samples of student work to confirm their understanding of the A to E standards. Independent reviews commissioned by NESA show that there is a high degree of consistency in the grades awarded by teachers across the state, confident that a student will be awarded the same grade for the same achievement regardless of where they are studying in NSW.

It is important to note that Preliminary course grades are included on each student's HSC Record of Achievement. Students who leave school before the HSC, will have their grades printed on their Record of School Achievement (RoSA). Students now have access to formal credentials displaying their grades up until they leave school.

For a list of grades for each course go to:

http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/ebos/static/ebos_stats.html

For information on the grading process go to:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/Understanding-the-curriculum/awarding-grades>

Michael Cutrupi – Director of Curriculum

WRITER IN RESIDENCE – JOHN LARKIN

We are very pleased to announce that acclaimed Sydney author, John Larkin, will be visiting the College towards the end of this term to spend three days with us as a writer in residence.

John Larkin was born in England but grew up in the western suburbs of Sydney. He has a BA in English Literature and a MA in Creative Writing from Macquarie University. John's *The Shadow Girl* won the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards Prize for Writing for Young Adults 2012, and *The Pause* won the Queensland Literary Awards Griffith University Young Adult Book Award 2015.

As well as his significant contribution as a writer, John also has considerable experience as a teacher of writing. We are very privileged to be able to welcome him to St Patrick's where he will spend three days workshopping writing with some of our most able student writers from Years 7 to Year 12.

Another exciting aspect of this collaboration is that John will present a parent forum at the College on Thursday 14 June where he will speak about his own work as a writer and introduce parents to some of the approaches he will take in teaching writing to our students during his residency.

All parents will receive an email later this week with a link to RSVP, if they would like to attend this evening with John Larkin. All are welcome.

Adam Leslie – English Studies Coordinator

THE ALICE MOB BACK IN TOWN

From 18–24 May, the St Patrick's College community was visited by the fellas from St Joseph's, Alice Springs to connect and engage with the community. The group experienced many activities around the school and community, including visiting classes, surfing, shopping, and watching the Sydney Swans at the SCG.

The highlight of their trip was watching the Reconciliation Round of Sport where they really felt immersed in the school environment, supporting and cheering for the Blue, Black and Gold. Throughout the trip the group of teachers and students constantly felt welcomed and absorbed in the school community with many greetings from the playgrounds and around the school. We were sad to see them leave, but later this term a group of Year 11 students will travel to Alice Springs to reconnect with the Alice mob, and immerse ourselves in their environment and culture. We are thankful for their visit and hope to see them soon!

Hayden Serrao (Year 11)



SUPPORTER'S DUTY

A reminder that **Year 11** students have been designated supporter's duty on Saturday 2 June. All boys are to report to the Powell Pavilion between 1.00 and 1.15pm to have their names marked off. Once this has been completed, boys will move to SPC No. 3 to support the College 1st XI and await further instructions. Boys will be dismissed at the conclusion of the 1st XV game, approximate time is 4.50pm.

CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING (PART 1)

Did you know that four year olds ask as many as 300 questions a day? (Berger, 2014) But then something happens along the way. In the interest of time, parents and teachers become more interested in answers, and children fall in line. Teachers teach knowledge and students demonstrate that knowledge on tests and assessments.

I've been thinking a lot about questions lately...why asking good questions is so essential to learning, not just at school, but even to world progress and human development. An education should not just be about answers but about questions, not just facts, but understanding, curiosity, a hunger and desire to know more.

Of all the things that contribute to learning, why have we included in our Learning Framework as core to our beliefs and priorities? For several reasons:

- Employers and universities are looking for characteristics such as problem solving, independence and communication.
- Critical and creative thinking are essential foundations for enabling us collectively to address the moral and ethical challenges of our time through research, thinking, debating, communicating and innovating.
- Thinking critically and creatively are core skills that enable us to reach our unique and individual potential, to let our own light shine.

Aristotle, the great philosopher and scientist said, "It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it." What does this mean? It means to be truly educated, we cannot accept everything we hear at face value – we can listen, but we must also seek to inform ourselves through reading, research, questioning.

Critical thinking is a much needed skill in that enables us to sift and sort through the barrage of information we are exposed to – in a subject, or in the media. In a world where we are bombarded by information from conflicting and multiple sources, it is easy to fall prey to "fake news". It can be tempting to switch off, accept what we are told, listen only to people who already agree with our way of thinking and not question sources or the validity of what we are told.

It is critical thinking that also allows us to develop empathy and deepen our understanding of our faith. As we arm ourselves with deeper knowledge and seek to understand alternate points of view, we can imagine the world from the perspective of others, take steps to advocate for those on the margins, and question the secular norms of modern society.

(The above is the modified first half of a speech on Critical and Creative Thinking presented to the boys last week on assembly. Next week, the second half which will focus on Creativity.)

Denise Lombardo – Director of Learning and Innovation

SAY NO TO BULLYING

At SPC, we believe that no one deserves to be bullied, regardless of race, culture, sexuality, appearance or personality. Instead, we embrace difference and enjoy the varying perspectives that our College community has to offer. The largest and most powerful group in a bullying situation is the bystander, yet 70% of Australians do nothing to help. The power of 1 person should not be underestimated and may make a huge difference in the life of both the victim and the perpetrator.

