



Dear Parent/Guardian

As you are aware, your son is currently taking part in a year 10 Boys programme called "The Rite Journey". The RITE Journey involves several ceremonies over the year focusing on the transition from boyhood to manhood.

The Rite Journey has been created to complement your role as parents and carers in guiding your child into young adulthood. Young people yearn to prove that they are adults. Most traditional cultures have a carefully crafted process guided by elders that provide this experience. In the absence of this, adolescents often take it upon themselves to create their own rites of passage, for example drink driving, drugs and alcohol.

Learning to be an adult in any society typically involves guidance, mentoring and a great many conversations. However, in our society today we very often see young people turning to peers, the media and the internet to source this knowledge and guidance. There has been a loss of human-connection and nurturing as screens dominate adolescents' lives in our technologically saturated world. During The Rite Journey, students will have numerous conversations around what it is to be a respectful and responsible man or woman in our society. As your child journeys through the year, we hope that the discussions they are having at school may also stimulate conversation in your own homes.

On Wednesday **8th of March** we will begin our first ceremony with the boys, which directly involve you as their parents/caregivers. This first ceremony of the "The Rite Journey" is called **"The Calling"**. (The calling is where we as your son's Teachers call the boys to begin their journey; it also involves an acknowledgement of the end of their childhood and a show of gratitude to those who have influenced them through childhood.)

This will take place at **Sugarloaf scenic reserve (A)** (meet in the car park) on the Port Hills at 7am on March the 8th to watch the Sun Rise at 7:15am. It is hugely important that you as Parents/ Caregivers attend this Ceremony with your son. I realise many of you work and have other children, but finding the time will be hugely beneficial for your son's Journey to Manhood. If you as their Parents can't be there we would encourage a significant person in their lives, (Step Father/step Mother, Grandfather/grandmother, Uncle/Aunty, Coach, etc.) to attend. We will endeavour to run the calling regardless of the weather so please bring wet weather gear and umbrellas if it looks wet and cold.

We will meet at **POINT (A)** at 7am (There will be a teacher on the corner of Dyers Pass and Summit road waving you in the right direction). Parking is limited so please be prepared to walk from outside the reserve, the earlier you are the better. When you arrive please park your car and walk with your son to the location.



Post the calling there will be a breakfast back at school for you and your sons to attend. This will be in the school hall. During this time we ask you as parents to bring an item that had significant importance to your son's childhood. This part of the Journey is called the '**Departure**' in which you share some memories of bringing up your son to this point in their lives. It symbolises the increasing independence that your son will experience from here and the fact that other people will be ever more important in your son's journey toward manhood. This is a special time between you and your son in which he will deliver you a very heartfelt letter which portrays what you mean to him. We look forward to seeing you all during the "calling" and hopefully seeing another beautiful Christchurch sunrise.

Any questions or problems please feel free to ring or email teacher in charge or Rite Journey Mr Tom Tennent, or your sons Rite Journey teacher. A brief outline of the year, including rituals has been including below.

Educated Hearts, Educated Minds				
Vision: To make year 10 special, where young men grow into confident leaders and learners and as a community, we celebrate their journey to a senior student.				
Rite Journey Theme:	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
	<p>WHO AM I REALLY?</p> <p>Students gain an understanding of themselves by exploring their identity and the expectations placed on them by society. They explore their strengths, weaknesses, and values.</p>	<p>HOW DO I GET ALONG WITH OTHERS?</p> <p>This theme asks students to explore their role in the community. They learn about teamwork, communication, and leadership.</p>	<p>IS THERE SOMETHING MORE?</p> <p>Students explore their potential and the challenges they face. They learn about resilience, perseverance, and the pursuit of excellence.</p>	<p>WHAT DO I HAVE TO GIVE?</p> <p>The final theme prompts students to consider their legacy. They reflect on their journey and the impact they have on others.</p>
Whakatauki:	Whakawāhi te riri Let's get ready to rumble	Ko te toa i a tiri, i a mano o te takahi It is the bravery of a multitude	He mahi kai takahi, he mahi kai haka Good things take time.	Abakoa taku ihi, he ihi Matahi Yes got what it takes to get things done
Ritual:	The Calling The Departure	The following (Mentor)	The Challenge	The Abyss - Solo The Homecoming
Activities	Sugar Loaf + Breakfast	Mentor day/challenge/service	Fun run Grandparent breakfast	Leading Juniors