



St Peter's College Newsletter - 5th February 2026

Coming up

February

- Field Days school closes at 2pm -Wednesday 11th
- Year 12/13 Geography Field Trip - Wednesday 11th
- Gateway Health & Safety Course - Thursday 12th and Friday 13th
- Opening Mass - Monday 16th
- Athletics Day - Tuesday 17th
- Ash Wednesday - Wednesday 18th
- International Sports Day - Wednesday 18th
- Class and Individual Photos - Friday 20th
- DOE Bronze - Friday 20th and Saturday 21st
- Wanaka Challenge - Friday 20th
- Gateway First Aid Course - Thursday 26th and Friday 27th
- Board Meeting - Thursday 26th

Principal's Comment

Kieran Udy — February 3rd, 2026

Kia ora e te whānau

The school year has started smoothly, and it is fantastic to see our students return and the school come to life. A special welcome to all our new students who have joined the St Peter's College whānau and to their parents as well. We also welcomed into our community three new staff members who will take up various roles within the College this year.

Term One as always is full of events and I would encourage you to look to the school calendar and also the newsletter for the various events coming up. 2025 was a great year for house competitions and building school spirit and I hope that 2026 will build on that and we have an even more dynamic and energetic house competition.

I am aware that for our community Field Days is an important date on the calendar. Given the changes to attendance requirements that were put into place by the Ministry of Education last year, we have made the decision to keep the school open for the duration of Field Days. There will be an early finish, at 2pm on Wednesday 11th of February, so that we can support our students to be able to attend Field Days while keeping within the attendance guidelines that we are required to operate under.

As many of you will be aware we are celebrating Miss Scorgie's 50 years of teaching at St Peter's College on March 28th. Tickets are now on sale for this event from the school office. I

would encourage you to get in early to purchase these tickets for what will be a fantastic evening. It is very rare for a teacher to complete 50 years of teaching service and even rarer for someone to do that in one school. There are limited tickets so get in quickly.

As we prepare to celebrate Waitangi Day, I hope this affords everyone the opportunity to reflect on the many blessings we have living in this great country. As a Catholic school we are proud also of the legacy that Bishop Pompallier has made on our country when he insisted on the addition of the fourth article of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This article as you will all be aware ensured that all religions and traditional Māori beliefs would be protected and respected in our country. Something that was not common at that time in history and so we owe a significant debt of gratitude for the wisdom of the man from Lyon.

Finally, I want to say thank you for continuing to support our college as we strive to provide a catholic education for our students that prepares them to engage with the world in a positive and constructive manner.

Charity fulfills the law



International News

Nikki Cunningham — February 5th, 2026

2026 is off to a great start!!

So exciting to see all our students arriving back fully rested from their holidays and to welcome new students to our Southland “summer”!!

Our first International Whānau time for the year was held today, and we had so much to celebrate.

WELCOME to Hachi, Singto and Korn from Bangkok Christian College, accompanied by Paula from Scholar Guide. We know you will have a wonderful term at SPC, and we look forward to offering many exciting adventures and activities while you are here.

CONGRATULATIONS to Feynman Lau of Hong Kong, who is our International Prefect for 2026. We will post photos of the official ceremony in the near future. Feynman will be supported by Sasmitha Don of Sri Lanka as his deputy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Sasmitha, who shared birthday cake with the International whānau this morning.

SHOUT OUT to our homestay families. We really appreciate you opening your homes to our international students and showcasing southern hospitality at St Peter’s College and in the Gore community.

Such a busy first term, but we know the students will manage a balance of study and activity time.

Gallery





We are currently recruiting for the following positions to join St Peter's College

- Gateway and Star Administrator – 15 hours per week, term time only, permanent
- International Administration Support – 10 hours per week including term holidays, permanent
- Technology Teacher Aide/Technician – 12 hours per week, term time only, fixed term until 9 December 2026
- Arts' Coordinator – this is a variable hours position worked at specific times of the year, fixed term until 9 December 2026

You may apply for one of these roles or a combination. These positions may suit a single applicant for each role or a combination of some or all of these roles.

If you are interested in applying, please request an application pack by emailing Paula Robertson, Business Manager on execofficer@stpetersgore.school.nz

Applications close Friday 13 February 3pm

Paula Robertson — February 3rd, 2026



Kamar School Accounts and Payments

Paula Roberston — February 3rd, 2026

The school board has recently adopted a new procedure for 2026 around the management of outstanding school accounts.

All uniform and sport are goods and services already paid for by the school, and as such are chargeable and recoverable items that we require prompt payment for. If you have uniform or sport on your account from 2025, please ensure this is paid immediately. Kamar requests for payment will be emailed out very soon before any 2026 subject donations are added.

The new procedure means that from this term all accounts will be monitored very closely and if you have retrospective unpaid sport and uniform on your account you can expect to be contacted in regard to outstanding debt.

For future charges to school accounts, we will be following the new procedures outlined.

If you have genuine financial hardship, please contact me on the below email address to put a plan in place around this.

The school's bank account details are as follows:

St Peter's College Board

12 3434 0012635 000

Reference: Your child's name

If there is a specific item you would like to pay for, please also use this in the reference. Otherwise, we will allocate the payment at our discretion. If you have more than one child you are paying for, we encourage you to have separate payments for each child to ensure correct payment allocation. Please also update any existing automatic payment references with the correct reference details, particularly if one child has now left school.

