

On Strowan

Volume 5 Issue 1 / 14 January 2010



St Andrew's College

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Mr Roland Burrows
Acting Principal of the Secondary School
Acting Deputy Rector

Dear parents and caregivers

I hope that Christmas was a joyful and relaxing time for everyone and that the summer holidays have been happy and restful.

As the 2010 school year is almost upon us, I am sure that the minds of students are beginning to shift out of holiday mode to once again thinking about friends they have missed, new classes, subjects and teachers. Senior students will no doubt be a little apprehensive as their NCEA results will soon be available.

2010 is looking to be a very busy and challenging year for us all. As we continue to seek improvement in student learning through ongoing teacher reviews, more effective use of student achievement information, the implementation of 'Solo' (a thinking taxonomy), incorporating further curriculum and NCEA changes, we will also be using the new College database - 'Synergetic'. This is an exciting development as it will remove the need to manage duplicate student, financial and Old Collegian information.

Construction of the extended Science and Mathematics Centre is now complete as is the redevelopment of the quad with sealing, covered walkways and new seating. The new Maths and refurbished Science learning spaces are bright, comfortable and well-equipped to meet the needs of the next generation of learners.

We are thrilled with the design and the quality of the build and look forward to the next stage in the College redevelopment plan with the removal of the Burnett Block and rebuilding of Preparatory classrooms.

COMMENCEMENT DATES FOR STUDENTS 2010

Wednesday 27 January	Year 9 students' Orientation Programme. Year 12 & 13 Peer Support Leaders.
Thursday 28 January	all Secondary students attend school. Year 9 – 13 Orientation Programme.
Friday 29 January	Orientation Programme continues Prefects Induction Assembly, 11.00am. Classes commence period 4.

Please check the homepage of the College intranet (<http://intranet.stac.school.nz>) regularly for more upcoming fixtures. The intranet is updated daily.

Although the College said farewell to three long serving staff members, Graeme Sharfe, Michael Lawrence and Richard Carr, as well as four other staff in 2009, we are pleased to welcome to the staff room seven new faces and the return of Mike Graham from a year's study leave and Jacqueline Yoder from maternity leave.

The Science Department will have the services of Mr Matt Nicoll to teach Chemistry and Mr Kevin Barron, Physics. Matt was the Head of Chemistry at Napier Boys' High School and, in addition to a range of sports, is actively involved in the Performing Arts. Kevin, from Papanui High School, is a current parent of three St Andrew's students, has 20 years' industry experience and, perhaps of greater interest to the students, is also a professional magician.

Duncan Ferguson is the new Head of the Music Department. Duncan, working through Papanui High School, is currently teaching music at the Te Koru Youth Centre. In addition he has been running a very successful business developing aural and technology resources for music teachers. Duncan has a real passion for and skills in music composition and sound recording – some exciting developments in the Music Department I think.

Religious Education will be in very good hands with the appointment of Paul Morrow as Head of Department and Assistant to the College Chaplain, Hamish Galloway.

Next issue: 4 February 2010

From the Secondary School Principal Sarah Long

Paul is no stranger to St Andrew's as he taught in the Preparatory School for six years, leaving in 2003 to become the Pastor at Grace Vineyard Church. Paul is an experienced teacher and his current responsibilities have equipped him well to lead a department that teaches all students in the College.

Cindy Sun joins the Maths Department in their brand new teaching block. She has taught at Freyberg High School in Palmerston North and for the last three years has been running a family business. Cindy is keen to resume her teaching career and I'm sure that her bright and energetic personality will complement well the current all-male Maths staff.

Nigel Macdonald joins the staff as a part-time teacher. Nigel is an Old Collegian and did a teaching practice at the College. Nigel is beginning his teaching career after completing nine years as a financial planner and his pre-service training. Nigel will be teaching Maths, Science and Social Studies.

Alycia Ferguson is currently employed at Ascham School in NSW, Australia. She is moving to New Zealand and will be teaching Drama and English until Anna Garrett returns from maternity leave.

As well as welcoming staff new to the Secondary School, I extend a very warm welcome to all families joining us this year. I hope that you quickly come to be a part of the 'College family' and understand that we will do all that we can to both support the academic learning of your son or daughter and to ensure that they grow into positive, resilient and well-informed young adults.

I am excited by both the challenges and opportunities that this rather unexpected new position will offer me in 2010, but also very aware of just how big those boots of Sarah's will be to fill.

I know that I join with the whole College family as we think of Sarah on the birth of her baby and wish her well for her first year as a full-time mum.

I wish every student in the Secondary School a year of progress, development and achievement.

Kind regards

Roland Burrows
Acting Principal Secondary School

STUDENT LEADERS 2010

Congratulations to all students who have been appointed to a wide range of leadership roles for 2010. In total 130 leadership positions have been filled by Year 12 and 13 students and 28 Year 11 Middle School Leaders have been selected.

