Dear Parents,

During the month of May, 291 people completed the New School Uniform survey. Of the 291 people who took part in the survey the following results were recorded.

**OPTION 1** scored **219 votes** (75% of the voters)  
**OPTION 2** scored **70** (24% of the voters)  
2 voters failed select either of the options (1%)

Therefore I am pleased to announce that Option 1 will be the new school uniform for St Peter Apostle School. The School Board ratified this decision at our meeting on June 10th.

Aside from looking at the total number of votes we also reviewed the comments, questions and issues that were mentioned in people’s survey responses.

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<th>Positives</th>
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<td>Girls and Boys Summers Uniform for Option 1</td>
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It was pleasing to see so many positive comments and I believe that the majority of people are very excited about the prospect of a new school uniform. It was also helpful to hear the concerns people had as well as the questions that arose from the survey.

After much discussion about these concerns and questions, we would like to present the following points.

**Cost**  
As a means of promoting the new school uniform and supporting families, St Peter Apostle School will be providing a **redeemable school uniform voucher** with Rushfords for all families that purchase the school uniform **before and during the 2015 school year**. The value of this voucher will be $20.

The new school uniform **will be available at the beginning of term 4 this year**, thereby providing enough time for families to **layby** the new school uniform for next year.

**Timeline of implementation**  
The new school uniform will be worn by all **2015 Preps**.  
New Prep enrolments in the following years will also be required to wear the new school uniform.

Children from other year levels may choose to wear the new school uniform in 2015.  
Children from other year levels may choose not to wear the new school uniform in 2015.  
All children must be in the new uniform by 2018.

**Purchasing New School Uniform in Stages**  
The new school uniform may be purchased in stages.

You may choose to purchase the summer uniform first, followed by the winter uniform, then sports uniform.
Whatever type of uniform (summer, winter, sport) you choose to purchase first, you must purchase the complete set of this uniform (summer, winter, sport).

You may not mix and match uniform sets. It must be all of the new summer uniform, not bits and pieces. For the girls this mean, dress, socks, hat and jumper. For the boys, this would mean shorts, shirt, jumper, socks and hat.

**Second Hand Uniform**
Second hand items should be available for the new school uniform by 2018 when everyone will be required to wear the school uniform.

Second hand items for the existing school uniform will continue to be available until 2017

**Allergies – Woollen Jumpers**
Sleeves can be lined with 100% cotton for eczema and wool sufferers

**Maintenance of White**
Option 1 has least amount of white. The girls’ summer uniform has a small amount of white for the collar and sleeves. The girls’ winter uniform has a white shirt, which will be covered by the jumper. The material of the girls’ winter shirt is a poly rayon fabric and therefore washes easily and dries quickly. Stains are easy to remove by using a stain remover spray.

**Change**
In the survey, a couple of parents asked why we needed to change the new school uniform. Having celebrated our 40th anniversary in 2014, I decided that it was time for the school to begin a new chapter in the life of the school. For 40 years, the uniform has largely remained the same. As I look at the number of jumpers in lost property, it would appear that many of the students and parents have begun to take our school uniform for granted. It is time for a new look, where students wear their uniform proudly and parents encourage their children to wear their uniform with pride and take responsibility for their uniform. It is our hope that the lost property bin will remain empty from 2018 onwards!

I hope that this letter regarding the new school uniform helps to address the concerns and questions that were raised in the survey. I would like to thank the staff, students and parents who took the time to complete the survey. I would also like to thank Mrs. Tania Suchodolski, our parent rep from the school board and Mrs. Jose Blackley, our Deputy Principal for the time and energy they have put into making a new school uniform possible.

Regards

Mr. Michael McGrath