

St Peter's College Newsletter - 1st May 2026

Coming up:

May

- Otago Tertiary Open Day - Monday 4th
- SPC Cross Country - Tuesday 5th
- Whanau Conferencing (school closes at 2pm)- Wednesday 6th
- Y13 Biology Portobello Trip - Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th
- Southland Secondary School's Cross Country - Wednesday 13th
- Y12 Ryda Course - Thursday 14th
- Rugby Quiz - Friday 15th
- CAA exams - Monday 18th, Wednesday 20th and Friday 29th
- Board Meeting - Thursday 28th
- Teachers Only Day School Closed - Friday 29th



Deputy Principal's Comment

Joseph Assen — May 1st, 2026

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Welcome back to Term Two. I hope all students and whānau had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday break. Term Two typically sees a step up in intensity for academic, cultural and sporting activities and events, and this year promises to be no different.

Last Friday we commemorated Anzac Day with a liturgy lead by our Year 13s. I would like to thank Bradley Bridgman, Wayne McClelland, and Michael O'Neil from the Gore RSA for joining us to remember all those who have given so much to our country, and to reflect with gratitude on their service. We were especially grateful to hear from Mr. Bridgman about his experience serving in our military, and how this shaped him and helped him find a sense of purpose in his life. Thank you also to Andrei Morus and Eilish Greene for representing our kura at the Gore Dawn Service and Parade on Anzac Day. It was great to see a good number of other St Peter's students in attendance there also.

We are fortunate to have two new staff members joining us this term. Mrs. Linda Dalzell has returned to our college for a third stint. She will be with us one day per week for this term and will be working alongside our teachers to support the development of relational and restorative practices across our school. We also welcome Miss Ella Cupit, who joins our team of teacher aides. We look forward to working alongside both of you.

Next Wednesday we have our Whānau Conferencing evening from 2:30pm until 7pm. Please do book a time if you haven't already done so. These face-to-face conversations are invaluable for ensuring that students, whānau, and teachers are all on the same page with knowing where a student sits with their learning, and what needs to be done to support further progress. You will have received an email from Mrs. Ryan with further details around booking appointments, but please contact the office if you encounter any issues.

I would like to thank and congratulate all those students who have signed up and committed to participating in a winter sport. The personal growth and positive relationships that so often grow from being involved in a team is an important aspect of developing and maturing. It was especially impressive to see 30 students sign up for our Year 7 & 8 Rugby team!

Thank you for all your support of St Peter's College.

Charity Fulfils the Law



Peter Anderson - Former student speaks about his career pathway

SPC — May 1st, 2026

We were privileged to welcome back Peter Anderson (class of 1986) to speak with our Year 9

and senior students as part of our focus on career pathways. Peter shared his remarkable journey, from being a local paperboy to a senior manager role in Brisbane, where he now manages and recruits employees in the clean energy sector.

After leaving St Peter's at the end of Year 12, Peter took up an apprenticeship as an electrical fitter, a path that eventually led him to management in the energy world.

Peter left our students with the following advice:

- He emphasised the importance of getting good school reports.
- He advised students on leaving digital footprints, encouraging them to be extremely mindful of the content and accessibility of their social media accounts.

Pictured above is a 1981 class photo featuring Peter Anderson and teacher, Ms. Scorgie.

Gallery



International Department Update

Nikki Cunningham — April 30th, 2026

The start of Term 2 also marked a special milestone as we welcomed Sae, Riko, and Ai from our sister school, Hikarigaoka School in Nagoya, Japan. Their first day at St Peter's was a chilly one—those red vests certainly came in handy! We are so excited to have these girls with us for the next 12 months. While they are just beginning to navigate the New Zealand winter, we are already looking forward to sharing a classic Kiwi summer with them later this year.

It has been an absolute pleasure welcoming our visiting students and teachers from Chiang Mai to the St Peter's College community. Their journey began with a powerful official welcome from our Kapa Haka group, followed by the busy essentials of orientation: school tours, fitting

uniforms, and meeting their classroom buddies. They have since settled beautifully into their homestays, becoming part of the SPC family.

Despite some less-than-ideal weather, the group enjoyed a quintessential Southland experience visiting the Perkins' farm. While the skies were grey, the day was brightened significantly by Mrs Perkins' incredible baking, which was a clear highlight for everyone involved.

It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we are thrilled to see our international connections continuing to grow.

