

# THE EAGLE TERM 1 2020 | ISSUE NO. 21



## PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE



**OPENING MASS** 

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## **MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL**



**Enjoy the term 1 holiday** that lies ahead, reflect on the term that has been and consider the term ahead.

"Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work".

(Booker T. Washington)

#### **DEAR PARENTS**

The coronavirus pandemic has changed daily life for us all. In these unprecedented times of global illness and uncertainty, I urge our young men and you, our whānau, to hold true to our Marist pillars.

The year ahead now holds extra challenges for our men. While some may be relishing the prospect of time off school, others will be worrying about the effect on their grades, and what effect that has on their choices beyond 2020. Many will be missing their extracurricular activities and the fellowship, joy and opportunity to shine that these provide. Others will be going a bit stir-crazy without the extra physical exercise that their sport normally provides.

We have been thorough in our planning for this pandemic, and have been following Ministry of Education advice. All care has been taken to encourage students to practice good hygiene, and we are grateful to our parent community for reinforcing those important messages. Our staff and pastoral care team have been vigilant in responding if we feel a student's wellbeing is being compromised.

Family Spirit is the Marist pillar focus of the year. We treat each other as brothers here. While we may disagree or irritate each other from time to time, we pull together when times are tough. I have seen this brotherhood in action time and time again in our courtyard and corridors, and I hear our Old Boys speak of it almost as a taonga. Feeling connected, and knowing he belongs to our St John's family, will be a source of support to our young men.

We have provided excellent resources and links on our website should students or whanau be feeling anxious or overwhelmed by the challenges of this pandemic. We will continue to communicate with you via email, Facebook and Instagram to keep you up to date with any changes here at school. Teachers are ready to deliver learning online to students during school closure periods, and we'll keep you informed about that so you can encourage your son to knuckle down and keep focused on his learning.

Enjoy the term 1 holiday that lies ahead, reflect on the term that has been and consider the term ahead.

"Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work". (Booker T. Washington)

**God Bless** 

- Mr Dominic Tester, Acting Principal



#### FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC CHARACTER

Welcome to 2020, a new decade full of promise and hope. The excerpt highlighted is taken from a reflection by Br. Kevin Wanden. While I recognise that we are not Marist Brothers, that does not change the spirit of what Br. Kevin is sharing with us. This year our pillar focus is Family Spirit. This idea sown in us by Br. Kevin, that we compare the school life that our students and your sons, grandsons, nephews and children of family friends experience day in day out, needs to reflect that of a family as well.

We all know that being part of a family comes with challenges, sometimes very pronounced and at other times barely identifiable. When I was in the seminary studying for the priesthood, we were a group of around 100 young men. We were always told that community life was the gymnasium for exercising the virtue of charity. That is true also of school life and family life.

This is what we hope our students will practice throughout this year - the virtue of charity which necessitates the living of forgiveness, second chances, mercy, shared responsibility, sacrifice without counting the cost, helpfulness without measure, gratitude for what others do and provide for us and rejoicing in the successes of others without jealousy. These are but some of the recognisable measures of charity within the pillar of Family Spirit. The less recognisable measure would be praying for others and sacrificing ourselves for their benefit alone. It is in living with charity as a family that we will create a school community that reflects the flowers found in the garden of virtues.

These tangible and intangible measures of charity are perfectly presented to us in the life of Jesus Christ, the very person responsible for our existence as a Catholic School following the Marist tradition and charism. His life, lessons, talks, stories, miracles and eventual suffering and death are our guide to what we can do and to what extent we can go for the benefit and well-being of others.

Parents know this but many of our students have yet to recognise it. Their time will come. As we journey through Lent and enter into the joy of Easter we must remember that Family Spirit is demanding of sacrifice for the benefit of others. But in persevering we experience the joy of unity, love and peace.

So, I encourage all of us, wherever we may work, live or play, to be God's instruments in creating Family Spirit among those who make up our community. It is not our concern whether we transform where we are, that is God's business. Our concern should be that we are doing the best we can to be the instrument of Christ, the image of genuine Family Spirit and the reflection of our Marist charism.

I wish you all a transformation Lent and a joyful Easter.

God bless.

#### - Mr Marcel Bormans, Director of Catholic Character

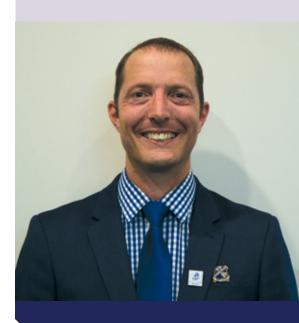
Loving God, we trust that You are in control of our lives at all times. Calm our hearts, God, as we deal with Covid-19 and keep our hearts free from the spirit of fear and anxiety. You are the only one who can comfort us now.

Surround us with Your peace that surpasses all understanding. Walk with us through these challenges that we are going through. Grant us Your strength, God, that we may not give up even if the going gets tough.

Help us, God, to focus on You and not on our difficulties, to live our Family Spirit through caring for those around us who need our help. We know that You, God, are bigger than all of these problems combined.

We know that if we put our trust in You, we will never be disappointed. If we wait on You, we will never grow weary. Enable us, God, to have patience and to fully depend on You for strength, that we may soar on wings like eagles.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.



"Marcellin and the first Brothers were united in heart and mind. Their relationships were marked by warmth and tenderness. In their discussions about living together as Brothers they found it useful to compare the spirit of their community life to that of a family."