Leadership is both an opportunity and a responsibility and at our annual Leadership Assembly, early in Term 1, we will commit to supporting these leaders as they serve, initiate, inspire and empower for the good of St Andrew's.

The tradition of 'Prefectship' remains strong and the Prefect team for 2010 have big shoes to fill and no shortage of talent and commitment with which to do so.

THE PREFECT TEAM 2010



James Tapper.



Jess Greene.

James Tapper (Head Boy)

Jess Greene (Head Girl)

Will Robertson (Deputy Head Boy)

Jen Florkowski (Deputy Head Girl)

Sam Boanas (Head of Boys' Boarding)

Meg Black (Head of Girls' Boarding)

Olivia Brown

Rachelle Crequer

James Fairbairn

Rose Goss

Tuscany Hamel

Harry Jones

Andrew Manning

Emma Power

Heidi Schout

George Stick

Owen Thomas

Stewart Whitehead

Stephanie Chang

Michael Davidson

Kamla Glaister

Umar Green

Ben Howes

Sam Kennedy

Courtenay McCulloch

Harry Railton

Miria Scott-Toft

Gina Talboys

Lachlan Turley

Courtney Williamson

Middle School

John Anderson, Head of Middle School



John Anderson
Head of Middle School

Welcome back to a new school year – and a special welcome to the new families joining our Middle School community. We look forward to another exciting and successful year. In particular we look forward to building a partnership with parents and guardians centred on our core values of truth, excellence and faith.

The Middle School strives to provide high quality learning for all, in a safe and caring environment. Our goal is to meet the needs of each student. We are blessed with very dedicated and hard-working teachers who are committed to ongoing professional development, so that they may provide meaningful and productive learning programmes to students.

We also have a very strong desire to ensure that learning opportunities for the majority are not jeopardised by a disruptive minority. To that end, we have strict policies and procedures in place to respond to disruptive behaviour in class. Withdrawals from class, the issuing of a detention and the consequences that arise if a detention is not completed are designed to ensure all students are given the best possible chance to excel academically. I thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this regard.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is key to maintaining a strong partnership between home and school, and ensuring students are given the opportunity to meet their potential in all respects. We always value your input and support, and thank you for ensuring messages at school and home are consistent regarding attendance, promptness, completion of assignments and respecting others. I welcome all comments and suggestions for improvement, and urge you to read the important information contained in each issue of On Strowan.

It is also very important that you inform us of any changes to your circumstances and contact details, so that we may update our database. If your details are changing, please email Maria Narbey at mnarbey@stac.school.nz.

STUDENT DIARY

Year 9 to 11 students will be issued with a diary, which promotes time-management and organisational skills. Each student should use their diary to record homework assignments and important events such as sports days. Diaries also provide a medium for reviewing and revising work. In order to cement learning, work should be revised at least five times. Only 5 percent of the initial learning experience is retained without revision. Diaries help to facilitate regular communication between teachers and parents or guardians. Please check your son or daughter's diary nightly to track homework and stay informed about important events and activities.

TEXTBOOKS

Numbered textbooks for many of the subjects will be allocated to individual students to use throughout the year. Any text or library books lost will need to be replaced by the student. Your assistance in ensuring books are cared for is greatly appreciated.

MIDDLE SCHOOL HANDBOOK

All families of Middle School students will shortly receive a Middle School Handbook. This contains important information about school policies and procedures, and we ask that parents and students make themselves familiar with it. Please keep the handbook as a handy reference during the year. Day students will need to refer to it as part of their orientation process during the first week of term.



Middle School

John Anderson, Head of Middle School

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are reminded to keep all personal electronic devices out of sight and turned off during the school day. We take no responsibility for the loss, recovery, repair or replacement of devices brought to school. Students are encouraged to leave such devices at home or secured in their locked locker.

STUDENT LOCKERS

Lockers will be available from 28 January, and will be issued from the Middle School Centre. Students will be issued with two keys. The second will remain in the office as a spare. A \$10 charge will be made at the end of the year if students fail to produce both keys. Some lockers require a padlock, which can be purchased from the College shop. In the interests of health, safety and security, all bags must remain in lockers at all times unless the student has Physical Education. Books, not bags, are to be taken into the classroom. Students may access their locker before school, at interval and at lunchtime. All boarders will have a locker in the day school.

UNIFORM AND PRESENTATION

The way a student dresses and presents themselves says a lot about how they feel about themselves and



the College. We are often judged by the behaviour and appearance of our students, so we have high expectations. Whenever a student is in uniform, they are subject to the rules of the College. All students are aware of this. No student should come to the College out of uniform, or with items such as regulation shoes missing, without a note from home. Thank you for your support with this.