Gallery





Representing
New Zealand Pony Club

Team for the
NZPCA China Exchange 2026

We have great pleasure in announcing the team which will
represent NZPCA
27 May to 8 June 2026



The team consists of Stevie-Ray Rawaho-Ball (Albertland), Sophie White (Wyndham), Tamzyn Howell (Mangōnui), and Caitlin Cook (Central Southland), with Lydia Bensemann (Kaiapoi) as the non travelling reserve. Team Manager, Debs McNelly



TOGETHERNESS
Working together to develop friends, fun and adventure



EMPATHY
We support every individual to develop and reach their goals



SELF MANAGEMENT
We grow through seeking opportunities in learning and education



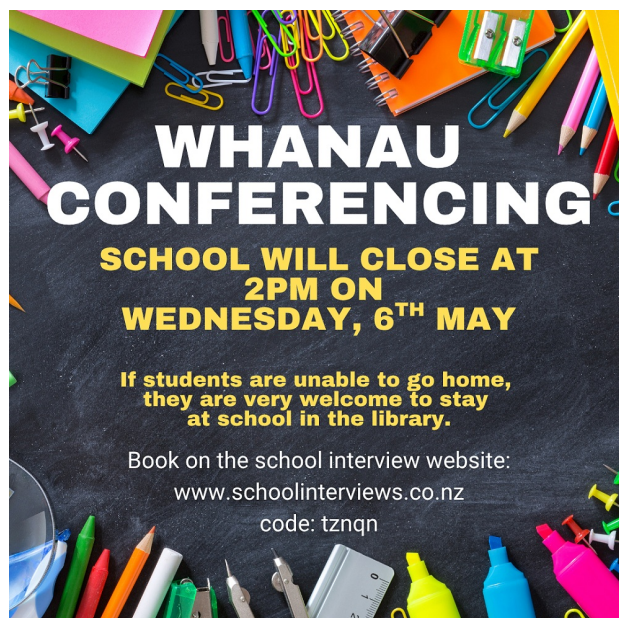
PARTICIPATING & CONTRIBUTING
We enjoy participating in the Pony Club journey by contributing wherever possible

Sophie White off to China

Rebecca Chittock — April 29th, 2026

HUGE congratulations to Year 13 Sophie White on being selected for the NZ Pony Club team. They are heading to China in May to compete against the world's best.

What an awesome achievement, Sophie! Well done!



Whanau Conferencing

Kia Ora

This is a wee reminder about our Whanau Conferencing on Wednesday, 6th May. You are able to book to see your child/rens teachers from 2.30pm to 7pm.

Year 7 and 8 parents/caregivers, this is only for the specialist subjects since you had your student-led conferencing last term.

If you would like to make appointments, please go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz> and use the code tznqn

Classes will finish at 2pm on this day, and if your child needs to stay at school, they will be supervised in the library.



Sports Subs

Rebecca Chittock — May 1st, 2026

These are not donations and need to be paid.



Rebecca Chittock — April 1st, 2026



Keep Our Fields Fresh!!!

Rebecca Chittock — May 1st, 2026

With rugby season kicking off, just a friendly reminder that no dogs are allowed on the school fields or grounds.

We want to keep our grass clean and "surprise-free" for our students while they practice and play.

Thanks for helping us keep our fields fresh.

PLEASE REMEMBER

**These are Kids
This is a Game
The Coaches are volunteers
The Referees are human
Let's ensure our words reflect
respect and kindness**

Living Our Values on the Sideline

SPC — March 19th, 2026

Our school values **community, commitment, compassion** don't stop at the sideline. Please remember that the student refereeing or coaching is someone's child, grandchild, brother, sister. They are volunteering their time to make sport possible for our juniors. They are learning to lead just like our juniors are learning to play. Let's make sure that our words reflect the respect and kindness they deserve as they learn and lead.



COMING UP:

May

- Otago University Open Day - Monday 4th
- SPC Cross Country - Tuesday 5th
- Whanau Conferencing - Wednesday 6th
- CAA Parent Evening for Year 11's - Thursday 7th
- Y13 Bio Portobello Trip - Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th
- Southland Secondary School's Cross Country - Wednesday 13th
- Y12 Ryda Course - Thursday 14th
- Rugby Quiz - Friday 15th
- CAA exams - Monday 18th, Wednesday 20th and Friday 22nd
- Board Meeting - Thursday 28th
- Teachers' Only Day School Closed- Friday 29th

June

- King's Birthday School Closed - Monday 1st
- Junior Eastern Cross Country - Thursday 4th
- Junior Quad Tournament - Wednesday 3rd
- Y13 Chemistry Trip - Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th
- Southland Junior Cross Country - Friday 12th
- Manu Korero - Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th
- Feast Day Mass - Wednesday 24th
- Board Meeting - Thursday 25th
- Eisteddfod Eliminations - Wednesday 24th, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th

July

- Eisteddfod Concert - Thursday 2nd
- House Competition - Friday 3rd
- Last Day of Term - Friday 3rd