New Zealand Rugby Tour

On July 1st, the All Saints’ College rugby team started on their great adventure to the sunny country of New Zealand - although New Zealand turned out to be not all that sunny! We travelled around the South Island visiting Christchurch, Dunedin, Alexandra, Fox Glacier and Greymouth.

After our three hour flight from Sydney, we went to the YMCA to relax. On Day 2 we played our first of four games against Sydenham Rugby Club (Under 15s). This game was a great start to the tour with a convincing win of 41-17. We were invited back for an informal presentation.

We left Christchurch and spent the day driving to Dunedin. On arrival we had a quick training session ahead of the following day’s game against Kings High School. Although we started off well with some great defence we ended up going down in a hard match. After the game we headed to the Cadbury’s factory where many of us ‘overindulged’ with a variety of chocolates.

We spent two days in Dunedin and then headed to Alexandra - which would have to be the coldest place in New Zealand. We played Dunstan High School in what could only be described as a nail-biting match. The half-time scores indicated that we were set for a close finish. Sadly we ended up with a narrow loss 21-39.

After the Alexandra game we headed for Queenstown - the place where all our fun began. Here we had a full day at The Remarkables where there were some memorable crashes. Skiing was followed by the highlight of the tour - jet boating.

Queenstown was very relaxing but as the old saying goes “all good things must come to an end” and we were back on the road for an eight hour trip to Fox Glacier - population approximately 200. Although this was a quick overnight stop, we climbed the glacier in the morning - truly a great experience.

Our final destination was Greymouth, located on the west coast and it was - quite literally - grey! The last match of the tour was against West Coast Combined Schools and it turned out to be the toughest match of all. These guys all went home to their wives and kids!! It was certainly a character-building game for us and we played both hard and fair. Even though we may have lost the match, we were extremely proud of our individual and combined efforts.

July 10th was to be our final night in the ‘land of the long white cloud’ and we celebrated with a tour dinner. This turned out to be a very enjoyable evening of food, speeches and awards. The next day we flew into Sydney after an enjoyable and memorable tour.

I would like to thank Mr Scott Gardner for organising the tour; Mr Greg Thornton for managing the team; and Mr Peter O’Neill for strapping our injuries.

A big thank you to the following businesses and companies for their support and sponsorship of the tour: Hibbo Hire, Royal Hotel (Hill End), Calare Civil Pty. Ltd., Raby Merino Stud, Raine & Horne, McFeeters Wool and Annie’s Ice Cream Parlour.

James West (Captain)
According to a new British study, if students look away from their teacher when asked a question, it's not a sign of disrespect, inattention or cluelessness: they're processing the question and are more likely to answer it correctly.

Our faces are very interesting and stimulating, but can be quite distracting if we are trying to think of something. So looking away is a strategy to focus thinking.

Researchers found that if children eight years or older maintain eye contact after being asked a question, it is probably a sign that they haven’t understood the question.

The old admonition of “Look at me when I am talking to you” of course is still relevant, but we must allow children to look away if processing a question.

Each child, of course, processes information differently and at a different speed to others. Curriculum differentiation and a variety of teaching styles is vital to helping all children within a class process and retain the important information they need to achieve well in their education. Marcus Croft’s article in this issue provides more information on curriculum differentiation from our most recent Staff Development Day.

As we recognise students’ individual differences within our teaching strategies we give each child the optimal chance to gather and process information so they can achieve their best.

Lyon House Year 9 girls would like to thank all those who have offered and donated wool to our ‘Wrapped in Love’ project. The project has sparked lots of interest and a great sense of community service amongst the girls. With their skills improving, the girls are making excellent progress with a number of squares already completed.

Term 3 brought Glover House Year 11 girls joining our group. Our ‘knit-ins’ have grown quickly and there is much activity and fellowship shared as we work for others in the community.

Mrs Heather Dunn answered our advertisement, among others, in offering wool for us to use. Mrs Dunn is an accomplished textile artist and an avid knitter. She offered to help the girls in their quest not only with the offer of wool but also with her expert assistance. She introduced the girls to new ideas and methods, showed them a range of her own creations and introduced them to the use of colour to create a unique garment.

