

PETERSPEAK

The Newsletter from
St. Peter's Catholic College of Maths & Computing

South Bank, Middlesbrough
'Learning together - Living in Christ'

May 2011

A DCSF Designated Specialist Maths and Computing College

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Welcome

The summer term is well underway. Examinations, internal and external are in full swing and we wish all of our students well in achieving their highest possible results. I would like to thank staff for holding extra classes for revision during lunchtimes, after school and during holidays, and parents for their support at home. Also to Mr Bell for his work personalising timetables, Mrs Ithurralde for compiling holiday revision timetables and staff who gave freely of their own time.

Attendance Target Met

We have hit our attendance target of 92% and hope to keep improving this. Absent students miss valuable teaching. May I encourage those who have real reasons for absence to log onto the school portal and participate in their curriculum through the VLE to avoid falling behind.

Student Events

The Easter term ended with all students marking the great solemn occasion through prayer and reflection led by Miss Glanville and Mrs Cutler. This brought our programme of Lenten observance to a close. We later had the 'Easter Challenge' for the whole school in the Sports Hall. Various activities from problem solving, egg competitions and Easter bonnets from every tutor group made this a superb event enjoyed by all. Thank you to Miss Glanville and Mrs Cutler for organising it and to the golden jacketed compere, Mr Bell! More such events are planned – watch this space!

Hedgerow Biodiversity Survey

Last term Year 7 Cecelia took part in a hedgerow biodiversity survey for OPAL (Open Air Laboratories (OPAL) Network). They had great fun counting minibeasts and plants in the school garden. The information collected was put on to the computer and will contribute to a nationwide survey. Thank you to Mrs Elvin for leading this initiative.

Evening Gazette Wish 10 Campaign

We have purchased more benches for students to use at break times by request with the £307 we were able to raise. Thank you to all those who collected tokens to support this initiative.

TFM Radio Appeal

On Friday 27th May, TFM are holding a "Get Stripped" day and our students will be allowed to come to school dressed in sportswear if they donate a £1 for the privilege. The day coincides with a Celebrity Football Match on Saturday 21st May at MFC.

Can you please help again?

We are looking for sponsorship to buy new football strips for our Upper and Lower school teams. Any firm who agrees will get free advertising on the shirts.

Also we would like to refurbish our Food Technology room. If anyone has connections in kitchen supply, perhaps a firm going out of business wanting to sell off show kitchens or to sell stock that is no longer produced, please let us know at school.

Other Student Events

Our Lourdes pilgrimage led by Miss A Glanville and Mr R Dixon is leaving on Friday 28th May. Our prayers go with them. Thanks to Miss Glanville and Mr Dixon for giving up the half term holiday to lead this annual pilgrimage.

Staffing

We have recently made a number of very good appointments for September:

Mrs P Bailes will be in charge of MFL, Mr D Watson and Miss N Bains, teachers of Humanities, Mrs K Rose, teacher of Technology, Mrs H Loughlin SENCO, and Miss L Sherrington Sports Co-ordinator to work in the primary feeder schools and with ourselves one day per week. She will be coaching, aiding sports delivery and arranging inter-school sporting awards. I wish all of them a long, happy and successful future in St Peter's.

School Uniform

This has now been finalised for September. It is:

Black blazer with school badge – available to order from school at a cost of £20, or you can purchase a plain black blazer elsewhere with the badge available from school for £5.

Black trousers or skirt

White shirt

School tie

Black shoes (NOT trainers)

The PE uniform is:

White polo top – or present uniform polo top in house colour if it is not worn out (for one year only)

Black shorts (indoor)

Black joggers (outdoor)

Black hoody top

Training shoes

Order forms for blazers will be available from the School Office after half-term.

Year 11 Leavers' Mass

The leavers' mass was held on Friday 20th May. This was a joyous occasion when we gave thanks for five years at St Peter's and prayed for guidance for our students in exams and in their future lives.

The prom is to be held at Rushpool Hall on Wednesday 29th June. Please pray for fine weather!

Lloyd's TSB National School Sports Week

St Peter's Catholic College have signed up to participate in the Lloyds TSB National School Sports Week.

As part of this sports event we are asking parents, guardians, grandparents and all adults to pledge their support to our school. The more support we get, the more chances we have of winning a prize. Prizes range from £500 of sports equipment to carrying the Olympic Flame in the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay.

It is easy to pledge your support, visit www.lloydstsblondon2012.co.uk and enter the school's postcode TS6 6SP. Select secondary schools and St. Peter's Catholic College.

We are at the top of the list so we are easy to find, click on pledge your support and enter your details. If you have any problems please contact mfenney@stpeters-sch.com and he can send you a step by step guide to pledging your support. Thank you for your continued support of St. Peter's.

Sporting Achievement

Rachel Carter competed in her first major athletics tournament at Gateshead International Stadium recently and won the gold medal in the U14's triple jump.

This jump ranked her 18th in the UK which is a fantastic achievement considering that Rachel has only just taken up the sport. Jack Crosby was also competing at the same event and won gold in the U16 long jump. Many congratulations to both students and keep up the good work!

Courtney Norman was recently chosen to take part in Team Northumbria's 'Starlight' netball game and this took place on Saturday 7th May. Many congratulations to Courtney and thanks to those who went along and supported her.

Heads Merit

The following students have recently been awarded Head's Merits for their excellent work: Josh Donnelly for the Y9 RE day and also for services to the Community; Alex Hall and Peter Allen for their work in Art; Alex Grecoe for PE; John Miller for services to the Community and the following School Council students for the excellent work in helping with interviews: Jacob Moorfoot, Rebecca Lillystone, Ellie-Mae Dalton, Ryan Hodgson, Courtney Norman, Georgia Wilkins, Courtney Jones, Keaton Moloney, Jack Bowen, Grace Manders and Hannah Coverdale

Diary Events

Induction for Year 6 will take place on 21st and 22nd June 2011. In June there will also be events schedules for Year 5 students to participate in.

OPEN EVENING – VISIT US IN ACTION!

On the evening of **Wednesday 22nd June**, The Governors would like to invite you to our **Open/Induction Evening** for all new entrants for September and for all **Year 5 students and families** and **anyone** else interested in seeing St Peter's in action. There will be students and staff working in departments and events to participate in. A letter will shortly be issued with further details. **An event NOT TO BE MISSED.** Refreshments, wine and cheese free upon entry.

These are exciting times to be part of St Peter's Catholic College – **do not miss out** – come and visit, you are assured of a warm welcome.

ACES

This is scheduled for Thursday 14th July 2011 and is our big end of Year celebratory event when we present a wide range of prizes and awards to our students for Academic, Community, Endeavour and Sporting achievement. This is followed by a programme of song and dance showcasing the extensive talents of our students. Please come along and celebrate the Year 2010 – 2011 with us.

Other dates

21 st /22 nd June	Year 6 Induction
27 th June	Sports Day
29 th June	Year 11 Prom
	St Peter's Saints Day
7 th July	Health & Fitness Day
8 th July	Review Day for Y7, 8, 9 & 10
14 th July	ACES
20 th July	School Trip
22 nd July	End of Term

Kind Regards

Mrs P J Hanrahan
Headteacher