#### **KEY DATES 2020**

#### TERM 2

28 April Teacher Only Day 29 April Start of Term 2 1 May Blue & Gold Lunch 5 May Information evening for Year 8 Students/

Parents

19 - 22 May May Year 11 Retreats

28 May **Sports Photos** Queen's Birthday 1 June Holiday

> Marcellin Champagnat Day and Mass

10 - 11 June **Musical Production** 12 June

Teacher Only Day (Fieldays Friday)

3 July End of Term 2

#### TERM 3

5 June

20 July Teacher Only Day 21 July Start of Term 3 29 July Junior Report Evening

College Ball 8 August **Options Evening** 11 August **Chanel Shield** 14/15 August 24 - 28 August Senior Assessment

Week

31 Aug - 4 Sept Winter Tournament

Week

Y13 Retreats 8 - 11 September

19 September PTFA Quiz and Dance

25 September End of Term 3

## TERM 4

12 October Teacher Only Day Start of Term 4 13 October 22 October **Sports Awards** (Seniors) 26 October

Holiday (Labour Day) 3 November Final Mass, Senior

Prizegiving

Junior Prizegiving, **End of School Year** 

4 November Leaver's Dinner 5-10 November Junior Exams 6 Nov - 2 Dec **NCEA Exams** 3 November Yr 8 Orientation 25 November Teacher Only Day 24 - 27 November Yr 10 Retreats Y9 Activities / Y10 7 - 10 December Camps

## STOP PRESS - SCHOOL CLOSURE

School holidays have been brought forward from 30 March to 14 April inclusive. Work will not be set for this time. New work will be available online for students from the 15th of April.

Parents, please support us by ensuring that your son has joined his google classrooms so that he can access his learning online. All communication to students about work that needs to be completed will be made via google classroom. It is important that students check this by 10am each day, then they are flexible about when they complete the work. Teachers will be available between 11am and 1pm from 15 April onwards.

#### MARCELLIN CENTRE OPENING

Did your son mention that we had the PM visit this Term?

What a great day we all had to celebrate the opening of our new Marcellin Centre and gymnasium. Special guests the Bishop of Hamilton, Steve Lowe, and the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, joined us to mark the momentous occasion on February 14th - a Valentine's Day to remember for Manaia Jones who got his own special pic with the PM!

Having the whole student body, staff and special guests together in one space was a milestone in itself. "Coming together as one school is tremendously powerful in building Family Spirit and culture" explains Mr Tong " and this is why our Boards of Trustees have worked hard, over many years, to make sure the gymnasium space also serves as our Assembly and Events Hall".

Pop in next time you're picking up your son and take a look for yourself. PE is being taught there every day, basketball is humming in there mornings and afternoons and there's weights training for all students before and after school too. Three new classrooms have eased the pressure on our growing school, and the PE Faculty finally have a modern and spacious workroom.

There's student and spectator seating for over 500 on our retractable seating, so make sure you come and support the Eagles when they start playing in Term 2. Let's make the Marcellin Gym a winning one for our teams!

People often ask what's happening with the old gym? It'll stay as an extra PE space for a while yet. There are ideas and plans, but the College's next priority is to redevelop upstairs C Block to create even more classrooms. That's a 2021 project, already in the pipeline.



Guests of Honour Bishop Steve Lowe, PM Ardern, Br Doug and MP David Bennett

11 December



#### ST JOHN'S COLLEGE FOUNDATION GENEROSITY

The other special guests to attend our Marcellin Centre opening were of course the many generous donors who 'Bought a Brick' in the St John's College Foundation's fundraising campaign.

Donors, mostly Old Boys and their families, contributed over \$80,000 and these funds were used to pay for the big ticket fit-out items like retractable seating, hoops and a dividing curtain to be installed in the April break. Of special mention are the Honiss family who sponsored a large projection screen which is so essential to a modern events facility.

The Grassroots Trust also deserves special mention, contributing over \$200,000, while the Lion Foundation and Trust Waikato were also significant donors.

Board Chairman Mr Brendan Lally thanked all these supporters at a lunch held after the Opening event. The Mel Young Foyer features a donor wall acknowledging these gifts.





Foundation Donors enjoy a lunch after the opening Event

## YEAR 9 MARAE VISIT

2020 saw the second year we have run our Year 9 Marae Visits to Hukanui Marae Gordonton. This is our school local marae which is in the boundary of Ngaati Wairere, our local iwi.

Year 9 boys were split into two groups ovr two days. The first group of 100 arrived Wednesday and the second on Thursday. Each group was welcomed on to the marae by Te Whānau o Hato Hoani - The Whānau Class boys who stayed from Tuesday night to Thursday afternoon. The Whānau boys took up roles that we see our kaumātua or elders take up on the marae such as whaikorero, karakia and leading waiata.

Each day consisted of four workshops; Mau Rākau, St John's College Haka, Tikanga and Ki o Rahi. A lot of learning and fun was had on both days. A big mihi to Ngaati Wairere for letting us back in to our marae. We look forward to returning next year.

#### - Matua Dwayne Hudson, TIC Māori









#### **ONLINE LEARNING**

A huge thank you to our parent community who have supported and trusted us as we all adjust to the COVID19 Pandemic. To stay up to date with school information please check your emails, check the College's dedicated website page for updates, and join our Facebook or Instagram pages.

We are ready to deliver learning online in the event of school closures. Your son should be 'e-ready' by now so that he can access online work through Google Classrooms. Check our web pages for information if your son needs help.

