

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau

2016-2020 Strategic Plan

At the recent Board of Trustees meeting, the newly developed strategic plan was approved. There are five priority areas that the college will give further emphasis to and these include:



Goal 1

To ensure our distinctive Special Catholic Character focus underpins the teaching and learning programmes, school culture and activities that enable students to develop in a three-fold encounter with Christ through scripture, sacrament and charity.

Goal 2

To continue to pursue excellence and raise the overall level of academic performance across the college.

Goal 3

To provide ongoing opportunities to further develop and enhance effective teaching and learning practices that meet a future-focused curriculum.

Goal 4

To build leadership capacity at all levels that will have a high impact on student outcomes.

Goal 5

To further develop cultural responsiveness at SMC that has the potential to have a positive impact on student success and achievement outcomes.

Upcoming Events

March

- 23 **2017 Enrolment Open Day**
3.30 pm to 5.30 pm
- 25 Good Friday
- 28 Easter Monday
- 29 Easter Tuesday
(school closed)
- 31 Late Start – 9.30 am
NCEA Evening – 6.30 – 7.30 pm

April

- 4 BOT Meeting in the
Staffroom – 6.00 pm
- 13 Japan Study Tour Departs
- 14 Late Start – 9.30 am
- 15 End of Term 1
- 25 Anzac Day Parade at Stockade
Hill, Howick – 10.30 am
- 27 Japan Study Tour returns

May

- 2 Term 2 Begins
- 5 Parent Evening - 4.00 – 8.00 pm
- 10 Parent Evening - 3.00 – 6.00 pm

Please visit the Sancta Maria College Website Portal for details of school events

<https://portal.sanctamaria.school.nz/student/index.php>

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

VISITS TO OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, ST MARKS AND SANCTA MARIA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS



This week a team comprising of Mr Green (Deputy Principal), Mrs Croxford (Faculty Leader, Years 7 & 8), Mrs Vercoe (Year 7 Dean), former students (now leaders) and former students from Year 8 joined me for a visit to these schools.

The purpose of the visit was to introduce ourselves and talk about what makes our college unique and the special place of learning that it is.

2017 ENROLMENT OPEN DAY (WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH)

Enrolment applications and prospectus for a place at Sancta Maria College will be available at the Open Day to be held on Wednesday, 23 March at the college from **3.45 pm to 5.30 pm**. All are welcome to join one of our guided tours followed by a presentation by myself and others in the Auditorium at **4.45 pm**.

The closing date for applications is Monday, 30 May 2016. Every year, there are applications AFTER the closing date. The college regrets that it is unable to consider late applications due to pressure on the roll numbers. Please ensure your application reaches the college no later than the closing date.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION 'THE SOUND OF MUSIC' (19 - 21 MAY 2016)

It is a busy time for many students and staff who are working very long hours in preparation for the upcoming musical production. We would like to rely on support from our supportive school community for this event. This is wonderful entertainment for the entire family. Grandparents, family and work friends would enjoy this very professional show and we would like to have a full house for the duration of the show. Ticket prices are \$20 Adults, \$12 Children, \$50 Family and \$10 Senior Citizens (Matinee Only). Tickets will be available through www.ticketek.co.nz and at the college in April.

With Blessings as we prepare for The Holy Week

Louise Moore

Principal

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

While this is my first communication for the year the first term is well underway and Easter is drawing closer.

We had a great start to the year welcoming new staff and students at a special assembly. With our new Senior Leadership Team up and running it's good to see things ticking over nicely. With Ray Green and Anita Heffernan joining Louise Moore and Ian Vickers I sense we have created a very effective team that will serve the College well.

The Board had its first meeting for the year recently. The agenda was an important one covering key issues of the 2016 Budget and the Strategic Plan. The Board was able to sign off on both these important items. There was some pretty robust debate around the Strategic Plan in particular. Of note we had our first visitor to the Board meeting that I have ever experienced. It was nice to receive positive feedback from our visitor subsequently. Perhaps other parents might like to come along and sit in to see just how the Board operates. You would be most welcome.

The Board also farewelled and thanked Andrea Harris the foundation Board Minute Secretary. Andrea has done a wonderful job keeping minutes for the Board. She certainly assisted me in my role as Chairperson. So once again our thanks for the many years of service Andrea.

One item of interest to many I am sure, is the news that the Diocese has given us the go ahead to close in the ground floor space of the Library. This is excellent news as we are currently stretched in terms of classroom utilisation. Planning is now under way to finalise how we will configure this space but there will be a minimum of two new classrooms.