ORIENTATION 2010

We look forward to seeing Year 9 students at 8.20am in the new quad on Wednesday 27 January (don't forget your name tag) and Years 10 and 11 students at 8.20am on Thursday 28 January, to begin a new and exciting school year. Please note that on Wednesday students in Year 9 will be required until 3.30pm. On Thursday students will have an assembly at 8.30am. Students will have their photo taken on their first day. Please ensure attention is paid to grooming – in particular boys' hair – as detailed in the Middle School Handbook.

Students will require their PE kit on Thursday, for the athletic sports preliminaries. From interval on Friday, timetabled classes will operate. Swimming sports preliminaries for Year 9 and 10 students will be held on Tuesday 2 February.

PARENTS' SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

Year 9: Thursday 28 January, 6.00pm – 8.30pm

Parents and students are invited to attend our first official function for 2010. Parents are asked to make their way to the gymnasium for a welcome by the Rector. This will be followed by a presentation by Mr Peter Dawkings from the Outdoor Education Department.

Parents will have the opportunity to meet with their student's tutor, followed by refreshments in the Senior College. Students are entertained by Peer Support Leaders from 6.00pm onwards.

Years 10 and 11: Wednesday 3 February, 7.00pm

All parents and guardians are invited to attend a seminar and social evening with Deans, in the St Andrew's College Chapel (for Year 10) or the Theatre (for Year 11).

These evenings are a great opportunity for you to meet fellow parents, the year group Deans, the Rector Mrs Leighton, the Acting Secondary School Principal Mr Burrows, the Middle School tutors and me in a relaxed environment over refreshments. I look forward to seeing you there.

Senior College

Andrew Tweedie, Head of Senior College



Andrew Tweedie, Head of Senior College.

With the start of the first term now only some days away, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all students joining or returning to the Senior College in 2010, and a special welcome to their parents and guardians. I hope your association with the Senior College is positive and rewarding.

A copy of the Senior College Handbook has been mailed and should have been received. The information in the handbook is of value to both parents and students, and I encourage you to become familiar with it. Tutors will cover some of the more important aspects during the first few tutor meetings this term. Of particular relevance at this time are the sections on leave, lateness, motor vehicles and uniform.

SENIOR COLLEGE PHILOSOPHY

We regard students as unique young adults who are developing social responsibility within a co-educational environment, and preparing for life after College. Our philosophy places an emphasis on self. We expect students to be self-disciplined, self-motivated, self-directed and take responsibility for their own decisions. Students are moving from the dependence and independence of earlier school years, to the interdependence of their senior years. They should be mindful of their need to rely on others, while being sensitive to their feelings and opinions.

COURSE CHANGES

At the end of 2009, all Year 11 and 12 students left with a confirmed course of study. There is limited opportunity for change, as most courses are full. However, if students have a valid reason to change (based on their NCEA external exam results) they must contact the relevant Dean or me before Friday 22 January. To process a course change, students will need to indicate

their reason for change, provide a letter or email from their parent or guardian supporting the application, and supply their 2009 Interim Results Notice.

FOR THE START OF 2010

We expect students to arrive on Thursday 28 January wearing the correct uniform and meeting the standards for appearance set out in the Senior College Handbook. In particular, black lace-up shoes, a conservative hair style (no streaks or colours), a braided blazer or new uniform blazer and Senior College tie are required.

Thursday 28 January

All students to arrive by 8.20am. Assembly begins at 8.30am, followed by an orientation programme. Students will be dismissed for the day at 3.30pm.

Friday 29 January

All students to arrive by 8.20am. Tutor meetings will run from 8.30am to 10.30am. Prefects' induction assembly begins at 11.00am, followed by normal timetabled classes for the rest of the day, finishing at 3.20pm. New students depart at 1.30pm for their orientation camp at Castle Hill.

Monday 1 February

This is a full teaching day. Year group photos will be taken during the day, beginning with Year 12 at 8.15am. Students are to assemble at the old cricket pavilion. The Year 13 photo will be taken during Focus period. All students will be given a consent form to be signed by parents/guardians before an order for a year group photo will be accepted. Orders will be compiled by the year group Dean. The cost will be approximately \$30.

PHOTOGRAPHS

During the first three days of the new term a number of student photographs will be taken. They are the individual photo (Thursday 28 January), tutor group photo (Friday 29 January) and year group photo (Monday 1 February). As these photos are used for reports, the College database and the historical framed record hung in the Senior College, students must be on time, wearing the appropriate uniform and with their appearance meeting College requirements. Students who do not meet our request may well find themselves excluded. Parental assistance would be much appreciated.

Senior College

Andrew Tweedie, Head of Senior College

INFORMATION FOR NEW STUDENTS

Interim Results Notice

It is important that all students starting at St Andrew's for the first time give their 2009 Interim Results Notice to me on Thursday 28 January.

