

St Patrick's College Jaffna Old Boys Association

Melbourne, Australia

Established 1992



Website: www.spcaustralia.com

Email: secretary@spcaustralia.com

Newsletter 49

Facebook: www.facebook.com/spcobamel

September 2026



Our Objectives

Socialise and share the Patrician spirit with benevolence.

Support our Alma Mater in meaningful ways.

Fide et Labore
Faith and Labour

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5)



Rector's Messages and Students Performances

A Young Talent from St. Patrick's College, Jaffna – Nekethan

At just 11 years old, Nekethan has already shown remarkable dedication and commitment to tennis. For the past five years, he has been working consistently to develop his game, showing the discipline and determination needed to grow as a competitive player.

His commitment goes beyond his regular training in Jaffna. Every month, Nekethan travels to Colombo and spends approximately one week training there to further develop his skills and gain valuable experience. Through this continuous effort, he has progressed to be ranked within the Top 70 in Sri Lanka in the Under-12 category, despite being only 11 years old.



Nekethan's progress has been possible through a strong team effort and the continuous development support of everyone around him. He receives valuable encouragement and support from the Rector, Rev. Fr. A. P. Thirumahan, teachers, and coaches of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, while his overall tennis training and player development are carried out by the Atlas Tennis Academy team.

Most importantly, the dedication, sacrifices, and collective effort of his parents and family have played a significant role in helping him reach this level.

As a result of Nekethan's hard work and the collective effort behind his development, he has now been selected as a Jaffna Flamingos Team Ambassador for the Sri Lanka Tennis Premier League (SLTPL).

This recognition is a proud milestone for Nekethan and for everyone who has contributed to his development. We look forward to seeing him continue to grow and proudly represent St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, and the Jaffna Flamingos. Keep working hard, Nekethan. The journey has only just begun!

.....(Continued on page 5)

Office Bearers and Committee Members 2026-27

President - Fredy James

Vice President - Berchmans Tennakone

Secretary - Raj Niruban Vimalathanan

Assist. Secretary - Parthiban Vivekanandan

Treasurer - Anton Sivapragasam

Assistant Treasurer - Clero (Vinson) Theonis

Committee Members:

Angelo Fernando, Dr Hutchinson Thurairajah, Jenith Jesuthasan, Jeyandra Antonipillai, Noel Rajiv, Richman Mangalanayagam, Dr Sanjeev Alfred and William Nimalraj.

Support Group:

Anandarajan James, Antony Gratian (Editor), Chrysostom Gunanayagam, Dr Florentine Singarayar, James Joseph, Jeevaranjan Fernando, Patrick Rajaratnam and Philip Ravindraraj.

Patrician Nite 2026 will be held on Saturday, 7th November 2026
See Page 2 for details.



St. Patrick's College Jaffna,
Melbourne OBA



Dress:
Smart Casual



Food:
Sri Lankan



Catering:
MKS



**Musical
Entertainment:**
**BAND Redemption
&
DJ Imthi**

Patrician Nite 2026

VTCC - Palmyra Hall
44, Lonsdale St, Dandenong VIC 3175



**Saturday,
7th November 2026**
6.30 p.m. till late

Child Free
Adults \$100

Dress: Smart Casual

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Saturday, 7th November 2026
6.30 p.m. till late

Child Free

Please Contact Committee Members for Tickets

Family Fun Day 2026 was held on Monday, 26 January
at Meadow Glen Reserve - 150 McDonalds Road, Epping. (BBQ, Cricket, Games, Lunch etc.)
and

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations— Held in March 2026
St. Annes Church, Box Hill





St. Patrick's College Jaffna

Global Reunion

*"Reconnecting with Patricians
around the world"*

Australia 2027

(September 24 - October 3)



For further details visit



www.spcobaglobal.com



Sydney



Friday, 24 September

- All day sightseeing tour by Coach



Saturday, 25 September

- Global Reunion Dinner Dance



Sunday, 26 September

- Picnic Meet & Greet – All afternoon



Monday, 27 September & Tuesday, 28 September

- Personal days



Wednesday, 29 September

- Travel to Canberra



Canberra



Wednesday, 29 September

- Floriade Festival (Feast of Flowers)
- Dinner with Patricians and overnight stay



Thursday, 30 September

- Travel to Melbourne



Melbourne



Thursday, 30 September

- Evening canapés & cocktails



Friday, 1 October

- Family Fun Day with Jaffna style food



Saturday, 2 October

- Global Reunion Patrician Nite



Sunday, 3 October

- Holy Mass concelebrated by Patricians



Closing on Sunday, 3 October 2027

Continued from Page 1

St. Patrick's College, Jaffna 4 March 2026

கொழும்பு இந்துக்கல்லூரியினால் தேசிய ரீதியில் நடாத்தப்பட்ட " விவாத வேள்வி_2026" போட்டியில் யாழ் புனித பத்திரிசியார் கல்லூரியின் விவாத அணி, தகுதிச் சுற்றுக்களில் முறையே கொழும்பு பிஷப் கல்லூரி , டி.எஸ்.சேனாநாயக்க கல்லூரி, திருகோணமலை கோணேஸ்வரா கல்லூரி, கொழும்பு விவேகானந்தா கல்லூரி ஆகியவற்றை வென்று காலிறுதிக்குள் நுழைந்தது.



