



**Term 1 Week 1 Friday 4 February 2010
Bulletin # 1**

**To receive this weekly newsletter by email contact
the College Office on office@rathkeale.school.nz**

Welcome to the first weekly Newsletter of 2010 and in particular to all new members of our College community.

This publication is released every Friday and is emailed to those homes for whom the school office holds an email address. Hopefully it will help you to keep abreast of what is happening within the School Community and will be complimented by the regular formal School Newsletter.

Despite dreary weather the term has begun well. Sunday's opening Service and Assembly coincided with the blessing and first use of the upgraded Kitchen and Dining Hall facility. A huge amount of work was condensed into a relatively short period of time to enable the dramatic transformation of the building to occur. Initial feedback from everyone has been hugely positive. Once the upgrade is fully completed the College will have a facility of which we can all be very proud.

Following Monday's sports meeting all boys have been allocated a summer sport. We see compulsory involvement in sport as an integral part of the holistic education which we seek to provide. The advantages are many and varied and include the lessons to be learnt from team membership. It is essential that sports staff/coaches/managers are informed in advance if sports commitments cannot be met.

Classes were quickly underway by midmorning on Monday and teachers have been setting homework/prep. If your son is not doing some schoolwork in the evening then something is wrong! Contact the Dean if the situation persists.

Senior students were issued with forms for School Drivers' Licences on Thursday. These forms need to be completed, signed by parents/housemasters and returned to me next week. It is a senior student privilege to drive to school and only with certain criteria having been met. Transit bus travel to and from school should continue to be seen as the norm and as the most valid form of transport for our day pupils. No matter what form of transport is used, students are to travel to and from school each day in ties and blazers. A gate check has been instituted.

All students have been subjected to an inspection of hair and uniform. Those who were not presented in accordance with school guidelines have been given a letter which explains that they will be reinspected on Monday and which outlines further consequences. We do thank all those boys who returned to school neat and tidy and thank those parents who ensured that this was the case.

The student body came under closer scrutiny on Tuesday when all were photographed for ID photographs and for portrait packs. Parents will have an opportunity to purchase the latter in due course.

This weekend will be a busy one for many. As mentioned at opening assembly it is not an Exeat. Year 9 boarders will have a structured weekend during which they will climb to the top of "our mountain", Rangitumau. Wanganui Collegiate Tennis and Cricket teams will be here on Sunday and Monday (1st XI only)

whilst there will be a Senior College orientation evening on Sunday at 5pm for Year 12 girls and their parents.

The Term Calendar reveals a busy week ahead. This will include a Year 12 Biology trip to the Wairarapa Coast, athletics standards, a Year 10 Careers Day on Thursday, Shakespeare Festival auditions and Year 13 Panorama on Friday. Alongside these activities will be the normal weekly routines. In addition the individual music tuition programme will be fully underway.

The School is a very pleasant place to be at present. Despite busy times, I congratulate everyone for a very good start to the school year.

**Grant Harper
Deputy Principal**

"You're alive. Do something. The directive in life, the moral imperative was so uncomplicated. It could be expressed in single words, not complete sentences. It sounded like this: Look. Listen. Choose. Act."

*Barbara Hall.
A summons to New Orleans, 2000*

Uniform Shop News

Tracksuits

All tracksuits which have been ordered and paid for should be delivered next Wednesday 10th February.

Winter orders

To allow for manufacturing time all orders for tracksuits, blazers and winter shirts (Yr 12 & 13 boys only) need to be received by Feb 14th.

Winter Sports shirts- Rugby Football and Hockey.- Orders need to be received by Feb 14th.

Sports Results and Timetable

Saturday

9.00 am Cricket Y9 & Y 10

12.00 Cricket 2nd XI v Wairarapa College 3rd XI (at Rathkeale)

1pm Tennis Rathkeale 2^{nds} v Opaki (at Rathkeale)

Sunday

10.30 Tennis v Wanganui Collegiate

10.30 Cricket 2nd XI v Wanganui Collegiate

Sunday – Monday 1st XI v Wanganui Collegiate

Results - Inter house sports Hillary won Tennis and Cricket Halberg 2nd Blake 3rd