Our expectation is that your son completes the online work as set by teachers. It is really important that he continues with his studies in the event that the school is closed, completes all work set and meets deadlines. Your support, encouragement and firm expectations will help him to do that please.

## **KEEP UP TO DATE WITH** THE PARENT PORTAL



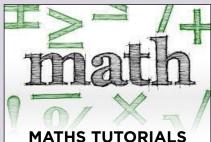
Use the Kamar Parent Portal to stay on top of school matters. This is a website and custom app for iOS/Android that allows you to look at key data we hold on our student management system. Including:

- Student notices
- **Timetable**
- Attendance
- Assessment results/NCEA Progress (for students in Y11-13)
- Reports
- Fees viewing and paying online

Save this link to your bookmarks or find it on the Quick Links at the bottom of our Home page - https://portal.stjohnshamilton.school.nz/

Usernames and passwords to access the portal were sent at the start of term 1. If you need a reminder, please email our helpful Receptionists at reception@stjohnshamilton.school.nz

You can check out our parent portal guide for more info - http://www.stjohns-hamilton. school.nz/Community/Student-Portal



No notice required, drop in any of these times, and stay for as long as you want. It's better if you come organised with what areas you need help.

> **LUNCHTIMES** Wednesdays Mr Gray R08

**AFTER SCHOOL** Tuesdays

Mrs Watton R03 Mr Plant R07

Wednesdays

Mr Sadumiano Computer Rooms Mr Plant R07

**Thursdays** 

Mr Sadumiano Computer Rooms Mr Plant R07

#### **OPENING MASS**

Fantastic to see more and more parents and whānau joining us to celebrate our Opening Mass. Thank you to Fr Richard Laurenson, our College Chaplain, for leading us. Mass is a joyful experience, full of song, prayer and reflection. The 2020 Year 9 candle was presented to Charlie Iremonger of Year 9 by our Head Boy Finn Lally. Mr Shane Tong presented our Student Leaders to the school



community before praying a Principal's blessing over them. Following Mass our guests, who also included a number of Year 8's from our feeder schools, stayed behind to enjoy morning tea at the back of the Cathedral.

Special thanks go to all the many staff and students who help to make it so - our Liturgy Music and Singing Group, our Kapa Haka and Pacifica students, our Special Character leaders and Ministers of the Eucharist, and of course our Director of Catholic Character and RE staff.

We have three full school Masses each year, and it's a mission to bus all our young men to and from the Cathedral for each of these. But we do it because it's such an important feature of our Catholic and Marist culture - we're not a great school with awesome family spirit by accident! God is present with us every day, and Mass at the Cathedral allows us to honour and give thanks for His presence in all of our lives.

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY**



In a College first, we gathered together in the Marcellin Centre and shared an Ash Wednesday Liturgy as one full school. Mr Bormans led a reflection on the mercy and unconditional love that God has for us, and of God's desire that we battle against our weaknesses and return to Him with trust, hope and faith. Senior students and staff then placed ashes on our foreheads. We are very blessed that we can offer these wonderful celebrations of our liturgy.

## STUDENT LEADERS

Congratulations to our 2020 Student Leaders. Thank you men for standing up and sharing the gifts you have. Leadership takes courage, and your example will show our younger students what we expect, and demonstrate how a Marist man shows care for his community.



Leaders receive a blessing at opening Mass

| Head Boy          | Finn Lally                                  |
|-------------------|---|
| Deputy Head Boys  | Dyrel Lumiwes and Dan Coles                 |
| Special Character | Rainald Valondo and John Paca               |
| Academic          | Kian Bennett                                |
| Māori             | Manaia Jones and Matariki Hodges-Mataira    |
| Arts              | Guantian Chen and Brendan Boyd              |
| Pasifika          | Reupena Maka Tyrell                         |
| Sport             | Akiva McBirney-Griffin and Adam Satincliffe |
| International     | Bill Wang                                   |
| Marcellin         | Isaac Seiuli and Devyn Sheehan              |
| Pompallier        | Max Field and Vinnie Hermann                |
| Chanel            | Sam Kelly and Conor Tierney                 |
| Roncalli          | Antony Sllich and Christvie Kadiya          |





#### **FOUNDATION TRADES GRANTS**

Helping our young men into trades careers is the goal of a generous new Grants Programme provided by the St John's College Foundation. Established through the generosity of Old boys who wish to remain anonymous, students who've been offered work or an apprenticeship in the trades can now apply for a grant to help them out with start-up costs. Often there are work clothes, tools and PPE to be bought, or apprenticeship fees that can stretch the budget in those first few months.

Zane MacDonald was one of seven deserving recipients in 2019. Through the Gateway programme, he worked a 10 week placement at Longveld Engineering. The team at Longveld were so impressed with Zane and his talents (for example, Zane built a helicopter at home during his schooling!), they extended his work placement for a further 4 months, so that he could complete NCEA Level 2 before starting an apprenticeship with them.

Zane has used his St John's College Foundation **Trades** Grant to purchase a new toolbox and tools for his trade, and he is extremely grateful. Best of luck for your future Zane, we are super proud of you and know you are going to be very successful in your chosen career.



Zane McDonald, Foundation Trades Grant Recipient

#### **GETTING THEM READING**

Students and staff have been figuring out clues to enter the latest competition. This proved a popular challenge and the entry box was soon overflowing. Those able to identify eight or more books qualified for the prize draw. Five prize-winners are now the happy owners of manga and comics courtesy of Mark One, Hamilton's top graphic novel store. Congratulations, gentlemen!