We are all much appreciative of Mrs Dunn’s help and look forward to learning and creating more in the coming weeks.

WINTER FOG
Winter fog is cold,
Foggy, fresh and freezing,
Misty, hazy, icy.
Fog creeps and crawls,
Wraps you in a blanket.
Icy!
Whispering in the trees -
Whispering:
Spring will soon be here!
Lachlan Wilkinson (Year 1)

SNOW IN WINTER
Winter is here!
There’s snow outside,
Snow so very cold and white -
Also soft!
Drifting down from the sky.
Icy flakes dance
Floating down to make
A carpet.
Norah Wells (Year 1)

Captains’ Corner

The terms seem to get busier and busier as the year, believe it or not, draws to an end (especially for Year 12s).

Sport is back in full swing and all teams continue to improve each weekend. The high level of representation also continues with Tegan Taylor representing AICES at the GIS netball carnival. She played extremely well despite being sick.

Inter-House spirit was still alive and kicking with students lining up to compete for their House at the Athletics Carnival on Thursday 10th August. Breaking their losing drought and for the first time Barton House came away with a win, followed by Long then Bean - claiming the 3rd place title for old times sake. Congratulations to all who competed and good luck to the WAS and ISA teams.

It’s that time of year again and the Spring Fair is fast approaching. We look forward to the new and exciting things that each year brings and to seeing you all there.

Good luck to the Year 12s as they finish their trials and major works, and don’t forget that the end is almost near!
There is always something invigorating to do in our school community and part of our growth is a result of focusing inward. But the other part of our development is to look out.

To that end over 100 students took part in the World Vision 40 Hour Famine on the weekend of August 18th-20th. I am really pleased with the way our students took this project up. Thanks to the organisers. “We make a living by what we get and a life by what we give” wrote Winston Churchill.

On Sunday, August 20th, our Head of College was installed as a Lay Canon of All Saints’ Cathedral. This position recognises the growing sense of cooperation between the College and the Cathedral. The Cathedral Canons are, in essence, a leadership group. Sixty boarders were present at the service, along with staff, parents and friends. Happily working.

Mock Trial Success

On Friday 28th July, the Mock Trial team travelled to Young Court House to compete against Hennessy Catholic College in the First Elimination Round of the competition. To reach this stage the team previously experienced four consecutive wins against various schools in the Western Country division. We were acting on behalf of the defendant who was charged with assaulting Philomena Gumm, a police officer and spectator at a football match.

Joshua Watt maintained his excellent performance as a very calm and controlled barrister, receiving perfect scores of 10/10 for his thorough cross-examination skills. James Clohesy successfully intimidated the prosecution witnesses, casting doubt on their claims. Ella Sharp was a very active and astute solicitor.

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Joshua Watt maintained his excellent performance as a very calm and controlled barrister, receiving perfect scores of 10/10 for his thorough cross-examination skills. James Clohesy successfully intimidated the prosecution witnesses, casting doubt on their claims. Ella Sharp was a very active and astute solicitor. Our witnesses, Kate Kennett and Susannah Payne, were unshakable and resolute in their assertions that the alleged assault was the result of an unfortunate accident. Kate claimed she had simply slipped on the muddy sideline causing her hand to make contact with the defendant’s face! Lily Ward performed confidently as court officer, swearing in witnesses and keeping control of the court.

We were convincing winners with a score of 301-266 points and we were also lucky enough to have our success captured by the local Young newspaper. We are now preparing for the Second Elimination Round against Dubbo Senior College where we will be claiming that the defendant, an actress, breached a contract to appear in our film titled “The Chicken and the Egg”. We would like to thank Julianna Creswell for her assistance in coaching the team.

