



# ST THOMAS of CANTERBURY COLLEGE

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## *NEWSLETTER*

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### 10 A-SIDE RUGBY IS ON AGAIN



**Uwe Helu** is seen here on the charge towards the try line to score a great try after fending off his Rangiora opponent. St Thomas 10 a-side is taking part in The Press competition for the next six weeks on Friday nights. The final score was 29 – 27 to STC. This week sees STC meeting Lincoln High at Malvern Park at 5.40pm Friday Night.

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Nau mai haere mai. Talofa lava. Malo e lelei.

Yesterday the news featured the stabbing of a teacher at Avondale College in Auckland and our thoughts are with the school community and the welfare of the teacher involved. Currently in Christchurch there is a significant debate ongoing over the boy racer issue and the behaviour of young people on city streets.

Later this month the Ministry of Education is holding a summit conference on behaviour and violence in schools where no doubt issues and possible solutions will be discussed.

I think we have to be careful not to indulge in short term knee jerk reactions and not to generalise the behaviours of a minority across the general group of youth. In by far the majority of instances the young people with whom we engage and work are wonderful young men and women, optimistic, compassionate, generous, interested in their education, seeking to do well in life, caring of their friends and family, respectful and concerned about a just and safe society.

Most of us who actually do work with young people regard it as a privilege and draw inspiration and energy from our interaction with them. That is certainly our experience with our young men here at St Thomas'.

We believe that one solution to creating a more peaceful and caring society lies in the restorative justice approach which we have embraced here at a deep philosophical level and at a systemic organisational level. I hope that at the summit and in general public discussion, these types of solutions are explored in an informed manner as a deeper, more long lasting and more holistic response. Restorative justice is not an easy option and takes time but in our experience produces far better results. Generally, those who pass it off as a soft, politically correct response do not fully understand the philosophy or the practical implementation of the process.

Most of our boys are lucky to have caring and supportive parents and homes. Some of our students, like other young people in society, struggle and face considerable challenge in this area. They are the ones at the margins most in need of a compassionate response with clear boundaries. That lies at the heart of the charisma of an Edmund Rice school which must be about reaching out to young people, and in our case, young men in particular, at the very edges of society.

Warm regards

Christine O'Brien  
Principal

## **MEDICATION**

Parents are advised that medication (panadol, disprin etc.) will no longer be given to students requesting help for headaches or feeling unwell etc... Parents will be phoned and if they deem their son requires medication, they will be asked to deliver it to the school office for their child. It is important therefore that the College is advised of any changes to contact numbers.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>5</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>College Athletics Day</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>“</b>	<b>“</b>	<b>Open Day (9.00-12.00) for 2010 enrolments (Enrolments for 2010 close on 9 April 2009)</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>“</b>	<b>“</b>	<b>Student WorkDay</b>

## **STUDENT WORKDAY 2009**

On **Thursday 19 March**, “Student Workday 2009” will take place.

Workday is a College tradition in which students get a paying job and join the workforce for one day. Workday is an opportunity for us as students to fundraise to make the College a better environment, so make sure that you have a job lined up for Workday!

If you have any extra jobs, please leave a message with contact details at the College office (348 7010) for Josh Toohey, or email [stcstudentcouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:stcstudentcouncil@hotmail.com).

A letter with specific details will be sent home on Friday.

## **TERM ACCOUNTS**

Accounts will be posted out at the end of Term 1 2009.

## **ILLEGAL PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL**

**Please do not stop on the yellow lines outside the school entrances.** To do so is an offence and it is proving to be a safety issue for staff and visitors entering and leaving the driveways. Your co-operation please.

## **CLOTHING NAME TAPES**

The majority of clothing worn by students at the College is not named and already we have a brand new blazer jerseys and shoes missing

If you require name tapes to be made please phone / fax **Roger** or **Judy Newick, (03) 313 6741**. Prices are: **\$12** per three meters (approximately 50 names) or **\$14** with phone numbers. No charge for postage.

## **GREEN RECYCLING CRATES**

If you have no further use for the green recycling crates we can make use of them at school.

We would really appreciate as many as possible. If you can help, please deliver them to the office.

## **STUDY ZONE**

Our after school '**Study Zone**' is held in the Student Centre, Learning Support:

**Monday, Tuesday and Thursday – 3.00pm – 4.00pm**

**Wednesday – 2.30pm – 3.30pm**

1. All students are welcome to use this opportunity to complete homework and receive help if required.
2. A staff member and / or peer tutors (Yr 13 students) will be available to provide help.

## **CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME**

Catholics Returning Home, a four week programme for non-practising or inactive Catholics interested in renewing their life in the Church starts soon.

It will run **2 – 26 March, 2009, 7:30pm** at the following locations:

- **Mondays at Christ the King, Burnside**
- **Tuesdays at St Peter's Beckenham**
- **Wednesdays at St Matthew's, Bryndwr**
- **Thursdays at St Paul's, Dallington.**

You would be welcome to join us in this programme run largely by lay people. For details phone 0508 HOME NOW (0508 466 366) or visit [www.catholicshomenow.co.nz](http://www.catholicshomenow.co.nz)

## WITH THANKS

To the seven or eight young men that travelled down on Tuesday last week to Ashburton for Jason's Grandad's funeral and performed a wonderful Haka, please accept this as our sincere thanks for helping to send off a wonderful man with great honour.

You represented both your parents and St Thomas' wonderfully  
They can be very proud of the young men you are becoming.

Thank you all Karen Hall

## PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



Buy a lapel pin today.

These very attractive St Thomas' lapel pins are only \$10.