We are busy building up our Manga collection in the library. Manga is a Japanese style of graphic novels and comic books and is massively popular among our students. Our library team doesn't bother to shelve Manga books - as soon as they're returned, they're straight back out to a new borrower within minutes!

Caleb Gilliver of 9AN has recently given a piece of his superb Manga-inspired art to the library and it has pride of place on the issues desk. Thank you, Caleb!





#### **NEW STAFF**

With a growing roll, you'll notice we're welcoming even more new staff than usual at the beginning of the year. A warm St John's welcome to all of these new folk:

Hala Bager Learning Assistant Narelle Clausen Food Technology Adrian Coleman Learning Assistant Andrea Dela Rue English, Year 9 Dean Leon Holden **Director of Sport** Lynley Keightley Librarian **Anthony Lander Social Sciences Douglas Lang** Technology Mike Li **Physics & Chemistry** Learning Assistant Jenny Maguire Careers Advisor Sarah Quinnell Charity Upoko-Winchcombe Reception

Joshana Waris Ali Homestay Coordinator, International Dept

Jackie Watton Mathematics

Katie Williams **Assistant Principal** Ub Van Jaarsveld **Religious Education** 

Most of these staff attended a Marist New Staff Induction Programme. This gently draws our new staff into an understanding of what it is to be Marist. In understanding our spirituality and charism, staff have confidence and a knowledge of what we try to achieve through the Marist pedagogy we follow. It also increases our ability to interact with the students, and as staff with staff. We are committed to building on the Marist spirit that has developed here at St John's over the last 59 years, and drawing it to new heights.

#### **AED'S ON SITE**

Thanks to a generous donation from Coresteel who built the Marcellin Centre, we now have 2 Automatic External Defibrillators

on site. Here's hoping we're not called upon to use them, but IF someone's heart stops here or nearby, remember you can access an AED that could save their life.

These are stored in the Old Gym Foyer and at the downstairs entrance of the Marcellin Gymnasium.





#### WELL-BEING TIPS

(From the Mental Health Foundation website: mentalhealth.org.nz)

#### WHY AM I FEELING ANXIOUS RIGHT NOW?

It's normal and human to feel anxious right now. COVID-19 presents a risk to human health and the way we live - your brain and your body are responding to that risk like they're supposed to! It's what's sometimes called the "fight-or-flight" response - your body knows you might not be safe and it's gearing you up to respond.

Unfortunately, that 'fight-or-flight' response doesn't have anywhere to go right now - we're not yet able to fight the virus and we have to respond to it not by fleeing but by staying at home. That means your brain has geared you up for battle, filling your tank with energy and adrenaline, and you've got nowhere to put it. Not being able to control so many things all at once causes distress. It's natural and understandable.

#### WHAT CAN I DO?

#### 1. Find Ways to Connect

Connecting with others is so important for our wellbeing and helps to make us feel safer, less stressed and less anxious. We can support each other to get through this.

#### 2. Find Ways to Take Notice

Notice the beauty in the world around your home. Take time to feel the sun on your skin, breathe in fresh air whenever you can, make a list of what you're grateful for, take the time to thank someone for how they make you feel, do a mindfulness exercise on YouTube, watch the clouds in the sky, and the wind in the trees; really listen to the birds sing.

## 3. Find Ways to Be Active

Go for a long walk or a bike ride. Put on some music and dance. Do some stretching. Find a work out online: do those crunches and push-ups!

#### 4. Find Ways to Give

Give compliments, think about a skill you have you could share with your whānau/friends, share a favourite recipe, let people know you're there to help (and tell them what help you can offer - e.g. can you pick up food for a neighbour when you go shopping? Check in on neighbours and members of your community who may need to hear a cheery voice or need a helping hand.

#### 5. Find Ways to Keep Learning

Staying curious and engaging with the world around you is a great way to uplift your wellbeing. Pick a question you've always wondered about and take some time to look it up. Call your grandparents and ask them questions about life when they were growing up. Research your whakapapa or family tree. Look up stories, myths and legends from different cultures. Discover the name of the iwi, hapu, maunga and awa of the place you live. Download an app like Duolingo and start learning a new language.

#### 6. Limit the amount of news you follow

Pick one source you trust (like the Ministry of Health's website) and check it once per day. If you want to keep checking in with news coverage, take notice of how it makes you feel and set time limits or restrict your news sources to just one or two if you need to.

#### NCEA REPORT CARD

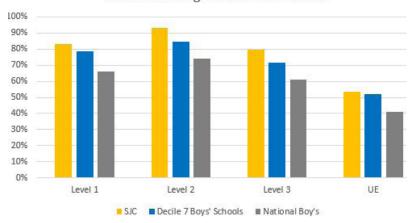
2019 has once again seen college students gaining strong NCEA results. This year NZQA has changed the way in which pass rates are calculated, all domestic students who have been on roll for at least 70 days are reported which makes it easier for parents to compare results between schools.

We can be proud of the results that our fine young men achieve, they continue to be well above national and decile 4-7 schools results. 83.7% of students gained their NCEA Level 1 qualification, 93.8% Level 2 and 79.4% for Level 3.

We should be particularly proud of our NCEA Level 2 results, as they are the highest boys' pass rate of any school in Hamilton.