Mrs Catherine Dundon

VIM Committee for 2006

Editor: Mr Robert Poole
Desktop Publishers: Mrs Cherylene Anderson (Terms 1 & 4) and Ms Isabel Fox (Terms 2 & 3)
Proof Readers: Mr Jock Bidwell, Mrs Olga McKinnon & Mrs Diane Poole. Mrs Jennifer Crofts, Mrs Tessa Jones and Mrs Lesley Tinker (Term 3)

Next VIM Deadline: Friday 8th September 2006  E-Mail: b.poole@ saints.nsw.edu.au
During the past school holidays I was fortunate in being able to attend a conference in Israel called “Teaching the Holocaust to Future Generations”. The conference was organised through the Asper Foundation and was held at the International School of Holocaust at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

The conference was a wonderful opportunity to discuss different approaches in teaching the lessons of the Holocaust. It was interesting to hear the diverse experiences of representatives from the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam compared to those of the Wansee House in Berlin. We also shared in the experiences of Dr Deborah Oppenheimer who produced the academy-award winning documentary, “Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport”. Another discussion panel was addressed by Dr Deborah Lipstadt who won a recent court action against the infamous Holocaust denier, David Irving.

My brief time in Israel and the course of subsequent events in the Middle East have reinforced my belief in how fortunate we are to live in this country where our children have safe homes and schools such as All Saints’. It is very easy to take such things for granted. I firmly believe that herein this is another lesson to be derived from teaching the story of the Holocaust.

Junior School Athletics Champions

2006 Junior School Athletics Champions
Back Row: George Storrier, Tara Chan, Michael Matthews, Niemah Hope, Carnaby Gilany.
Front Row: Christopher Blattman, Sarah Goodman, Scarlett Breen, Blake Sanders, Lily McClelland.

Children’s Book Council
The six Children’s Book Council nominated books were read over the last two months by a group of volunteers, Mrs O’ Brien and Mrs Jones. This “readers group” met over a literary lunch (at McDonalds) to discuss their ideas for the winner. Different ideas were tossed around and everyone agreed the books nominated all had a chance because of their high interest level for contemporary teenagers.

However some were felt to have had more than that, a complexity of structure, effective description and just plain good story telling. The winner was The Story of Tom Brennan by J.C. Bourke and this was picked by Freya Croft. Congratulations to all those who took part. Hopefully next year we can involve more people in this activity. Mrs O’Brien has already booked the lunch at somewhere other than McDonalds!

Mrs Tessa Jones

UNDERSTANDING HOW TO HELP CHILDREN LEARN

PARENT INFORMATION & FORUM EVENING
on THURSDAY 7th SEPTEMBER - 7.30pm in the College Library.

Do you sometimes feel frustrated as to why some children seem to cruise through school, while some develop negative attitudes despite obvious ability? Are you overwhelmed or confused by research tasks your children come home with? Do you want to understand more about the way students learn? Would you like to know some effective research techniques the school is promoting?

The Parent Information/Forum Evening is a new initiative aimed at giving parents the opportunity to understand developments in education and learning. It is also designed to allow time for questions and the sharing of personal experience as there is often comfort for parents in knowing we are not alone in the difficulties of parenting in an increasingly complex, busy world.

The format of the evening will be two information sessions of approximately 30 minutes each:
1. The Impact of Different Learning Styles on Student Performance and
2. Targeting Research Techniques.

At the end of each session there will be an opportunity for question time. The final stage of the evening will be an open forum for the sharing/raising of any issues relating to managing as parents of school students. Suggestions for future information sessions are most welcome. Tea/coffee and light refreshments will be available.

For further information please phone Jenny Lavoipierre at the ILC on 63327331 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays.
Skiing the slopes

During the July holidays, 12 students and a strong support crew of parents travelled to the snow to represent All Saints' at the Inter-Schools Ski Championships. The College entered a Senior Girls team, a Senior Boys team and a mixed Junior School team. Most of the team was accommodated in Jindabyne and enjoyed excellent weather and moderate snow conditions over the five days.