Thank you

Paula Robertson

Business Manager

execofficer@stpetersgore.school.nz



Amy-Rae Rooijackers — February 4th, 2026



Motor X Cross Country Championships

Rebecca Chittock — February 5th, 2026

Well done to Oliver, Jud, Annie, Beau, and Luke, who made the long trip north and competed at the 2026 NZ National Cross Country Championships held at Rewa (approximately 50 minutes from Palmerston North) last week. There were a few injuries, which we hope heal very quickly, with the next two rounds of the championships being held in Nelson from 12–14 March.

Save the Date: South Island Secondary Schools Motor X Cross Country will be held in Mosgiel on 28/3/2026. More information to come.



Heat ups

Amy-Rae Rooijackers — February 4th, 2026

We have a pie warmer available for students' lunches. Students can bring their heat ups to the

school office **before school or at morning tea**, then collect them from the office at **lunchtime**.
Please note that frozen food doesn't warm through properly.



Y13 Biologists

Louise Grogan — February 3rd, 2026

The Year 13 Biologists are studying homeostasis, how the body maintains a stable environment. They carried out a practical where a drinking cup was used as a model body, filled with a coloured liquid that was leaking through a pinhole. Their challenge was to keep the liquid level in the cup at a constant volume, temperature, and concentration. They all succeeded admirably and deepened their understanding of how the body performs its internal control.

Gallery





Golfers

Rebecca Chittock — February 5th, 2026

Hi Futures Golfers,

We are excited to invite all our junior golfers along to our **Futures Learn and Play at Gore** - Learn and Play sessions are perfect for getting young players into golf or helping them take the next step.

Come join us for a 4-week programme where young people will learn the fundamentals and get out on course! Using a games-based approach, players learn basics in a way that keeps them moving, laughing, and building confidence.

Key event details below:

Date: Every Wednesday (February 25th to March 18th)

Time: 5:00-6:00pm

Location: Gore Golf Club ([32 Terry Road](#))

Cost: \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members

Age: Ideal for players aged 8-13 (DM if you are outside of this age and interested!)

Club Request: All clubs and equipment will be available for use during the sessions, however we encourage you to please bring your own clubs if possible.

To Register: Please visit the following link: [Find programme - Golf New Zealand](#). Spaces are limited, and registrations will close by **Tuesday 24th February** - get your aspiring golfers signed up today!



2ND XV COACH

The combined Māruawai College, St Peter's College, and Menzies College 2nd XV Rugby Team is seeking an enthusiastic and experienced Coach for the 2026 season. We're looking for someone who demonstrates strong leadership and communication skills, has proven rugby knowledge and coaching experience, and can foster teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship.

2ND XV MANAGER

The combined Māruawai College, St Peter's College Gore and Menzies College 2nd XV Rugby Team is seeking a motivated and organised Team Manager for the 2026 season. We're looking for someone to provide administrative and logistical support to the team and coaching staff, take responsibility for communication, travel, and match-day coordination.

Expressions of interest to Tracey McCall
tmccall@maruawai.school.nz
Applications close: Tuesday 10 February 2026

Rebecca Chittock — February 4th, 2026

**FREE CONFIDENTIAL
DROP IN CLINIC
WEDNESDAY LUNCH TIME
AT THE COUNSELLORS OFFICE**

TALK TO A REGISTERED NURSE ABOUT.....

ANY HEALTH ISSUES
PERIODS
LOW MOOD
ANXIETY
VAPPING/SMOKING
STI TESTING & TREATMENT
HEARING
VISION
RELATIONSHIPS



Txt Stacey 027 445 2931
Public Health Nurse

Become an Oranga Tamariki Foster Caregiver in Southland

Help make a Difference in a Child's Life!

Are you ready to provide a safe, loving, and supportive home for a child in need? Oranga Tamariki is looking for caring individuals and families who can help children in care to grow, heal, and thrive.

We are currently seeking caregivers who can offer:

- A safe and nurturing environment
- Emotional and physical support to children in need
- A commitment to helping a child reach their full potential

As an Oranga Tamariki caregiver, you'll receive training, 24/7 support, and a financial allowance to assist with the care of the child. You'll also join a network of compassionate individuals dedicated to making a lasting, positive impact in the lives of children.

Who can become a caregiver?

- People with a genuine desire to care for children
- Families, singles, and couples
- People with different life experiences, backgrounds, and cultural connections

Every child deserves the chance to grow up in a loving, stable home. Could that home be with you?

Contact us today to learn more about joining the Southland caregiving whānau.

Call: Isla Hardy
Email: isla.hardy@ot.govt.nz
Website: orangatamariki.govt.nz

Together, we can make a brighter future for children in Southland!





Celebrating
10 YEARS OF
TRANSPORT WORLD

To say thanks for supporting us Southland,
Transport World is introducing a limited-
time half price local rate.

Available on General Admission and Turbo Passes.
Proof of address required on purchase. Limited to two adults per transaction.
No limit on children. Terms and Conditions apply.

OUR GIFT TO YOU





Gallery



NZ Modern School of Music

NZ Modern School of Music wishes to announce that Mrs Sharon Hillis has resumed Piano and Keyboard lessons at her studio in Gore. For all enrolments please phone Sharon on 027 68 3468.