NCEA Level 1 - 48.2% of students gained an endorsement, 15.8% were at an Excellence level. The proportion of students gaining endorsements is nearly identical to that of 2018, though we had 2.6% more Excellence endorsements. Endorsements at Level 2 were down in 2019, 28.3% of students gained compared to 35% in 2018. Excellent levels of endorsement were seen at Level 3 with 23.4% of students gaining an Excellence endorsement. This is the best result in the history of the college, smashing the previous high of 14.4% (2018).

### St John's College NCEA Results 2019



The proportion of our students achieving endorsements continues to be a priority for the college in 2020. Boys need to recognise the importance of matching their performance in the internals with their performance in externals.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents who have supported their sons in 2019 and to all of our staff who continue to work alongside our fine young men.

NCEA Certificate targets are set for all students during the early part of term 1 in addition, NCEA subject targets are also set for students on Achievement Standard based courses. Parents can view these by logging onto the web portal (KAMAR) and clicking on the results link, selecting current year results, selecting the year level.

It is imperative that we work together; school, students and parents, to ensure that student progress is tracked against these targets during the year. This is an important step in ensuring that students meet their academic potential. Year 13 students also need to focus on gaining 14 credits in each of their UE approved subjects so that they are in a strong position to gain University Entrance at the end of the year. The key to success is hard work, effort, perseverance and consistency.

- Mr Dominic Tester, Deputy Principal



## Congratulations to these Students

## NCEA ENDORSEMENTS

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP ACHIEVERS**

Dominic Beaton - English, Biology, Physics and Statistics

Sebastian Manning - Physics Anthony Pererea - English

Sacha Choytooa - Calculus and Accounting

## AND TO STUDENTS GAINING THE EXCELLENCE 'HAT TRICK'

These students have, through focused work and effort, gained L1, 2 and 3 Excellence endorsements. In 2018 5 students achieved this, in 2019 that's risen to 16!

**Dominic Beaton** Sacha Choytooa Lucien De Groot George Downey

Joshua Frires-Carroll Harry Jones Austin Knipe Jiaming Li

Sebastian Manning Jackson Neale Anthony Perera Nathan Pook

Michael Robin Keenan Sanders Seshan Weeraratne Da David Wen

#### **LEVEL 1 MERIT**

Paul Harvey Araneta Riley Bailey William Belchamber-Bale Jonathan Benge Joshua Bradbury Kurt Burborough Thomas Button Michael Cane Joshua Carrasco Jayden Cole Noah Connolly Jack Dillon Rylan Flockhart Nicholas Forrest

Liam Friis

Cedeno

Johan Garcia

Richard Hall

Dylan Hannam

Max Hartstone

Jett Harcourt

Jack Kane

Ben Keall

Aidan Greenhalgh

Sheng-Jer Lin Tawera Marsh Regan Meads **Daniel Nobilo** Reuben O'Keeffe Quinn O'Neill Aiden Payne-Isaacs Edward Prestidge-King Charlie Raj **Hunter Reily** Joshua Reymer Nathan Robertson Charles Salesi Samuel Slone Danny Squire **Ethan Tarry** Tioti Tatireta Deo Tolentino Richard Tubilla Nicholas Vevers **Rhys Vincent** 

#### **LEVEL 2 MERIT**

Ethan Baird Billy Burgess Jacob Burns Jayden Cantwell Fergus Casey **Daniel Coles** Anton Coote Andrew Duff Thomas Edger Tayne Elliott Max Field Joshua Froggatt Jose Gatmaitan Matariki Hodges-MacDonald

Daniel Kilbride Reupena Maka Tyrell

## Akiva McBirney-Griffin Rory McGregor William McVicar Nyasha Mugabe Reuben Ngapo Michael O'Brien John Paca Maxwell Pearce

Deon Stevenson Cameron Stokes Joshua Stokes Conor Tierney Richard Young

Devyn Sheehan

## **LEVEL 3 MERIT**

Alex Andersen Sebastian Arnaiz Harry Bird Dwayne Carvalho Nate Hopkins Thomas Ilott Leon Jobe Finlay McGrath

Kees Mortleman Damien Peers Matthew Roach Zenith Tawhara-Crown Carlos Wijnekus Connor Wilson

## **LEVEL 3 EXCELLENCE**

**Dominic Beaton** Sacha Choytooa Lucien De Groot George Downey Joshua Frires-Carroll Harry Jones Brandon Kintu Austin Knipe Seungjun Lee Jiaming Li Charles Wencong Liang

Sebastian Manning Jackson Neale Kevin O'Hara Anthony Perera Nathan Pook Alvin Rajan Michael Robin Keenan Sanders Lachlan Spelman Seshan Weeraratne Da David Wen

## **LEVEL 1 EXCELLENCE**

Will Benefield Michael Chatwin Jacob Clare Daniel Cruickshank Boston Haddon Jonnee Harris Joshua Leggett Gyan Lumo Alexander Macrides Joshua McWilliam Hayden Neale Pieter Jan Pape

Thomas Patten Hamish Pook Ethan Price Thomas Roach Kase Rowling-Colebourn Cade Rowlingson Tiernan Sanders Julius Spiers Kevin van Baar Kent Willcock

Lachlan Virtue

Liam Walton

## **LEVEL 2 EXCELLENCE**

Kian Bennett Sam Kelly Alfie Rird Finn Lally Andre Bouma **Dyrel Lumiwes** Brendan Boyd Leo McDonald Guantian Chen Max McNamara Ross Cockburn Torin O'Sullivan Daniel Ward Michael Echague



Last year's Merit Achievers were congratulated at an Assembly



#### **MOTORCROSS**



Jack Coleman is just one of our competitive motocross riders, in a team managed by Mr Jackways. Here he is competing at the the North King Country Interschool event in the 12-16yr 85cc class. He was awarded 4th place. Two other year nines - Josh and Toby were also at the event.