Snow cover was thin and the competitors were allowed only one attempt over the course instead of the usual two runs. Nearly half of the team were beginner skiers and on arrival took advantage of some lessons before their race. Victoria Jordan-Jones and Morgan Price (MacKillop College) were the first to compete followed by the boys, Alex Price, Austin Meulman and Julian Gaal, who all successfully negotiated the course. The next day the Junior team of Courtney Old, Georgia Rosen, George Storrier and Conrad Meulman raced with beginner skier George Storrier, who clocked the team’s fastest time! The team, whilst modest in the placings, were certainly excellent representatives of their school and drew favourable comment from organisers, officials and supporters.

Well done ski team and congratulations. Special thanks to all the parents who provided very positive assistance as well as thanks to the Mid West Ski Shop here in Bathurst for their support and organisation. 

Mr Jock Bidwell

Let’s Get Reading!

Many of you may be interested in the results of a recent study carried out in the USA by Scholastic called Kids and Family Reading. The study looked at the importance both children and their parents place on reading for fun and examined the factors which influence whether children become frequent readers and the role played by their parents.

Some significant findings were:
• that young children enjoy reading for fun but their enthusiasm wanes significantly after the age of eight.
• children whose parents are frequent readers read more.
• the main reason given by children for not reading more is that they can't find books they like.
• parents are an important source of suggestions for books to read, especially for frequent readers.
• parents believe that their children benefit from reading for fun.
• four in ten children use a technology device to read, usually computers.
• children who use technology platforms to read are more often high frequency readers.
• four in ten children read more during the summer and these children claim that this helps them at school.
• boys are less likely to enjoy reading for fun.

The study also found that parents play a significant role in shaping their children’s reading behaviours by encouraging their children to read for fun and providing role models through reading for fun themselves.

So let’s get reading for our own enjoyment and the enjoyment of our kids! Full details of the above study can be found on:

Mrs Michelle O’Brien

Deputy’s Desk

Results in the statewide Year 7 tests in Language and Numeracy have recently been forwarded to parents. These are known as the ELLA (English Language and Literacy Assessment) and SNAP (Secondary Numeracy Assessment Programme) tests. The overall results indicate the academic strength of our Year 7 students. Students are placed into bands: High, Proficient, Elementary and Low with regard to their overall performance in each test. In the literacy (ELLA) test, 54% were placed in the ‘High’ band compared to 33% of the state. None of our students were placed in the ‘Low’ band. In the numeracy (SNAP) test, 38% were placed in the ‘High’ band compared to 24% of the state. Again, none of our students were placed in the ‘Low’ band. Results of individual students indicate particular areas of strength or weakness, providing useful information to teachers. If any parents wish to discuss these results, please contact me.

Our staff are currently focusing on curriculum differentiation – a term which refers to the development of teaching/learning activities which take greater account of students’ individual differences. These differences are not only in what we would traditionally call ‘ability’ but also in learning styles. Margaret Croft and Jenny Lavoipierre are working with other staff in this area. They are developing learning profiles which will eventually be available for all students.

These will include not only a range of results such as the ELLA and SNAP results, but also information on the learning styles of students.

While we already have a range of academic results available, the learning profiles are designed to make this more accessible to staff, and to help staff to more fully understand how each student learns. Our aim is to make learning more enjoyable and effective, and to help each student fulfill their potential. It is important that the strong literacy results consistently achieved by our Year 7 students continue to be translated into outstanding academic results in later years, including the Higher School Certificate.

With Mr Marcus Croft
In Term 2, I travelled with a team to Argentina on a Rotary Group Study Exchange. The programme is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young people in the early years of their professional life. The five week exchange took place in the northern provinces of Formosa, Corrientes and Resistencia.

During the exchange we had the opportunity to visit a number of schools - from a 30 student school in an isolated village on the Paraguay River to a high school in the city of Formosa with 2,500 students.

Education in Argentina is very different to that in Australia, for example:

• They have a national curriculum with some contribution from the provincial Department of Education.
• Students in their final years study a particular mode e.g. Natural Sciences or Art, rather than choosing a range of subjects.
• All students are required to learn English as a second language throughout high school.
• Class sizes are up to 44 students.
• There are only two school terms and each is four months long.
• There are many private bilingual schools where students learn in Spanish in the morning and English in the afternoon.
• Students only attend school for half a day. Secondary from 7.00am-1.00pm and Primary from 2.00-6.00pm.