This week there is a focus on encouraging boys to not simply be bystanders, but to become 'The Upstander'. Being an Upstander does not mean reciprocating the bully's aggression, rather it is about making productive steps to both end the bullying and comfort the victim. Ways that students can do this is by speaking to a trusted adult about how to confront the bully, as well as expressing support and just talking to the victim.

St Patrick's College's inaugural 'Anti-Bullying Co-Curricular Round' will take place this weekend, with members of certain teams wearing orange to symbolise solidarity with victims of bullying and a commitment to minimising behaviours that negatively impact others.

In light of this, I would like to take this opportunity to share some tips from the Bully Zero Australia Foundation about what parents can do if their son is involved in a bullying situation.

Role of parents – what can you do?

- Actively listen and empower your son to talk about the bullying behaviour and not be afraid to speak their mind.
- Speak openly and honestly, empathise, gather information and facts.
- Break the situation down—but don't turn a molehill into a big mountain. Deal with feelings first and reassure your support.
- Try to understand and learn about what is/isn't bullying and explain expected behaviour and suggest solutions if qualified. Develop your understanding and skills of bullying and social media.
- Early intervention is the best solution. Should you notice symptoms or signs—do something—take action—ask for help if you can't manage. Don't add to the problem, stay calm and seek assistance. Speak to your son's teacher or Year Coordinator.
- Ensure your son develops resilience and empathy by being assertive and having good communication skills.
- Your son should understand the consequences of bullying as the perpetrator or victim.
- Don't advise or suggest that your son react or retaliate—often bullies will want a reaction.

Justin Cordi – Student Welfare Prefect



SPORTS FIXTURES — SATURDAY 2 JUNE 2018

RUGBY			
1st XV	v	Riverview 4th	3.15 Breen Oval
2nd XV	v	Riverview 5th	2.00 Breen Oval
3rd XV	v	Riverview 7th	1.00 Breen Oval
4th XV	v	Barker 6ths	12.00 Breen Oval
16A	v	Riverview B	11.00 Breen Oval
16B	v	Cranbrook B	10.00 Breen Oval
16C	v	TBC	9.00 Breen Oval
15A	v	Riverview B	12.30 Airey Park
15B	v	Riverview D	11.30 Airey Park
15C	v	Riverview E	10.30 Airey Park
14A	v	Riverview B	2.00 Hudson Park
14B	v	Riverview D	1.00 Hudson Park
14C	v	Riverview F	12.00 Hudson Park
13A	v	Riverview A	11.00 Hudson Park
13B	v	Riverview C	10.00 Hudson Park
13C	v	Riverview E	9.00 Hudson Park
13D	v	Newington F	8.00 Hudson Park

FOOTBALL			
1st XI	v	Redlands	1.15 SPC 3
2nd XI	v	Oakhill 3rd	12.00 SPC 3
3rd XI	v	St Pius 3rd	10.45 SPC 3
4th XI	v	Redlands 2nd	9.45 SPC 3
5th XI	v	Sydney Grammar 5th	8.45 SPC 3
6th XI	v	Sydney Grammar 6th	1.00 Mason Park 3
7th XI	v	Sydney Grammar 7th	2.00 Mason Park 3
8th XI	v	Waverley 8th	2.30 Mason Park 2
16A	v	Redlands	8.30 Mason Park 1
16B	v	SPC C	9.30 Mason Park 2
16C	v	SPC B	9.30 Mason Park 2
16D	v	Sydney Grammar D	10.30 Mason Park 2
16E	v	Sydney Grammar E	11.30 Mason Park 2
16F	v	Sydney Grammar F	11.00 Mason Park 3
15A	v	Redlands	9.30 Mason Park 1
15B	v	SPC C	10.30 Mason Park 1
15C	v	SPC B	10.30 Mason Park 1
15D	v	Sydney Grammar C	11.00 Reg Bartley Oval
15E	v	Sydney Grammar E	10.00 Reg Bartley Oval
15F	v	Sydney Grammar F	9.00 Reg Bartley Oval
14A	v	Redlands	2.30 Mason Park 1
14B	v	SPC C	1.30 Mason Park 1
14C	v	SPC B	1.30 Mason Park 1
14D	v	Sydney Grammar C	2.00 Reg Bartley Oval
14E	v	Sydney Grammar D	1.00 Reg Bartley Oval
14F	v	Trinity F	12.30 Mason Park 2
13A	v	Redlands	11.30 Mason Park 1
13B	v	Redlands	12.30 Mason Park 1
13C	v	SPC D	8.30 Mason Park 2
13D	v	SPC C	8.30 Mason Park 2
13E	v	Sydney Grammar D	12.00 Rushcutters Bay
13F	v	Kings F	12.00 Mason Park 3
13G	v	Shore F	12.00 Northbridge E
13H	v	Shore G	11.00 Northbridge E