## **POWERING POTENTIAL** CAMP

There's a ton of cool camps out there for motivated students! Here's what last year's Proxime Accessit (2nd to Dux) Sebastian Manning got up to over the summer break.

Powering Potential is a three day summer camp where 40 students who enlisted via video application got to fly down to Wellington. After some friendly introductions and icebreakers, we were given various questions. My question was "How can New Zealand best do genome sequencing, both practically and ethically?" and I had four very gifted and friendly team mates to help me problem sove.

Even though we spent time researching and putting together our power point, we had a lot of fun and good food too. From escape rooms to pantomimes to extravagant dinners, all of us had a lot of excitement that far exceeded our expectations and the Royal Society of New Zealand could not have done a better job.

I would like to thank Mr Wood for recommending me for this amazing event, as well as Mrs Gray for spending a great deal of her time helping me with my video application, without her time or creativity I would have missed out on a fantastic and inspiring event.

#### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

The Year 13 Outdoor Education boys have been busy, with two trips in term 1.

The first saw them complete the 19.4km, Tongariro Crossing on the central plateau. This trip provides students with a context on which to base their assignment on risk management.

Their second trip was just north of Coromandel where they had to swim to shore with all of the gear required for four students, crammed into a 60L dry barrel (alongside some essential items) as part of their Bush Survival unit standard.

The assignment was to make shelters to sleep in, make a water collection device and a working trap. Students started with 4 sausages and 500g of rice per group, and had to catch and forage if they got hungry!





#### OLD BOYS WOW AT HAMILTON GARDENS FESTIVAL

Did you know that Yr 10 Dean, Mr Malcolm Barr, is an outstanding musician, conductor and performer? He regularly pulls together 'big band performances' - you know, with trombones and saxophones and rhythm sections that have your toes tapping to jazz and swing numbers (students, ask your parents!). Well he did it again at our recent Gardens Festival, and two of our 2019 students wowed the crowd with their vocal performances with the band. Conor Zampese and Ben Wilson were smooth, polished and treated the crowd to some classics.

This is the same Mr Barr, an Old Boy of St John's too, that leads our Liturgy Music group at Mass and supports our Music department and Arts students in a host of other ways. We're lucky to have him!



Conor Zampese and Ben Wilson performing at Hamilton Gardens Festival

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#### **NZSO VISIT**

The music department were very excited to have a private concert and Q and A session with 10 members of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in March. The musicians spoke about how rewarding it is playing music as their full time job. Mrs McHugh and Mr Barr then took all of the year 10-13 Music students to Claudelands Events centre to watch their performance featuring 'The Composer is Dead' with text by Lemony Snicket and music by Nathaniel Stookey.

This is the first time the NZSO has performed an educational concert like this in Hamilton and it was a great experience for the students. Special thanks to St John's College old boy, Simon Brew, who works for the NZSO, who helped coordinate the day's events.

**CRICKET SEASON REPORT** 

- Mrs Donna McHugh, TIC Music





## YEAR 8 INFORMATION EVENING

Prospective Year 8 students and their families should keep an eye on the College website for updates on an Information Tour schedule. These are a great opportunity to visit the College and tour its Faculties. We'll also be notifying parents through their contributing Catholic schools newsletter. Please pass this information on to friends and family who are considering St John's College for 2021.

St John's Cricket is going from strength to strength with 5 teams currently competing in various grades in Hamilton.

The McQuarrie Development 1st XI leading the way. They are currently topping the points table in the Hamilton Senior A 2-Day mens grade with one pool game to be played. The team also managed to finish in a very strong 3rd position in the Hamilton Limited overs mens grade, missing out on the final by one point. Lastly, the 1st XI also managed to qualify for the 2020 ND Gillette Cup.

The Colts Development team is also having a great season. They are currently unbeaten in the Year 10 grade with only one match remaining.

#### - Mr Joe Smal, Director of Cricket



1st XI

## **ONLINE ENROLMENT**

Enrolment applications for students wanting to begin Year 9 in 2021 should be made online. A link will be available on the College's Enrolment pages from April 29.

Applications should be received by the end of Term 2 to ensure these are considered in the first round of decision making.

Go to the College's Enrolment page for all the information you need.

**Enrol** 





## BEST EVER NISS ROWING CHAMPS

Mr Brown was a wee bit pleased with his rowing crews following the North Island Secondary Schools Regatta at Karapiro in March. 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 6 crews in A Finals and 2 crews in B finals may well count as St John's strongest performance yet at this major competition.

The 2019/20 rowing squad has produced steady results all season, consistently making top finals in each regatta. Our U18 Coxed Quad scooped the gold at NISS - congratulations to Sebastian Fulton, Finn Hamill, Reuben Ngapo and Thomas Dewar. Finn Hamill backed up with a solid Silver in the U18 Single. Our overall results earned us 18th placing out of 99 schools - a testament to our strong rowers, coaching and management given our relative small team.

This follows a bronze in the U18 quad, silver in the U18 single and gold in the U18 double at the earlier North Island Club Championships. Our Novice rowers are showing real promise, with four crews achieving A finals at the AON Junior Regatta in February - a massive effort for new rowers! It's fair to say that this year's squad are punching well above their weight against other schools.