While in South America, we also had the opportunity to travel to Paraguay, Brazil and Peru. Highlights included visiting Iguazu Falls, completing the Inca Trail trek to Machu Picchu, the city of Buenos Aires, visiting the lower Amazon basin and witnessing World Cup fever when Argentina won a game.

Miss Michelle Smith
Year 11 Biology
Excursion to Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens

On Thursday 3rd August, Year 11 Biology students went on an excursion to the Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens in the Blue Mountains. They were accompanied by a small but intrepid group of students from The Scots School Bathurst and their teacher, Mr Simon Dundon. The group was treated to quite an interesting day where they examined specimens, living, non-living and in fossilised form, of Australian Biota. The Australian Museum and Taronga Park Zoo kindly provided many interesting displays, models, fossils and live animals for the students to examine, record data from and also handle. The students were able to examine samples of numerous Australian Species that had undergone massive evolutionary change over millions of years as the Australian continent had slowly separated from Antarctica and the climate had gradually become hotter and more arid.

Students had to complete a number of worksheets on the day and these activities proved most useful in experiencing things that are not always possible in the Science lab.

The opportunity to combine with The Scots School on this excursion proved very worthwhile for everyone involved, not only in keeping the costs down per student but also allowing some cultural exchange and social interaction between students and staff.

Mr Trevor Hegvold
What do Mary Poppins, The Muppets, The Lion King and The House of the Rising Sun have in common? If you saw the Inter-House Music Festival you saw these and more.

Once again the students prepared an evening of entertainment that tested the skills of our adjudicator, Mrs Jackie Cohen, who found the standard to be extremely high. All of the Houses were able to present pieces which drew comments such as “excellent performance”, “polished performance” and “a top performance by excellent musicians”.

The tension in the Bickerdike Centre grew as the evening progressed. The audience was very aware that the final result would be very close. Notably in the Six or Less Section the performances were of such a high standard that the marks given were in excess of 100%!

In the end, the House Choir Section again proved to be the ultimate test with this section determining the overall winner. Congratulations to all the students on their enthusiastic performance. We will look forward to next year’s contest, an evening on the College calendar not to be missed.

Mrs Robyn Crowley

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Arts and Artists Week

Arts & Artists Week was held on the last four days of Term 2 - from Monday 19th to Thursday 22nd June. All students from Years 7, 8 and 9 were involved in an activity. Years 10 and 11 were involved in Work Experience and Year 12 had formal lessons and subject specific excursions.

This year, 10 activities were offered with a display of students’ works in the Bickerdike Centre on the Thursday afternoon.

Thanks must go the Arts & Artists Week Committee (Mr Trevor Press, Mrs Memory Sanders and Mr Geoffrey Wainwright) and the tutors for making this another successful week in the life of All Saints’ College.

Mr Bob Poole
Peppers Fairmont Resort Excursion

On Tuesday 8th August, Year 12 Geography ventured off to Peppers Fairmont Resort at Leura. The visit was organised to complete our local scale case study of Tourism as part of our final topic in the HSC course - People and Economic Activity.

We were greeted by Elisabeth Smith, Front Office Manager, who took us on a tour of the resort showing us the accommodation, conference areas, games room, restaurants, pools and gymnasium. At the end of the tour she answered a range of questions that helped us complete worksheets on the enterprise. It was a very enjoyable excursion and helped us in completing that section of the syllabus.

We would like to thank Mr Poole for organising and transporting us to Peppers. We would also like to thank Mrs Robyn Wormald (Pip’s mother) who also drove us to Leura.

Year 12 Geography class

High Achievers

Delighted with their results from their last Australian Speech and Communication examinations, this group of place winners display their well earned medals. The Awards were presented at the University of Technology Sydney, Kuring-Gai Campus.