These may be purchased from the College office or contact  
[beth.clayton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:beth.clayton@xtra.co.nz)

## OBSOLETE SPORTS CLOTHING

If you have sports clothing for sale in the secondhand shop that has now become obsolete and you wish to claim it, please phone **Rowena O'Carroll. Ph 366 7573**, or it will be disposed of.

## SEWING ALTERATIONS / REPAIR SERVICE

If your son's uniform is in need of repair (hems, pockets, cuffs, zips, braiding etc.) please phone **Mrs Jeannette Harper, ph 348-3362, fax 348-3398.**

## RUGBY

It's hard to believe that we have to be thinking rugby. As you will see from your son's 2009 Planner, registration will be on **Friday 6 March** between **5-7pm** in the **Brother Dowling Centre.**

This year it will be compulsory for all boys in the U14, U15, U16 and 2nds to purchase a rugby jersey.

U13 and U12 grades and all Primary School competition on a Thursday will be supplied with the old style jerseys.

With this in mind the subs for these teams has been reduced to \$20 and \$30 per family.

Press Cup Jerseys will be supplied. Fees for the Press Cup will be \$300. A costing of the 2008 season was done and it works out at approx \$740 per player for travel, accommodation, equipment and uniform. Families involved with the Press Cup will need to be involved in fund raising activities to make up the difference.

As usual we are always on the look out for coaches/managers and therefore ask that you contact Sue Riley if you have an interest in participating.

### **DO YOU WANT TO PLAY HOCKEY?**

The **Marist Hockey Club** is currently taking registrations for the 2009 season. New players welcome, boys/girls of all ages and abilities.

Registration Day with fun games and sausage sizzle, **Sunday 15 March**, Nunweek Park 2-3pm.

Visit our website: [www.maristhockey.co.nz](http://www.maristhockey.co.nz) for more information or contact Mr O'Connell.

**Chris O'Connell**  
Head of Sport

### **VILLA MARIA COLLEGE QUIZ NIGHT**

**Friday 13 March** 7.00 registration. All funds received going to the Victoria Fires relief for families of children at Catholic schools.

Tables of six.

\$5.00 students

\$10.00 adult

Door sales available on the night or ring the student office to book a table **348 4165**.

Please come along for a great night of entertainment.

### **OUR LADY OF VICTORIES SCHOOL FAIR**

**Sunday, 22 March 2009, 11am - 2pm (WET OR FINE)**

Auction will be held at 1.15pm

Great items for sale; Raffles; Chocolate wheel; Cakes & sweets; Mystery bottles; Face painting; Pony rides, etc...

Garage Sale goods are wanted i.e furniture, household items, bikes, toys, books etc and they can be left at container in the school grounds between 8.30am - 3.15pm weekdays, (No broken items, or clothes/shoes or old beds or old tv's. If dropping off at the weekends, please **ph Katrina 3427935**. Any

baking goods donated please give in to the school either the day before or the day of the fair.

## **ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY COLLEGE PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**

The present PFA team would like to invite  
All Parents and Friends of the College, to our AGM

**On: Monday 16 March  
in the Waterford Room/ Staffroom  
at: 7.30pm**

We are a team of parents and staff committed to providing support to the school through fundraising ventures and practical roles such as catering for events. During 2008 we were able to provide funding to purchase a number of data projectors.

We will begin the evening with drinks and nibbles and a chance to chat with staff and present PFA members. This will be followed by a short business meeting.

We welcome new members to our friendly team.

If you would like more information please phone the Chairperson:

**Sue McClelland - ph 3226959**

**RYDA NEW ZEALAND**

**RYDA NEW ZEALAND LIMITED**

# ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION AND YEAR 11 TUESDAY 10 MARCH

**RYDA New Zealand Limited is an initiative of Rotary Clubs in Australia and New Zealand. RYDA is a not for profit organisation that has developed a Programme to help educate young people about road safety as they approach that period in their life when they start driving a car and ride as a passenger in a car driven by one of their peers.**

## **RYDA's Mission**

To provide first quality road safety information to youth helping to ensure that when they commence driving they have received the best possible road safety education.

The programme targets 15 year old students addressing them as both drivers and passengers so that when driving commences they have received the best possible road safety education.

The Programme targets “awareness” and “attitudinal change” and seeks to encourage young people, who are on the verge of driving or at least who are actively thinking about it, to take a more responsible attitude to motoring.

The programme includes six sessions and is a one-day event held at a non-school site.

### **It co-ordinates the efforts of:**

- Local road safety experts
- Driving instructors
- Police
- Recovering victims of road crashes
- Drug & alcohol educators
- Insurance and financial services personnel



The programme is conducted in a way in which students are made aware of the privilege and responsibilities of owning and driving a motor vehicle.

### **Where is the RYDA Programme offered?**

- Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March will see our year 11 students undertaking this programme at Riccarton Park for the whole day.
- Students are to come to school in full school uniform.
- The cost of the day will be covered by the School as we see road safety as a significant health issue

**'It is hard to imagine a more worthwhile project – protecting the lives of our children'**

**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY COLLEGE 1<sup>ST</sup> XV**

# PRESS CUP/U15 FRENCH TRIP FUNDRAISING DINNER

GUEST SPEAKER:  
STEVE HANSEN ALL BLACK COACH  
MC: DICK TAYLER



WHERE: HORNBY WORKINGMENS CLUB  
WHEN: THURSDAY MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> 7.00PM  
WHAT: MEAL AND ONE COMPLIMENTARY BEER OR WINE WITH DINNER  
COST: \$60 PER PERSON OR \$500 FOR A TABLE OF 10

SPORTS MEMORABILIA AUCTION AND A MEGA RAFFLE.

CONTACT: STEVE HART [SHART@STC.SCHOOL.NZ](mailto:SHART@STC.SCHOOL.NZ)  
3487010  
0275736278





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