TENNIS			
Div 1	v	Redlands	8.00 Strathfield Sports Club
Div 2	v	Oxley	8.30 Bowral Tennis Courts
Div 3	v	Redlands	8.00 Strathfield Sports Club
Div 4	v	Oxley	8.30 Bowral Tennis Courts
Div 5	v	Oxley	8.30 Strathfield Sports Club
Div 6	v	Redlands	8.00 Cammeray Tennis Club
Div 7	v	Oxley	8.30 Strathfield Sports Club
Div 8	v	Redlands	8.00 Cammeray Tennis Club
Div 9	v	Oxley	8.30 Strathfield Sports Club
Div 10	v	Oxley	8.30 Bowral Tennis Courts

JUNIOR SPORT FIXTURES				
FOOTBALL				
Prep A	v	Wyvern	Tempe 1	10.15am
Prep B	v	Wyvern	Tempe 1	9.30am
Prep C	v	Wyvern	Tempe 1	8.45am
Prep D	v	Wyvern	Tempe 1	8.00am
Prep E	v	Knox	Bark Huts	11.00am
11A1	v	Scots	Mason Park 3	8.00am
11B1	v	Scots	Mason Park 3	8.45am
11C1	v	Scots	Mason Park 3	9.30am
11D1	v	Scots	Mason Park 3	10.15am
11A2	v	Wyvern	Bark Huts	8.00am
11B2	v	Wyvern	Bark Huts	8.45am
11C2	v	Wyvern	Bark Huts	9.30am
11D2	v	Wyvern	Bark Huts	10.15am
10A	v	Scots	David Phillips	10.45am
10B	v	Scots	David Phillips	10.45am
10C1	v	Scots	David Phillips	10.00am
10C2	v	Scots	David Phillips	10.00am

RUGBY				
Prep 1 st XV	v	Scots	Airey Park	8.45am
Prep 2 nd XV	v	Scots	Airey Park	8.00am
Prep Black 7s	v	TBC	Koola Park	10.20-11.20
Prep Gold 7s	v	TBC	Koola Park	10.20-11.20
11A	v	Shore	Shore Field	8.45am
11B	v	Shore	Shore Field	8.00am
11C	v	TBC	Koola Park	9.20 – 10.20am
10A	v	Scots B	Airey Park	9.30am

AFL				
Team A	v	St Pius X	Bat & Ball	8.00am

Venues:
Bark Huts—Elliot St, Belfield
Airey Park—Bates St, Homebush
Mason Park—Underwood Rd, Homebush
SPC No 3—Cnr Francis St & Merley Rd, Strathfield
Koola Park—26A Koola Ave, East Killara
Bat & Ball—Cnr South Dowling St & Cleveland St, Moore Park
Old Boys 2—Newington Rd, Stanmore
Queens Park—Darley Rd, Waverley
Lower Massie—Pennant Hills Rd, Parramatta, Inside the Kings School.
Bressington—Underwood Rd, Homebush Opp DFO
David Phillips—UNSW—(North) Gwea Ave, Daceyville
Shore Fields—School Field, North Sydney Corner of Edward St & Lord St, North Sydney

HEAD OF SECONDARY SPORT

When boys indicate they are going to participate in a Co-curricular activity, they are making a binding commitment. In essence, they are to attend all training sessions and be in attendance at all games. Travelling a distance to games or training is a necessary part of this commitment. A part-time job or outside tuition sessions are not excuses for non-attendance.

Furthermore, it is the expectation that a boy will play for the College in a sport rather than play in an outside team should a clash of times occur. It has recently come to my attention that a small number of boys have been absent from their training session or missed a Saturday fixture without having followed College procedure in terms of follow-up. In order to clarify the situation, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents, staff and students of the following protocol should a boy be absent.

- Boys intending to miss a training session or game due to a Doctor's appointment should present a note to the coach or MIC prior to the training session. Under no circumstance should he ask a team mate to pass on a message.
- Requests for leave from a Saturday fixture ought to be directed to Mr Fochesato in the first instance or myself (Head of Secondary Sport).
- Boys who are absent from the training and/or fixture must present their coach or MIC or Head of Secondary Sport with a satisfactory written explanation from home by the end of lunch time on their first day back at school after their absence.
- Failure to comply with these expectations will result in consequences being issued ranging from infringements through to weekend detentions.

In order to ensure that there is a sense of equity in relation to students not attending Presentation Evenings, training sessions, weekend fixtures, etc. I would kindly ask parents to clearly outline the reasons behind their son's absence. The term "Family Commitments" covers a range of scenario's and as such does not assist with the process. Your understanding and support in this matter is appreciated.

Forward planning - Rugby in Orange/Bathurst – Saturday 23 June

The Rugby fraternity will travel over the mountains to play Kinross Wolaroi and Scots Bathurst on Saturday 23 June. All teams will play in Orange or Bathurst apart from the 13D. A bus will again be organised and a note will go out in the near future regarding transport.

All Rugby players will be required to travel to Orange/Bathurst to play in their respective fixtures. It is the College's expectations that all Rugby players will attend. Should any family question their son's ability to fulfil this commitment, a written 'request for leave' should be addressed to Mr Fochesato and myself at your earliest convenience.

Anthony Calavassy—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 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.