**Front Row:** Travis Cartwright (97% High Distinction Junior Grade 1 and Outstanding for Personal Presentation).

**Second Row:** Tahlia Burgoyne (96% High Distinction Junior Performance Certificate and Encouragement Award), Niamh Fingleton (98%, High Distinction Junior Performance Certificate, Outstanding Improvisation, Area Medal Winner, Equal Highest Achiever in Western Area), Katie Crawford-Smith (98% High Distinction Junior Performance Certificate, Outstanding Drama Performance, Area Medal Winner, Equal Highest Achiever in Western Area), Kate Sempell (97% High Distinction Junior Performance Certificate, Outstanding Drama Performance, Studio High Achiever Medal).

**Back Row:** John Stevens (97% High Distinction Junior Performance Certificate, Outstanding Prose Performance, Studio High Achiever Medal), Tobias Bland (97% High Distinction in Intermediate Performance Certificate, Outstanding Drama Performance, Distinction Senior Grade 2, Studio Achievement Medal), Carnaby Gilany (96% Distinction Junior Grade 3, Outstanding Personal Presentation, Junior Encouragement Award).

Mrs Val Malone
Young Einsteins

National Science Week was celebrated in Years 1 and 2 classrooms over Thursday and Friday afternoons 17th and 18th August. The children conducted experiments in small groups exploring the areas of Electricity and Kitchen Science.

The enthusiasm shown by the children was infectious as they excitedly blew up balloons with carbon dioxide gas, made ectoplasmic gunk, wrote with “invisible ink”, conducted taste tests, made electric circuits, discovered what static electricity could do and explored the conductivity of various materials.

The curiosity aroused is sure to lead to a keen interest in scientific investigation in the future. The days certainly proved a lot of fun. The wonderful help given by a number of parents who helped guide the children through the various experiments certainly added to the success of the days.

Mrs Ruth Clements and Mrs Gabrielle Darlington

“Life’s challenges are not supposed to paralyse you; they are there to assist you, find out who you are”.

* A large amount of information has been received, documented and passed on to Year 12 students in particular. This is available on the College website.
* The key closing date for most applications is Friday September 29th.
* The Universities Admission Centre Guide has been issued to all Year 12 students.
* I would encourage all Year 12 students to consider carefully the “early entry/school recommendation” schemes available for UNE, CSU and Notre Dame.
* Year 10 students have been issued with a “careers folder” to assist in keeping essential information together for future decision making.

Careers with B.C.
My name is Simon O’Keeffe and I come from the west coast of Ireland - a place just north of Galway called Westport in County Mayo. It’s a rural area, not unlike the Bathurst region in many ways. When I first arrived here I couldn’t get over the distances you had to travel to get around. To travel the width of Ireland is the same as Sydney to Bathurst and yet there are lads in my boarding house who drive eight hours just to get home, which seems crazy to me! I have spent seven years boarding in Ireland so the idea of being away from home wasn’t all that new to me. I went to an “all Irish” (we have our own language that isn’t used that much) boarding school for one year after Year 6. After that I went to a Jesuit school called Clongowes Wood College from Year 7 to Year 12. It is an all boys, seven day, boarding school about 60km west of Dublin. The main sport there is rugby union which I played, but I also took part in swimming and canoeing. During the summer I play a bit of Gaelic football and hurling (not at serious level), but mainly I spend a lot of time by the sea. I enjoy most water based activities and work during the summer as a sailing instructor. It’s a great job to have, especially when the weather is good (which isn't too often at home). So far I’m having a brilliant time here. The Aussies, like the Irish, seem to be pretty laid back and have a great sense of humour. I’m looking forward to the rest of my year and hope to travel as much as possible. I’d like to thank all the staff and students for making me feel so welcome right from the beginning.

My name is Annie Cascella and I am from America. I attended Westover School, an all girls’ preparatory boarding/day school, in Middlebury, Connecticut. I was a boarder for three years. At Westover I sang, danced and played basketball and lacrosse.

I never thought that I would end up doing a Gap year, but after speaking with All Saints’ Gap students who went to Westover and hearing what they had to say, I decided to give it a go.

While in Australia I hope to travel and see as much as I can.

Vim Issue 4 2006