காலிறுதிப்போட்டியில் மீண்டும் டி.எஸ்.சேனாநாயக்க கல்லூரியை வென்று அரையிறுதியில் முஸ்லிம் பெண்கள் கல்லூரியுடன் போட்டியிட்டு மூன்றாம் இடத்தைப்பெற்றுக்கொண்டது. தொடர்ந்து ஐந்து போட்டிகளில் திறமையாக வெற்றி பெற்ற எமது மாணவர்களுக்கு வாழ்த்துகளும் பாராட்டுக்களும்

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1494911552642456>



Proud moment! St. Patrick's College receives the Best District Cub Award from President Anura Kumara Dissanayake at the Public Health Centenary Celebration.



ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, JAFFNA

Name list of the students who scored marks above cut off

GRADE FIVE SCHOLARSHIP EXAM - 2026

No	Name	Marks
1	KOKULARAJ THENISAI CHELVAN	159
2	PIRASHANTHAN ARIISAAN	158
3	SHABESSAN LAVANISHAN	154
4	SIVANTHAN MAATHESH	152
5	SUBANTHIRAN AAREEN	152
6	JULIYAN JUDE ABISHAN	151
7	STALIN SELVARAJAN SELVARTHEESAN	150
8	ANTON ROSHAN THOMAS ROSARIO	149
9	DEENAS ROPSKAN	149
10	JEYASEELAN SATHURMIHAN	148
11	SUGUNAN SANDREW	146
12	AMALAUTPAVARAJ DALJITH	146
13	SAYANTHAN RASHVIJAN	145
14	RAMTHAS ANOJITHAN	144
15	JOHN ANCHELO THAARUSAN	143
16	RONALD BACHCHELL RENOSHAN	143
17	ASOKKUMAR PAVINITH	143
18	VIGNESWARAN ABISHEK	140
19	VINGSAN ASWIN	136
20	JEGATHAS ROHITH	134
21	SENTHURAN PRITHVI	134
22	KURUTHARSHAN AATHARSH	133
23	DILSHAN AARON	133

Details	No Of Student	Percentage
Number of Students sat for the exam	75	-
Above Cut off Marks	23	31.0%
Above 70 Marks	75	100%



Strive for Excellence, Shine with Success!

Rev. Fr. A.P. Thirunathan
RECTOR
St. Patrick's College
Jaffna.



Australia will host its first-ever Global Reunion of Patrician alumni in 2027. Since the inaugural reunion in Canada in 2001, six reunions have been held in other countries. The Sydney and Melbourne OBAs are jointly organising next year's event, which has already received strong support from Patricians worldwide.

Planned events, at this stage, are as follows:

Friday, 24 September - Sydney - All day sightseeing tour by Coach

Saturday, 25 September - Sydney - Global Reunion Dinner Dance

Sunday, 26 September - Sydney - Picnic Meet & Greet (all afternoon)

- Wednesday, 29 September - Canberra - Floriade Festival (Feast of Flowers) & dinner

Thursday, 30 September - Melbourne - Evening event - Get together for canapés & cocktails

Friday, 1 October - Melbourne - Family Fun Day with Jaffna style food

Saturday, 2 October - Melbourne - Global Reunion Patrician Nite

Sunday, 3 October - Melbourne - Holy Mass concelebrated by Patricians

The following members have been co-opted to organise and manage the planned events in Melbourne:

Get together for canapés & cocktails - Jeevaranjan Fernando & William Nimalraj

Family Fun Day - Jeyandra Antonipillai & Jenith Jesuthasan

Global Reunion Patrician Nite - Berchmans Tennakone, Fredy James & Jerry Anthonypillai

Sunday Holy Mass - Anandarajan James & James Joseph

Raj Niruban & James Joseph to help with the communications

Philip Ravindraraj & Anton Sivapragasam to manage the finances

Souvenir - Design and Publication - Antony Gratian & Noel Rajiv

Other matters - Chrys Gunanayagam & Parthiban Vivekanandan

The Sydney and Melbourne OBAs are undertaking a major effort to deliver this event. Members can support the organisers by promoting the reunion among Patrician friends and batchmates across Australia and overseas.

The organisers welcome feedback from members for consideration when planning the reunion activities. Any member who would like to join the organising group will be warmly welcomed.

Berchmans Tennakone

Global Reunion Organising Committee (GROC) - Melbourne events

LEADERSHIP

"No leader is worth his salt who won't set up chairs." – Peter Drucker

Some people lead from the front, while others guide from behind. Wherever they choose to stand, good leaders share three essential qualities: they inspire others, earn trust through reliability and lead by example.

Inspire: Leadership is fundamentally about influence, and our behaviour determines whether that influence is positive or negative. Sharp wit alone is insufficient; a considerate manner and sincere care for others strengthen team spirit.

Reliable: A thoughtful leader notices and takes care of the little things and follows through on promises without needing repeated reminders from peers. Your words matter, and must be followed by action, so the entire team can count on you and work with pride, enthusiasm and purpose.

Lead by example: Punctuality comes under this. Don't let others wait for you. Remember, their time is as important as yours. Delays and inaction can weaken the group's enthusiasm, slow progress, create financial costs and place unnecessary stress on everyone involved. Respecting people's time is a simple but powerful way to show that you value them. Leadership demands decisive action to secure the success of everyone, and true leaders hold themselves to the highest standard.

True leaders do not seek the spotlight; they measure success by the achievements of the team they guide. Day after day, they lead through service—arriving first for meetings, staying until the last task is complete and giving generously of their time. In a voluntary organisation like ours, such commitment demands extraordinary sacrifice. It is sustained by a deep love for, and gratitude to, our Alma Mater.

After Richmond's 12th premiership victory in the 2019 AFL Grand Final at the MCG, I remember a senior sports commentator saying: **"What matters is not how many goals you kick, but how many you help others kick."** That is the essence of Team Spirit.

Robert Greenleaf's book 'The Servant as Leader' describes some of the characteristics and activities of servant-leaders—inspired by vision and a servant ethic—can make a substantial difference in the quality of service to society.

"If love is your greatest weakness, then you are the strongest person in the world!"
- Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Antony Gratian

Editor

Congratulations to Dr. Sanjeev Alfred on a great achievement

We share with great pride the following message we received from our Committee Member Dr. Sanjeev Alfred, Phd, EMBA:

I would like to share some special news with our close family and friends.

I have been appointed as an Enterprise Senior Fellow in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Melbourne — Australia's #1 university and ranked among the world's top 20 for medicine and medical research.



This is a distinguished senior appointment recognising accomplished professionals and industry leaders for the expertise, leadership, and real-world experience they bring to the university.

In recognising my appointment, the University noted:

“With many years of international experience across life sciences, diagnostics and healthcare, Dr Alfred’s appointment will bring significant industry expertise into the University — contributing to medical research and industry-academic collaboration, mentoring biomedical science and medical students, and helping translate scientific innovation into real-world healthcare outcomes.”

The University of Melbourne Enterprise Senior Fellows at Melbourne include accomplished leaders from medicine, healthcare, technology and industry such as specialist gastroenterologist and healthcare entrepreneur Dr David Badov, former IBM Research executive Greg Cameron, and international sustainability leader Dr Cathy Oke.

It’s an incredible recognition of my career and a very proud milestone for our family.

I am very pleased and honoured to take on this appointment alongside my existing professional commitments, continuing my work in advancing innovation across life sciences and clinical diagnostics. I am looking forward to bringing some of that industry experience to the University of Melbourne.

The SPC Jaffna OBA Melbourne and Australia’s Patrician community wish him every success.



உங்கள் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு நீங்கள் எதை விதைக்கப் போகிறீர்கள்?

அம்மாவை முதியோர் இல்லத்தில் விட்டு அமெரிக்கா சென்ற மகன்

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1539823680755310> [4:45]

குறள் 315:

அறிவினான் ஆகுவ துண்டோ பிறிதின்றோய்
தந்நோய்போல் போற்றாக் கடை.

மு.வரதராசன் விளக்கம்:

மற்ற உயிரின் துன்பத்தை தன் துன்பம் போல் கருதிக் காப்பாற்றா விட்டால் பெற்றுள்ள அறிவினால் ஆகும் பயன் உண்டோ.

கலைஞர் மு.கருணாநிதி விளக்கம்:

பிற உயிர்களுக்கு வரும் துன்பத்தைத் தம் துன்பம் போலக் கருதிக் காப்பாற்ற முனையாதவர்களுக்கு அறிவு இருந்தும் அதனால் எந்தப் பயனுமில்லை.