Dear Parents and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well.

Well the end of January seems a distant memory as the year ploughs on and well into March. To say the year has been hectic would be an understatement but having said that, it has also been a rewarding and enjoyable start to the year for most boys.

True to form, the boarders have been heavily involved in all aspects of College life. This has included plenty of community service with boys welcoming guests, parking cars, serving at functions and cleaning the grounds. Boarders have also had solid representation in the various country shows, swimming carnivals and public speaking events.

On the sporting front, we had great success at the end of the ISA Summer Sport season with 5 teams representing the College in the semi-finals. Whilst this involved sacrificing part of a free weekend for all involved, I think it teaches the boys a valuable life lesson about committing to a team and seeing something through to the finish. I would also like to thank the parents who were able to attend. In the basketball, the Under 15 and Under 17 teams went on to win their Grand Finals. Once again, it was an excellent opportunity for school spirit with the whole boarding house attending in school uniform to cheer on the boys. This definitely made the difference in the Under 17 game as Miss Burke’s boys orchestrated a big turn-around on the scoreboard to eventually win the game.

The Boarder’s 1st XI cricket team were also well deserving winners if their final and I have included Mr Luke McGinnity’s report on the game below. These boys were a credit to the College all season in the way they conducted themselves on and off the field. I’ve also included an email below which I recently received from another school testifying to this.

Last Friday night the boys enjoyed dances at St Patrick’s (7 – 9) and St Scholastica’s (10 – 12). The humidity was already very high on the night and when you cram a couple of hundred kids into a hall and watch them dance non-stop you can imagine the scene after a couple of hours. It was pleasing this didn’t seem to affect the boy’s performance in sport the next day!

Thank you for the support you have provided in ensuring your son’s have made the best possible start to the year. I would also like to acknowledge the work of all our boarding staff who have helped your son’s thus far.
Study time is being utilised well by most. I’m sure like most parents we only ever expect your son to be doing his best and extending himself where possible. I would encourage you to keep a regular dialogue with your son about what he is doing in study. He should be utilising tutoring when necessary and he should be able to produce study notes other than what is in his workbooks when you see him for free weekends and holidays. Can I please remind you to call your son’s House Co-ordinator with any concerns as they arise or any information you may require. I have included a full list of contacts with this newsletter.

Next week I will be attending the Isolated Children’s Parents’ Association Conference in Griffith. I’m bringing our Boarding coordinators Luke Morrissey and Logan Hawkins down for the ride and to meet parents at the Griffith League’s Club on Wednesday evening from 5:00pm. There will also be a dinner afterwards from 7:00pm. Whilst we’re down that way we’ll looking to catch up with as many parents as possible so please let us know if we can come out to your property or business and say hello.

Finally, I ask again that you please circulate this to anyone that may be interested and also give them the email address where they can subscribe: daniela.romeo@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

Many thanks for your ongoing support,

Max Spencer
ISA Cricket - Grand Final Report

The Scots School won the toss and elected to bat first at their home ground. Coopa Martin and Matt Stimson took 2 early wickets to have them 2/5 after 3 overs before they put together a very patient partnership, scoring 93 runs in 30 overs. Good bowling backed up by excellent ground fielding restricted the run rate and a wicket right before the final drinks break to Charlie Allen really broke the innings open. From there Scots lost their last 7 wickets for 47 runs with some great bowling from Stimson, Stewart and Guthrie in particular as well as an excellent diving slips catch from Charlie Allen to remove the danger man Ned Dawson for 60 (off 133 balls). Scots were dismissed 8 balls from the close of the innings with an imposing 145 runs on the board in a Grand Final.

In reply St Greg’s started very aggressively with the bat, racing to 1-79 after just 13 overs. Groves (9) Hayden (30) and Stimson (35). This initial burst put us well ahead of the required run rate. However, when both Stimson and Hayden were dismissed within 2 overs of each other the run rate screech to a halt with only 18 runs and 2 more wickets taken from the next 10 overs. At 5-102 in the 25th over the game looked like it was getting away from us as the runs had dried up and we were down to our last 2 recognised batsmen, Hugh Allen and Harry Lane. A solid partnership from these two took the score to 118 when Lane was dismissed. Then an energetic effort from Blake Guthrie (7) helped bring the scores level when he was dismissed. Eventually St Greg’s took victory and the ISA Championship in the 38th Over with batting hero Hugh Allen hitting the winning run and finishing 41 not out to guide his side home.

Score:
The Scots School 10/145 after 48.4 overs
M. Stimson 3/15
C. Martin 2/14
Were defeated by
St Greg’s 7/146 after 37.2 overs
H. Allen 41 not out
M. Stimson 35
D. Hayden 30

My thanks goes to all the boys for a fantastic season and a deserved premiership. To Will Bottom for his tireless work as manager and to Mr Spencer and Mr Millar for their continued support of the team. See you in 2016/17!

Mr Luke McGinnity
Email from opposition Coach

Dear Max,

I just wanted to congratulate you, Luke and the team for their win in the Div 3 Cricket Final on the weekend. Your team thoroughly deserved it and we are so happy for you in the win. Your players were some of the nicest we came up against all season 😊 Nice guys do go a long way!!

Congrats again to all.

Gillian

(Coach of St Patrick’s College 3rd XI)
**Under 17 Basketball Premiers**

![Under 17 Basketball Premiers]
UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Camden Show 11\textsuperscript{th} and 12\textsuperscript{th} March
- St Augustine’s 7’s Tournament (Senior Players), 12\textsuperscript{th} March
- Year 8 ‘Boys and Blokes’ Sunday 13\textsuperscript{th} March
- Griffith, Hillston and West Wyalong Visit 16\textsuperscript{th} – 19\textsuperscript{th} March
- Sydney Grammar Tens 19\textsuperscript{th} March
- Easter Weekend 25\textsuperscript{th} – 28\textsuperscript{th} March

UPCOMING BOARDERS TRAVEL DATES

An email was sent to boarding families in relation to the change to the College’s Boarder Travel Dates for Easter. Due to minimal services on Tuesday 29 March, NSW Transport advised the College that it was advisable for us to change our return date to 28 March 2016 (Easter Monday).

Changes to Boarder Travel Date: (previous return date of 29 March 2016)
Easter Break – 24 March 2016 to 28 March 2016

BOOKING DEADLINES FOR APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Travel Booking Deadlines for the April School Holiday break will need to be submitted to Daniela Romeo by Wednesday 16 March 2016.

If your son has changes to his normal ‘home’ travel please advise by this date. Please note that if your son is not travelling to and from his home destination, there will be a fee recharged to your account for the cost of the travel.

All travel bookings/amendments should be emailed to: Daniela.Romeo@stgregs.nsw.edu.au
ST GREGORY’S COLLEGE
BOARDING NEWS

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