At time of writing, focus has turned to Maadi Cup in Twizel early April. Head coach for 2019/20, Rafe Standford Meisl, has proven a valuable asset to the programme pushing us harder and faster than before. He's been supported by ex-Johnnie's Alex Andersen and Ben Burgess, and although training is harder than previous seasons the results are making it all worthwhile.

St John's College Rowing would also like to acknowledge our sponsors: Everest People, Williams Salvage, Captain Compost, IMAK, Active Health, B&P Sumner Harcourts, Bootleg Gingerbeer, BSCS Trustees, Philip Deason and Jason RB Wu Dental.



#### INTRODUCING DIRECTOR OF SPORT

Prominent rugby coach Mr Leon Holden is leading the Sports Programme at St John's College. His appointment is seen as an exciting step forward for the College. "Leon brings world class coaching and player development experience that will serve our students enormously well" says Principal Mr Shane Tong. "Sport is an important dimension of our culture, and Leon shares our philosophy about the value of sport in preparing young men for life."

As a representative player across basketball, cricket and rugby in the '90s, along with a teaching background, Holden understands the sporting landscape and development pathways for young athletes. "Making sport fun and rewarding for students so that they're converts for life will be a key driver for me" explains Holden. "I like that St John's provides a wide range of sports for all students, and your Athlete Development Programme is preparing robust and confident athletes capable of performing at the highest levels."

With a roll of 840 students and growing, St John's College is already a major sporting force in the Waikato region. "Basketball is leading the way with nationally ranked performances and the College's age group rugby teams have dominated Waikato competitions in the recent years" says Holden. "Football and cricket are also delivering championship teams, so there's enormous potential for aspiring young sportsmen across all codes to be joining high performance teams here."

Holden has carved an impressive international career in rugby coaching, including stints at London Wasps under Sir Ian McGeechan British Lions Coach and with several Japanese clubs. He was Director of Rugby for the Waikato Rugby Union from 2014-16 and remains actively involved in the domestic game. His roots are in Hamilton, having trained as a teacher and played with the Marist Rugby Club here in the early 1990's. "We're very lucky to have a Director of this calibre and with Leon's immense experience." acknowledges Principal Tong. "He is the ideal fit for St John's so we can continue to give our young men opportunities to perform at the highest level."

#### L3 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK AT WAIHI BEACH

The L3 Geography students were lucky to spend a beautiful day at Waihi Beach helping Jake Dolan celebrate his 18th birthday - what better way to spend your birthday eh Jake? Research information was gathered (in between cutting the cake), to help the students analyse the differences in the coastal processes occurring between Bowentown and the Top 10 end of the 9 kilometre tombolo that is Waihi beach. A beautiful day for it and everyone came away with a better understanding of coastal processes!

#### - Mrs Andrea Bossenger, Geography Teacher



Yr 13's studying coastal processes at Waihi Beach



Happy 18th Jake!



## **ATHLETICS DAY**





This is always the brightest and most light hearted event on the College Calendar. A beautiful hot day saw the Steeplechase get more entries than usual - mostly because the boys could cool off at the water jump! Congratulations to our Champions and well done to all the young men who competed and participated - this was a day of Johnnies spirit not to be missed.

The Finau brothers deserve a special mention. Amilame Finau broke two records this year - the Intermediate Triple Jump with a distance of 12.16 (beating the record previously held by his brother Tevita) and the 200m record in a time of 23.13 which was set in 2011 by Mathew Blackie. Amilame also holds the junior Discuss record. HIs brother Tevita holds 4 records (100m Int Hurdles, Snr Discus, Snr Long Jump and Snr Triple).

The other record broken was in the Junior Shotput. Micah Tokanga Ki he Kolasi Fale beat the record set in 2011 by Doven Barlow with a distance of 12.76.





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| Junior Champion       | William Greentree |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Intermediate Champion | Amilame Finau     |
| Senior Champion       | Danny Squire      |

| CENTRAL ZONE ATHLETICS TOP PERFORMERS                             |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Amilame Finau   | 1st INT 100m<br>1st INT 200m<br>1st INT 100m Hurdles<br>1st INT 300m Hurdles |  |
| Sione Finau   | 1st SNR Discus   |  |
| Micah Fale  | 1st JNR Shotput  |  |
| Keoni Albert  | 1st JNR Long Jump  |  |
| William Greentree   | 2nd JNR 200m<br>3rd JNR 100m<br>3rd JNR 300m                                 |  |
| Finlay Hamill   | 3rd SNR 800m   |  |
| Daniel Nobilo   | 3rd SNR High Jump  |  |
| Aiden Payne-Isaacs  | 3rd SNR Discus   |  |
| Kyan Rangitutia   | 3rd INT Triple Jump  |  |
| Ewald Schreuder   | 3rd INT Shotput  |  |
| Shawn Halford   | 3rd JNR 800m<br>3rd JNR 1500m  |  |
| Conall O'Toole  | 3rd JNR Discus   |  |
| Halen King;<br>Hamish McGill;<br>William Greentree;<br>Micah Fale | 3rd JNR 4x100m Relay   |  |

| TOUCH RUGBY         |                 |  |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Te Taiwhanga Timoko | Waikato U18     |  |
| Zeke Maulder        | Waikato U16A    |  |
| Kyan Rangitutia     | Waikato U16A    |  |
| Kobe Reed           | Waikato U16A    |  |
| Xavier Mihaere      | Waikato U16A    |  |
| Sakiusa Kama        | Waikato U16 Mix |  |
| Jacob Te Rangi      | Waikato U16 Mix |  |
| Rico Thompson       | Waikato U16B    |  |



#### **SWIMMING SPORTS**



Taniko Shane set a new INT 50M Freestyle record



Boston Haddon set two new records

Around 60 of our competitive swimmers kept the St John's College Swimming Sports tradition alive at Waterworld in March. A much shortened programme because of, you know, but we still had a highly successful and enjoyable day with two new records established!

on who broke two records. He now holds the SNR 50M Freestyle Record with a swim of 24:97 seconds, breaking a record which had stood since 2006. He also broke the OPEN 200M Individual Medley record with a time of 2.20:50.