Orientation Camp

This is an essential and enjoyable means by which new students connect with the College and their fellow students. All students involved should have received information. Consent forms must be returned by 27 January. Any concerns or queries should be addressed to me at atweedie@stac.school.nz.

Lunch Information

As part of the orientation programme, new students, their buddies, prefects and Senior College tutors are invited to lunch in the College dining room at 1.00pm on Thursday 28 January. There is no charge.

YEAR 13 STUDENT WORKSHOPS: "REAL CONNECTION AND RELATIONSHIP"

Experienced and widely respected counsellor, consultant, facilitator and psychotherapist David Garb will join us once again to conduct workshops with Year 13 students. David's workshops are titled "Real Connection and Relationship", and will cover issues of peer pressure, self-esteem and communication. His sessions are always extremely well-received.

All Year 13 students are expected to attend. The year group will be split. One group will attend on Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 February, while the other will attend on Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 February. Students will be advised which group they are in. The workshops run from 6.15pm to 8.15pm each evening. Students should wear tidy mufti. The cost of approximately \$15 per student will be disbursed across the whole year group.

STUDENT DIARY

Diaries will be issued to boarders on Wednesday 27 January and day students on Thursday 28 January. Parents and guardians are asked to sign off the Cybersafety Use Agreement, Education Outside the Classroom, St Andrew's College Vehicle Use Information and St Andrew's College Privacy Policy sections at the back of the diary on the evening of Thursday 28 January. Diaries will be in the new Senior College branding colour. Tutors will check all diaries on Friday 29 January, and it would be appreciated if all sections are signed off by then.

SENIOR COLLEGE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS INFORMATION EVENING: WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY

A warm invitation is extended to all parents and guardians to attend an information evening on Wednesday 10 February, beginning in the Chapel at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity for you to meet tutors and other staff and discuss aspects of Senior College life such as our philosophy and expectations, Terms, the Senior College Diploma and the important partnership between parents/guardians, teachers and students. Finger food, fruit juice and iced water will be served in the Senior College Common Room later in the evening.

LEADERSHIP 2010

Student leaders for 2010 were informed late last year. To ensure no student was overcommitted, a maximum of two positions per student was offered. Leadership training and verbal and/or written feedback will be provided to all leaders during the year. All 2010 leaders, apart from prefects, will be recognised and awarded with badges at Leadership Assembly on Friday 5 February.

MOTOR VEHICLES

All students who intend bring a vehicle to College will be required to complete the College processes as outlined in the Senior College Handbook. This year parking permits will be issued to all student drivers and the College guidelines as regards vehicle use will be enforced. The community constable will speak to all student drivers early in the term and will have a continued presence in the streets around the College.



Sports & Activities

Denley Jones, Head of Co-curriculum



Denley Jones, Head of Co-curriculum.

2010 promises to be another exciting year full of opportunities for students in the co-curricular area. We look forward to the year ahead. Here is some important initial information for students and parents.

CO-CURRICULAR OPTIONS

Middle School students selected their sport and culture options for 2010 at the end of last year. Senior College students will select their sport and activity options on their first day back - Thursday 28 January. It is important that selection forms are returned the next day to tutors. Further information on options can be found in the sport and activities handbook located on the intranet in the sport and cultural area. Also located in this area is a monthly calendar that includes all major exchanges and events taking place during the year.

There will be important meetings and practices in preparation for inter-school summer sporting fixtures. It is vital that students pay careful attention to notices and attend all team meetings promptly to help coaches and managers in their preparation for a busy term of sport.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS PRELIMS: THURSDAY 28 JANUARY

A reminder that all Middle School students will need to bring PE gear on this day - without exception. This will be the first day of school for Years 10 and 11, so remember to pack your PE gear the night before. Students need to be changed ready for athletics events and report to the netball court area at 1.00pm. Senior College prelims will take place after initial entries are processed in the first few weeks of term. Athletics finals day is Friday 26 February, taking place on the front college field. It cannot take place on the traditional lower field location due to the building work taking place in the Preparatory School.

SWIMMING PRELIMS FOR YEARS 9 AND 10 TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY

Swimming prelims for Years 9 and 10 students take place on Tuesday 2 February. All Year 9 and 10 students need to bring appropriate swimming gear on this day. Year 11 prelims to qualify for finals events will take place after lunchtime on Thursday 4 February. Senior College events will have scheduled heats as required.

The College Swimming Sports will be held at QEII Pool on Monday 15 February.



SPEECH AND DRAMA TUITION

If the thought of speaking in public turns you to jelly, if you want to be the next big star of stage and screen or if you're somewhere in between, then speech and drama has something to offer you!

Private tuition in speech and drama is available for Years 3 to 13 students. [Click here for more information and an enrolment form.](#)