Finally I have to make mention of the 2015 NCEA results. Once again tremendous results right across the three levels of NCEA. Our children have done themselves proud but we mustn't forget the support and guidance they received from our staff. Sometimes the work our staff does is overlooked, it shouldn't be. Without that incredible commitment things would be so different. So thanks to our staff for that amazing contribution you all make.

Brendan Ryan
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

SANCTA MARIA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

"SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE NOUGHT AVAILETH.."

A boy watched a butterfly struggle to break out of its cocoon. Finally the boy could bear to watch no more and, feeling sorry for the butterfly, he opened the cocoon and set the butterfly free. But, after spreading its wings and flying for only a few metres, the butterfly fell to the ground and died. The boy had wanted to help the butterfly by making life easier but in fact the butterfly needed to struggle to gain the strength that would enable it to fly free and live.

Life can sometimes seem like a long struggle, especially when we are young. It is frightening to think of all the mistakes we could make as we strive to grow up into confident people able to live our own lives. But without the struggle, without trying hard and making the effort, we can never grow. Nor can we succeed, because success in everything is based on long hours of hard work.

As the boy and the butterfly found out, there are no shortcuts. But in the struggles of life we can find challenge, enjoyment and wisdom. And, in the end, we shall value the prize more deeply if we have made the effort, fought the fight and achieved our goals.

Blessings
Fr Kevin Murphy SM
Chaplain



SPECIAL CHARACTER

OUR BLESSED PAINTING GIFT: "THE LAST SUPPER"

The painting of the Last Supper, is the work of a very talented artist, Giuseppe Maria Luigi Percivati. Pepe is a street artist from Turin who is dedicating the next ten years of his life to travelling the world, meeting new people and gifting his work in support of various charities. He is known as a Maddonaro in his country which is an art style traditionally seen through chalk paintings, featuring religious subjects, including the Madonna...

www.sanctamaria.school.nz/index.php/our-blessed-painting-gift-the-last-supper



STUDENTS WORK ALONGSIDE GIFTED ITALIAN ARTIST

Italian artist, Pepe Gaka (Giuseppe Maria Luigi Percivati), joined us at Sancta Maria College to help our students complete our newest art work, '*Immacolata*'. This will be Pepe's final artwork in New Zealand before he heads to Canada where he will continue his busking journey around the world. Pepe is dedicated to both art and religion and his artworks reflect this. It was also a great opportunity for cross-curricular education of both the Art and Religious Education Department who were delighted to demonstrate the natural cross-over between the two disciplines to our students.

Money for this painting will be donated to Marist Mission, Ranong, which works with the Burmese refugees. We are very grateful to Pepe for his generosity and his beautiful artwork – our students have most definitely benefited from this experience.



YEAR 9 RETREAT

Year 9 students have entered into a new phase in their life at the College. Having spent the past two years in the Year 7 & 8 homerooms in St Dominic's Block with the same classroom teacher, they are now making a transition into the wider life of the College where they will come into contact with different teachers on a daily basis. Therefore, it is important that our Year 9s demonstrate the right attitudes in their relationships with others. The Year 9 Retreat was an opportunity to reflect on the Beatitudes and how they can be put into practice.



INTRODUCING MR RAY GREEN, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Ray Green has taught at a variety of schools in both the UK and in Auckland, including Liston College, St Kentigern College, ACG and most recently at Pakuranga College, where amongst other roles, he was Head of Faculty for Languages, as well as leader of professional learning.

Sancta Maria is the fourth Catholic school that Ray has taught at. "I am delighted to be working at this special college, and have been really enthused by the drive and positivity that permeates the culture here. In the UK my teacher training was in Catholic Education, and I have spent more than half of my twenty-year career in Catholic schools. It is great to be back where I feel I belong."

One of Ray's roles at Sancta Maria includes overseeing professional learning. "It is a privilege to build on the solid foundation of previous years. There is a high level of expertise through the whole teaching staff, and it is great that we have opportunities to collaborate and share that expertise with each other. We feel we are on a journey to ensure the students of Sancta Maria enjoy the best possible learning experience and we are fully committed to that journey."

Outside of school, Ray is married with two teenage children and enjoys running, football, cooking and walking the family dog.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING 2016

During 2016 teachers will continue to participate in professional learning on a fortnightly basis. This continues the same cycle as previous years and takes place from 8.20 am until 9.40 am every second Thursday.

The dates for these sessions are as follows

Dates for Term 1 are:

Thursday 17 March (week 7)
Thursday 31 March (week 9)
Thursday 14 April (week 11)

Lesson being rotated off is Period 1
Lesson being rotated off is Period 2
Lesson being rotated off is Period 3



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Dates for Term 2 are:

Thursday 12 May (week 2)	Lesson being rotated off is Period 4
Thursday 26 May (week 4)	Lesson being rotated off is Period 5
Thursday 9 June (week 6)	Lesson being rotated off is Period 1
Thursday 23 June (week 8)	Lesson being rotated off is Period 2
Thursday 7 July (week 10)	Lesson being rotated off is Period 3

We will notify you of the dates for terms 3-4 in due course.

All students are encouraged to remain off site until 9:30 am

However, if this is not an option due to family commitments and your children must be dropped off, while most staff are engaged in PD the alternative for your children are:

Year 7 and 8 will be placed in activities supervised by senior students and prefect leaders
Year 9-13 will be placed in silent study rooms in AU1-AU6

Support staff have been arranged to circulate in these areas.

Unfortunately we have not been able to secure dedicated school buses to cater for this late start; students will need to make use of public transport. All school buses will run as normal.

Staff will be engaged in intensive professional learning that has a high quality impact on student learning and outcomes over the course of the year. We are confident that this professional learning will result in teachers being better able to meet the learning needs of your sons and daughters. Our great results are testimony to the success of this approach.

We do realise this may create an inconvenience for some parents, but we are convinced the benefits for students significantly outweigh any inconvenience. Our decision, supported by the Board of Trustees, to run such sessions fortnightly is a balance between providing thorough professional learning for teachers while minimising disruption for parents. Most secondary schools have dedicated time for their teaching staff to come together for such collaboration and inquiry. We appreciate your ongoing support with this initiative.

THE ARTS

2016 PRODUCTION – “THE SOUND OF MUSIC”

Sancta Maria College is alive with the ‘sound of music’ once again as the 2016 major musical production is in full swing. This year a cast of highly talented, enthusiastic students will come together to put on the timeless classic: The Sound of Music. Under the directorship of Drama HOD, Verna-Lee Oliver and alongside the musical talent of the College orchestra, the students involved, whether they be in the lead cast, ensemble, back stage crew or providing an orchestral masterpiece, have been meticulously rehearsing in preparation. The school’s rendition of The Sound of Music is set to be performed from the 18-21 May at the Genesis Theatre - Vodafone Pacific Events Centre. Once again, Sancta Maria College will showcase its artistic talent in what will be another fantastic musical production worthy of positive recognition from all those who view it ... <http://www.sanctamaria.school.nz/index.php/269-sancta-maria-college-is-alive-with-the-sound-of-music>



FUNDRAISING FOR 2016 SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Full School Disco
Thursday 7 April 2016
7.00 pm – 10.00 pm
School Auditorium
\$10.00 per ticket

Movie Night – Back to the Future
Thursday 14 April 2016
7.00 pm
Outdoors – on the grounds in front of Anne Block
\$15.00 per ticket

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DRAMA

The senior year for Drama has begun as the Level 1, 2 and 3 students watched their first performance - James I: The Key Will Keep The Lock. This powerful and brash story explores the conflicted character, James I of Scotland - a poet, a lover and a prisoner to the duties of his throne and the ruling English...

www.sanctamaria.school.nz/index.php/the-senior-year-for-drama-has-begun



CONGRATULATIONS TO VINCENT BRZOWSKI

Vincent has earned a place as a trumpeter in the New Zealand Secondary School's Symphony Orchestra. This is the second year in a row that a student from Sancta Maria College has earned a place in this Orchestra, in 2015 Emma Sullivan earned a place as a flutist.

JAPANESE

The Year 10, 12 and 13 Japanese language students of Sancta Maria College were able to go to the Auckland Museum and view a Maiko performance, the first in New Zealand from Kyoto, Japan... www.sanctamaria.school.nz/index.php/japanese-students-view-jewels-of-kyoto-performance



1000 PAPER CRANES FOR PEACE

Interval and lunch time groups of students gather in the library to learn the art of origami so that they can, over the coming weeks, help to make 1000 paper cranes.

These will be taken by our Japanese language students when they leave on their trip to Japan in the last week of term. Part of their journey, will be a visit to Hiroshima Peace Park, where they will lay the 1000 cranes at the Children Memorial Statue in memory of those who died due to the dropping of the atomic bomb on the city, and to offer prayers for those who suffer due to conflict in the world today and for future world peace.

TERTIARY EXPO A HIT WITH STUDENTS

With a wide range of options to choose from, making decisions about your tertiary education can often seem daunting. If only we could talk to someone face to face and find out more information.

This opportunity was provided when Sancta Maria College ran a lunch time tertiary expo for Year 12 and 13 students. A range of providers, from universities to specialist courses, were assembled in the auditorium which was soon filled with eager, inquiring minds once the bell rang, and the numbers continued to build throughout the 45 minutes.

Information booklets in hand, questions asked and answered, the Year 12 students made their way back to class for the afternoon while the Year 13s had the opportunity to choose two 20 minute talks to attend to find out more about life beyond college.

The mini tertiary expo was a great success and with minds fixed firmly on their future the senior students now have a clearer view of their pathway to success.



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SPORTS NEWS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Eli Murphy who is the New Zealand Open Men's Club Double Skulls National Champion. Eli rows for the Mercer Rowing Club and trains 17 hours a week after school and weekends.



Congratulations to Tanya Murray who is the New Zealand U18 Javelin Champion with a new Personal Best of 45.53 m. She broke the U17 New Zealand 20 year old record. Tanya currently trains 15-20 hours a week for her sport of Javelin in the morning, afterschool and at weekends.

STUDENTS RUN, LEAP AND THROW THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS

The Counties Manukau Secondary School Athletics Championship provided young Sancta Maria College athletes with the opportunity to gain places in the Auckland Secondary School Athletics Championships to be held later this month.

We were represented by a strong group of students and are delighted by the number qualifying for the Auckland Championships.

The highlight of the day was Tanya Murray winning the Intermediate Girls Javelin with a throw of 41.52m, exceeding her previous best by 3m and 17m ahead of the next competitor.

Outstanding results are:

Junior Girls

Ysabel Corpuz 3rd 100m
Erica Lim 1st 100m, 1st 200m, 3rd high Jump
Sian McAleer 2nd 70m hurdles

Junior Boys

Tristan Tualagi 2nd 100m and 1st 200m

Intermediate Girls

Anna Faulkner 3rd 1500m and 1st 3000m
Tanya Murray 2nd shotput and 1st javelin
Laura Richardson 3rd 800m

Senior Girls

Catherine Vaiangina 1st discus



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BBQ

On Friday 18 March the Annual International Student and Homestay Family BBQ was held in the college courtyard. Flags were hung, fairy lights adorned the trees, balloons decorated the area and the students and their homestay families started arriving for what was a great evening.

This BBQ is to show our appreciation for the commitment and dedication our homestay families give International Students as well as being an opportunity to welcome our new homestay families, introduce them to existing homestay families who have students at Sancta Maria College and build relationships.

Our thanks go to Dominic Gorski who managed the BBQ along with Jared Li, one of our Year 13 International Students, and to Francesca Adams and Helen Pahulu who helped with preparations for the evening and decorated the courtyard.



PARENT INFORMATION



Cyberbullying is bullying. It's using the internet, a mobile phone or other technology like a digital camera to hurt somebody, harass or embarrass them.



What can Parents do?

NetSafe have created a dedicated cyberbullying website which offers practical guidance for young people, parents and caregivers and teachers and principals who want help to understand and deal with bullying that takes place in cyberspace.

Netsafe advice for parents:

- If a child tells you they've been cyberbullied **reassure them that they've done the right thing to trust you** with the problem.
- **If the bullying online or on a mobile phone involves physical threats, contact the police.** Making threats of harm is criminal behaviour in New Zealand.
- **Save evidence** of all bullying messages and images. You can save messages on a mobile phone or log dates and times of messages and take screenshots of bullying on websites or instant messenger (IM) chats. This may be used later if you report the bullying to school or the police.
- Bring in any evidence you have when you meet with the police (messages stored on a phone or print outs of screenshots). **If you are worried about your immediate safety contact the Police.**
- **Reassure your child that you will not remove their technology** as a knee-jerk reaction to problems (including cyberbullying). Young people tell NetSafe that fear of losing access to their computer or mobile phone is one of the reasons why they often don't tell adults.

Cyberbullying at school

If you think the person bullying your child is at your child's school, tell the Principal or a Deputy Principal as soon as possible. Email nobully@sanctamaria.school.nz

Cyberbullying on websites or mobile phones

Report internet cyberbullying to the website where the bullying took place - usually there is a "Report Abuse" button or "Safety" link.

If bullying messages are coming through to a mobile, contact your phone company. Report the abuse to the network and ask them to take action. The company should be able to trace the source of the messages and warn the bully that they may lose their number and/or access to the network if they continue.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS OR EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please keep the college informed of any changes to address, telephone numbers or email addresses throughout the year.

Please email admin@sanctamaria.school.nz or j.fisher@sanctamaria.school.nz to inform the school of changes.



SANCTA MARIA NETBALL CLUB

Sancta Maria Netball Club is looking for assistance on the committee this year. If you are able to help or would like more information please contact Janet Williams on j.williams@sanctamaria.school.nz or Janette Vercoe on j.vercoe@sanctamaria.school.nz

TRIPLE P PARENTING COURSES

The following meetings are for any parents with children aged 0-10 years who may be experiencing some challenging behaviours in the home or out in the community (even if it's only minor). If you have younger children and are interested in attending any of these discussion groups please contact Verona Ramadu, Family Worker and Triple P Practitioner on 538 0621 or 021 247 2024 or email VeronaR@hcc.co.nz

Date: 14 April 2016 – 10 am to 12.30 pm at the Picton Centre, 120 Picton Street, Howick
Topic: Managing Fighting and Aggression

Date: 19 May – 10 am to 12.30 pm at the Picton Centre, 120 Picton Street, Howick
Topic: Developing Good Bedtime Routines

MOVIE NIGHT GIVES A HELPING HAND



Carmel College old girl, Loren O'Sullivan, is now the Director of NPH New Zealand, helping orphaned and abandoned children in Latin America. Come along and support these Catholic orphanages by watching a fantastic movie about a Kiwi orphan who "goes bush" with his foster dad - **"Hunt for the Wilderpeople."** Based on a Barry Crump novel - a great comedy from the Director of Boy. There will even be some actors from the movie speaking on the night! Get in quick for tickets: nphmovie.eventbrite.co.nz 4 April, Lido Cinema, 8.10 pm.

Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$150,000 or more, ASB will donate to your chosen participating school:

\$1,000

To take up this offer, your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between the 1 February 2016 and 30 April 2016.

ASB lending criteria, and terms apply. Fees may apply. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the security property. This donation offer is only available when you apply for new home lending through an ASB branch, contact centre or mobile lending manager. Other terms apply. For full details and to download the voucher visit asb.co.nz/schoolbanking.

ASB Bank Limited PPU49957

ASB



St Mark's Catholic Primary School



Saturday 2nd April 10.00am-2.00pm
334 Pakuranga Highway, Pakuranga

White elephant * Used clothing * Mission Impossible * Cake stall * Sausage Sizzle * Ethnic food stalls

Quick-fire raffles * Tombola * Candy floss * Hot chips * Used books * Pork sliders * Police car raffle

Ice blocks * Cold drinks * Games * Fun stalls * Lucky dip * Toss the coin

Plus much more!





Sancta Maria Catholic College Presents

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by RICHARD RODGERS

Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE

Suggested by "the Story of the Trapp Family Singers"

DATES

19 May 2016 to 21 May 2016

VENUE

The Genesis Theatre,
Vodafone Event Centre

TICKET PRICE

Adults \$20

Children \$12

Family \$50

Senior Citizens \$10 - matinee only



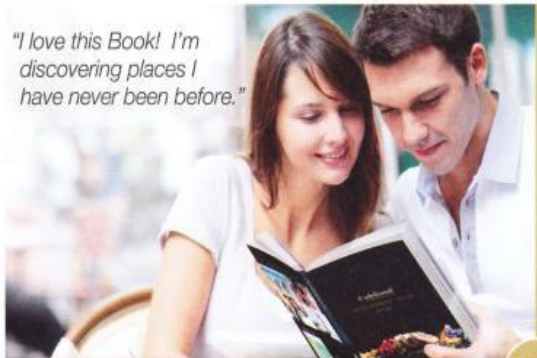
"The Sound of Music" is presented by permission of ORiGiN

Theatrical on behalf of R&H Theatricals: www.rnh.com

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Sancta Maria College

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Alternatively, please complete your details below and drop it into the Student Centre.

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(A Book will be sent home the week beginning 4th April)

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