And congratulations to intermediate swimmer Taniko Shane who broke the INT 50M Freestyle record twice on the day with his best time being 26:59 seconds.

House winner on the day: RONCALLI!

- Mrs Sarndra Petrin









#### **WEIGHTS ROOM**

The ADP lads and after hours athletes are enjoying new kit and weights rigs in the Weights Room next to the gym arena. We owe yet another round of thanks to the Grassroots Trust, who donated funds to supplement the kit we already had, and replace some older gear with new. Thanks also to ADP Trainer Rohan Kandoi who has spent many hours organising the facility so it serves our users.

Once school returns to normal, all students will have an opportunity to join up as a Weights member. For \$50/term, students can train twice per week under the qualified supervision of Rohan, and with a personalised programme to follow. The College is not making money from charging a membership, but like all extracurricular activity we need to cover the costs of supervision so that our young men can train safely and effectively.

## **RAY WHITE SUPPORTING RUGBY**

Parents and visitors to St John's can be in no doubt about Ray White's support of the College's rugby programme, thanks to a large sign now overlooking the carpark. Ray White Hamilton partners Mark Keesom and Fraser Coombes love rugby and wanted to get behind the development programme at St John's. There's been a real lift in aspiration, determination and commitment from parents and coaches in recent years and this sponsorship deal is another step forward in lifting our game across all grades. So if you're thinking of buying or selling, please talk to Ray White and consider supporting them with your business.

Rugby preparation was in full swing before the pandemic interrupted. A 26 man 1st XV squad had been named and was into serious pre-season training. The season will include a number of traditional and CNI Competition matches, pitting our men against some of the top secondary schools in the country. We've also arranged for a curtain raiser match at Marist Park ahead of the Marist v Hautapu derby match. An impressive coaching panel led by John Walters, with Assistants Milton Ross and Murray Driver, Managers Kath Holmes and Kevin O'Brien and Medic Cameron Holmes, bring solid rugby nous and experience to squad. This is a year that players can really achieve to their full potential, and we're looking forward to getting them underway!





#### **CATHOLIC CHARACTER**

From January 24-26 our St John's College Special Character Leaders, John Paca and Rainald Velondo, attended the LOGOS Salt and Light Camp held at Eastern Beach, Auckland. This camp brought together around 50 young Special Character leaders from Catholic Schools throughout the Auckland Diocese and Hamilton City.

The group enjoyed perfect weather as they developed not only their leadership abilities but also deepened in their understanding of their faith lived in community. Both John and Rainald expressed their gratitude to St John's College for giving them this opportunity to grow in confidence with their leadership role within our school. They enjoyed returning to Auckland to participate in the LOGOS Youth Mass later in February.

## **COMMISSIONING MASS WITH BISHOP STEVE**

On Thursday 13 February a number of our staff and students celebrated mass with Bishop Steve and students and staff from other Catholic schools of the Diocese. The occasion was Bishops commissioning mass for all our schools as we started the academic year. The date of the mass also doubled as a celebration of 5 years since Bishop Steve received his episcopal ordination. Congratulations to Bishop Steve. It is by no means a simple task he has been given.

## **NET AT ST JOHN'S COLLEGE**

Thanks to the efforts and generous funding of Bishop Steve, NET (National Evangelisation Team) have arrived at St John's College to assist us in bringing our staff and students into a deeper understanding of and relationship with Jesus Christ. The NET team members hail from Australia and Canada. They interact with our students during break times and in the classroom.

They led our Y12 retreats in March and students have been unanimous in saying that it's easier to relate to them as 'fellow' young people. NET will travel throughout our Diocese working with the students of our other colleges and in some of our parishes. Bishop's vision is that NET will be working in the Diocese for the next 4 years. Thank you, Bishop Steve, for your vision and generosity.



Fiona, John, Tammy, Bishop Steve, Diana and

## **RANGIAOWHIA** COMMEMORATIONS

On Friday 21 February, the Special Character Team, at the invitation of Bishop Steve, travelled to Rangiaowhia to commemorate the loss of innocent lives that occurred there in 1864. Approximately 400 - 600 students from a variety of our Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Hamilton were also present.

After the liturgy everyone wandered among the graves where we accompanied Bishop with song and prayer. We then journeyed by foot to the Rangiaowhia Hall where students were able to enjoy their lunches with the addition of juicy water melon. It was great to see one of our old boys from 2018, Carter Harris, helping distribute both water and watermelon.

Whānau of those killed at Rangiaowhia all those years ago spoke to the students to help them understand the pain and sorrow that the families of those left behind experienced, the hardships they had to endure with not only the loss of family members but also of their livelihoods with the confiscation of their extremely productive land.

It was very educational for all those who attended and helped us understand a little known part of our Waikato and New Zealand history.









## PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE





