



PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE



A NIGHT IN PARIS COLLEGE BALL

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SITTING BACK AND SAVING LIVES

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



“Our role as parents and supporters is to offer guidance, encouragement to be brave in their choices, and reassurance that we’ll always have their back.”

DEAR PARENTS

At this time of the school year, it is the students who are preparing to leave us who are on our minds. Spare a thought for our Yr13s, and the Yr 12s that are leaving us this year. Unfortunately for them they have missed out on much, in what is usually their most rewarding and enjoyable year as a student. I'm glad we were able to have a school ball, but no MC Day celebration, limited sport and missing out on the awards and representative honours that come with that, weeks out of school and general uncertainty will have taken the gloss off. We are still hoping and planning to have our full closing mass and prize giving, followed by the leavers dinner the next evening. The boys are aware of what they have missed and are naturally disappointed. Our leavers will be feeling a range of emotions as they now look to their immediate futures.

Last week we had Wintec and the University of Waikato come and speak to some of our boys about the opportunities available as school leavers. Many of our boys are really interested in tertiary study as an option in the future. We often hear that the youth of today will have 14 or 15 jobs in their lifetime and that many of these jobs are yet to be invented. The sheer volume of information and career choices is difficult and often stressful for young men to navigate a pathway forward, toward a future in which they can imagine themselves being happy.

While we parents might talk of the high school years being 'the best of your life' and that 'the world is their oyster', the reality is that for many College is a difficult time. Boys are learning to find themselves, become comfortable in their own skin and courageous enough to not care what others might think. So while many of our leavers are excited to start the next phase in their journey to adulthood, some are feeling frightened about stepping away from the safety of the school grounds for the last time. Remember that where we might see the world as their oyster, they are also seeing potential pitfalls and disappointments.

We must be patient with these boys, even to the point of allowing them to fail in something that they are desperate to try so that they can discover for themselves what they are best suited for. Our role as parents and supporters is to offer guidance, encouragement to be brave in their choices, and reassurance that we'll always have their back. So let us spare a thought and a prayer for our young men as they prepare to leave us for the last time in a few short weeks, that they will find their place in the world and that they discover a career that they love.

As one cohort prepare to leave another is preparing to start. We again have strong numbers of year eight enrolments for 2021. There are many indicators of how well a school is going, and how well it is meeting the needs of the community. Families enrolling means that there is synergy between what you, our community, wants and what we as a College are delivering.

Nga mihi nui

- Mr Shane Tong, Principal





FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC CHARACTER

We have made it to the second half of the year and by God's grace we are still able to function fairly normally here at the College. Unfortunately one major event that was affected by the change in Covid 19 alert levels was our school feast day which falls on the date of the death of St Marcellin Champagnat - June 6. This was initially postponed to August, but with the move back to Level 2 the feast day celebrations were cancelled because the rest of the year needs to be dedicated to helping our students gain their credits.

Cancelling MC Day was a real shame as 29 of our students were to have received a number of the sacraments at mass in the Cathedral before all their Johnnies brothers, acting as witnesses to the faith. These students will still receive the sacraments they have been prepared for and we are in discussions with Bishop Steve as to when that might be. But this disappointment of a feast day left uncelebrated twice reminds us of the reality of our lives - that our plans are in God's hands because we don't actually have the control we often assume we have or like to think we have.

I think of the struggles that St Marcellin went through to found the Marist Brothers, the opposition he encountered, the secular nature of the society in which he lived, the daily hardships, the plans he made that didn't bear fruit. St Marcellin understands all too well what we are experiencing today and so it becomes clear that the need for the Marist mission is as real today as it was back in 1817, and the need for us to have a spirit of faith and trust in God and God's ways (which are not always our ways - Isaiah 55:8-9) is just as necessary.

Recently I was reading an article by Br. Manoel Alves titled "Partnerships Global Challenge" found in 'Champagnat, a journal of Marist education', (Volume 5 Number 2, should anyone want to read the entire article). In it Br Manoel writes: *"To keep us in touch with the convictions of the Founder, we point to four fundamental presuppositions of our Marist mission: presence at the heart of a secularized world; the service of children and young people, especially the most deprived; a plan of action of formal education based on established priorities; and building an educational network."*

Our own plans for our lives are not meant to be the focus but, rather, whether or not we are fulfilling the plans of God in our lives and fulfilling the mission he has entrusted to us. As partners in the Marist mission by virtue of working here, sending our sons here, being Old Boys, being connected through family ties or being community supporters of the school, our mission is to be the presence of Christ as modelled by Mary our Good Mother to the family and community in which we live.

Changing Covid alert levels doesn't change this. Rather, it provides us all with new opportunities to be that *'presence at the heart of a secularized world'*, to support our young people with our wisdom and experience, to walk with faith and trust in God and lead others who struggle to make sense of their plans being changed.

May God bless all of us with a heart to accept His plans, eyes to see His hand in our lives, and His grace to carry us through the daily challenges that we experience.

God bless,

- Mr Marcel Bormans, Director of Catholic Character



"... our mission is to be the presence of Christ as modelled by Mary our Good Mother to the family and community in which we live."



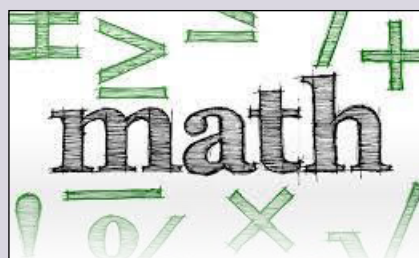
KEY DATES 2020

TERM 4

12 October	Teacher Only Day
13 October	Start of Term 4
26 October	Holiday (Labour Day)
3-6 November	Junior Exams
12 November	Final Mass 1pm, Senior Prizegiving 6.30pm
13 November	Leavers Dinner
13 November	Yr 8 Orientation
16 Nov - 9 Dec	NCEA Exams
4 December	Documents Day (Yr 13 and Leavers)
7-10 December	Y9 Activities / Y10 Camps
11 December	Junior Prizegiving, End of School Year

2021 TERM 1

2 February	Teacher Only Day
3 February	Year 9 and Yr 13 Start
5 February	All Students
8 February	Waitangi Day Holiday
2- 6 April	Easter Break
16 April	Term 1 Ends



MATHS TUTORIALS

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

BLOOD DRIVE

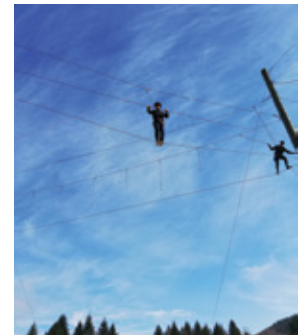
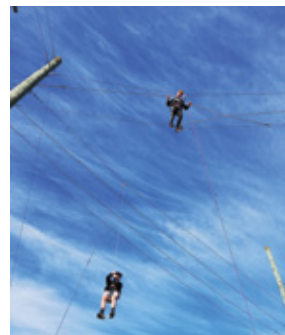
We hosted the annual blood drive in our school library on the 20th of August. It was an opportunity for our young men to give back to our community by donating blood that will be used for a variety of essential medical procedures. We had 55 people come along to donate and we ended up collecting 49 units of blood which is the best collection from St Johns since 2016. There were a lot of nerves in the room to begin with but they were soon coaxed into relaxing with the reward of chocolate, Up and Go and bananas.



The staff from the New Zealand Blood Service commented on the exemplary behaviour and manners of young men and they are looking forward to returning to St John's in 2021.

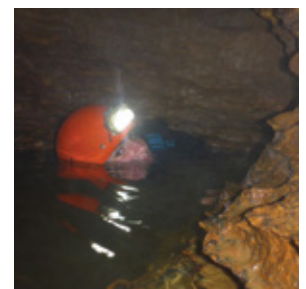
- Mrs Katie Williams, Assistant Principal

12OED ROPES COURSE



After a long wait the Year 12 Outdoor Education boys were finally able to get off site and into the outdoors. Two classes headed to Rock n Ropes in Taupo to complete the Low & High Ropes course. This was a real buzz for the boys and it was great to see many of them push past their fear of heights. The weather sorted itself out and we had a cracking afternoon.

Two weeks later we drove to the Waitomo Caves to challenge ourselves on the 'Haggas Honking Holes'. This was an awesome trip for the boys, where they completed a 20m abseil, a waterfall abseil, underwater hole squeeze, rock climb and a no light navigation through a section of the cave.



We now focus our attention to Mountain Biking and prepare for our trip to the Redwoods in the coming weeks.

- Mr T. Neil, Year 12 OED Teacher

QUIZ FUNDRAISER



We could not have packed another person into the Library on the night of the Rugby Quiz. Fantastic support from our rugby and school community made for a fun and entertaining night out and your St John's College Rugby Committee deserve a huge round of applause for their hard work in making it happen. Around \$5,000 was raised on the night - that's \$5,000 going towards equipment, uniforms and our player development programme.



CHESS TEAM OUTING 2020

This year there has only been a regional annual competition to select the team to represent Waikato at the National Secondary School Competition. Traditional foes Hamilton Boys High School, St Paul's Collegiate and St John's College lined up on an August Sunday in the HBHS hall. The team is ranked as Board's 1 to 4 in this order, Conell O'Toole, Sam Hodgson, John Baunton-Browne, and Peter Labur, with reserve Joanas Daborn.

We didn't tell our new team that their HBHS opponents consisted of seniors who placed third in last year's National competition, and their Board 1 player was the best overall player in New Zealand! Despite the very tough competition, our boys did not disgrace themselves and kept the HBHS players honest, making them earn their wins despite the normal jitters at the start. HBHS did win 4 - 0 but when we played St Pauls the tables were turned and it was our turn to score 4 -0. A very good effort from a very new team.



- Mr Steve Wood, TIC Chess



EXPLORING MĀORI SPIRITUALITY

Staff were blessed with the presence of Pa David Gledhill, a Marist priest, and Pa Gerard Paterson, our Vicar for Māori for the Diocese of Hamilton at our July Teacher Only Day, so we could learn more about Māori Spirituality in the context of Catholicism.

We are called as a staff to help our Māori students not just academically but in the wider context of who they are and how they fit into our world with all its demands and expectations. Pa David and Pa Gerard were both entertaining, humorous and upfront with what they had to share.

What we are called to recognize is that each student and each person we meet has a spirituality of some description that influences them and the decisions they make and that is a fundamental building block of who they are as a person. We, as staff and as parents, need to help all our students/children discover the spiritual connections they have and to allow these positive connections to shape for the better who they are, who they will be and how they will interact with the world in which they find themselves. What is sad is when so many people fail to recognize this aspect of themselves in their own lives. Non-recognition of who we are spiritually and the connections we have to the spiritual is what often leads to a feeling of emptiness and a longing for something that we can't quite put our finger on.

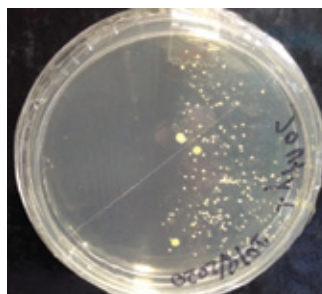
- Mr Marcel Bormans, Director of Catholic Character

THE EVIDENCE FOR SANITISER

Mrs Fairweather's Yr 11 students have been learning about micro-organisms.

Jonty Littin swabbed the back of his phone before and then after cleaning it with hand sanitiser and inoculated a nutrient agar plate.

The plate below shows how effective hand sanitiser is in killing bacteria - before on the right side, and after on the left. Hopefully it kills viruses too although we can't see them so easily.



PTFA ACTION

The PTFA recently held their AGM on 13 July in the St John's College staffroom beginning at 7pm. Members present discussed the last 15 months of activity. Richard Ferdinands continues to be your Chairperson, Kat Dale will be taking over from Pip Maternaghan as secretary and Denise Vincent continues in the role of Treasurer.

We would like to give a big thank you to Pip who has held the role of secretary for a number of years and done a fantastic job! Thank you to Richard and Denise for continuing to give of their time and expertise to lead us in their roles and to Kat for stepping into the secretary role during her first year on our PTFA.

At the regular monthly meeting, The PTFA gifted \$500 to the school for the purchase of an Oxygen Resuscitation Kit to add to our First Aid equipment and readiness.

We're now focused on organisation of the Leavers Dinner for Y13s and their parents, here at school on Friday 13 November. Do you have a business and would like to sponsor \$250 to help cover the cost of setting up and running the evening, in return for some advertising on the night? Please contact our Treasurer - Denise Vincent on 027 4846-764 or email her at: dvincent1919@gmail.com

The PTFA also continues to make available preloved uniform items available for purchase from the school. To check prices and place an order go to our St John's College Hamilton website. Click on Enrolment, then School Uniform, then Second Hand Uniform. The money from the sale of the uniforms go to the St John's College Student Welfare Fund. Examples of what might be covered by St John's College Welfare are: camps; activities; subject educational school trips; uniform (2nd hand where possible and brand new if not possible); stationery.

Please, if you have a need, contact either Marcel mbormans@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz or Carolyn cmorris@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz and make a request.

TUTORIALS

ENGLISH

Tuesday afternoons, 3.25 - 4.30
in the Library



TIPS TO REDUCE STRESS

- 1 Connect with others.** Reach out to mates in whatever way you can: Instagram, SnapChat, Facetime, Skype, Discord. Meet up with friends or family members face-to-face. Look forward to arriving at school to see your friends in the morning.
 - 2 Give:** of your time and energy. It's easy to get caught up in the "It's all about ME" mentality. Can you help a younger sibling with their homework? Do the dishes without being asked? Ring a grandparent? You may be surprised how doing one small thing for someone else lifts your mood.
 - 3 Take Notice** of things around you. This is Mindfulness. Take time to *breathe slowly*; take a walk and LOOK at the beautiful colours of the trees, the blue sky, kids laughing. Be aware and acknowledge what you are *thankful for*, right now, in this moment.
 - 4 Keep Learning:** This challenges your brain to focus on new things, which brings a fresh energy to your whole body. Keep it in balance with the other 5 aspects of good mental health as well.
 - 5 Be Active:** Get outside and exercise, every day. This gets rid of the stored up adrenaline and cortisol which is released into your body when you're feeling stressed. If you can make your exercise a good cardio workout (significantly increased heart rate) you will notice how much more relaxed you'll feel afterwards.
- **Reach out for help:** It's really important you ASK for help when you need to. Parents, teachers, and friends can all be there to listen and help you to *problem-solve* certain situations. **1737** is a good number to text or ring to talk with a counsellor 24/7.
 - You can always drop in to Student Services to have a chat with Ms. Morris, our school counsellor.

If you or someone you know is feeling stressed or anxious, our friends at Vaka Tautua can offer you support through their helpline 0800 OLA LELEI (0800 652 535)

LeVa Pasifika also provides information and support for Pasifika families on mental health, addiction and suicide prevention.

Check out SPARX

An online computer game that helps young people with mild depression and anxiety, that's designed to help young people 12-19. You'll meet a guide, create your own avatar and complete quests and solve puzzles on your journey.



You've arrived at our interactive game-world, designed to help young people who are feeling down. I'll be your guide. Have you seen the SPARX trailer? Check it out!

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR SACRAMENTAL STUDENTS

On the 21st June a full school assembly was held in the new school gym. Advantage was taken of this gathering to present to the entire school body, staff and students, the 29 students who have been preparing for the reception of the sacraments over the previous 6 weeks.



While the prospect of standing in front of your peers can be daunting, all of the boys faced up to the challenge without the blink of an eye, perhaps helped by the fact that I didn't warn them this was going to happen prior to the assembly. Our Principal, then walked down the row of boys shaking their hands and having a word with them, something that all the boys appreciated and that made them feel special. This public witness to our faith is something we are all called to give but it can be very challenging and daunting. Well done boys.

- Mr Marcel Bormans, Director of Catholic Character

UPDATE - MUFTI DAY DONATION TO SAN MICHEL, VANUATU

We received a grateful thank you from St Michel for our \$1000 Mufti day donation, along with some progress photos on rebuilding their Mechanic Technology Block.

If you would like to make any further donations to San Michel then feel free to contact Marcel Bormans, Director of Catholic Character at: mbormans@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz who will pass on the details necessary for making such a donation.





**TALK & LISTEN,
BE THERE,
FEEL CONNECTED**



**DO WHAT YOU CAN,
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,
MOVE YOUR MOOD**



**REMEMBER
THE SIMPLE
THINGS THAT
GIVE YOU JOY**



**EMBRACE NEW
EXPERIENCES.
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,
SURPRISE YOURSELF**










**Your time,
your words,
your presence**



WHANAUNGATANGA

No boy will miss out at St John's if their family are in some kind of hardship. Family Spirit is a pillar we live by every day in our relationships with students, and this extends to our student's families too. Together with our wider community, we can help in so many ways if we know you're struggling to make ends meet, or support your son to participate in everything he wants to do here at school. Here's some examples:

-  **Weetbix Breakfast Break 1:** Every day, Break 1 in the MC Lounge students can drop in and grab some Weetbix if they've missed breakfast. No questions asked, cruisy and easy, they just need to wash their bowl afterwards!
-  **Lunches Break 2:** Sandwiches and fruit supplied by the wonderful folk at St Vincent de Paul are available from the Learning Support Room window (opens out to the courtyard) every Break 2. No questions asked, handy if you've just forgotten your lunch one day too.
-  **FoodBank:** Every mufti day our community donates non-perishable cans and pasta etc to our very own Foodbank. If you need help to feed your family please let us know and we can drop a parcel to your door. Please let our community help you - because we're whānau, that's what we do.
-  **Meals in a Crisis:** A death in the family, illness or other family circumstances can knock us sideways. Our "Johnnie's Angels" provide home cooked meals to help you through those initial weeks. Thanks to the PTFA who run this service - we keep this anonymous, helpers are simply asked to provide a meal, no names change hands!
-  **Uniform:** A 2nd hand shop runs online where uniform items are sold quite cheaply, but we'll also donate uniform and shoes if students need them. Just let us know what you need.
-  **Stationery:** Such an expensive time at the beginning of the year getting your boys sorted for school - if you can't manage the stationery order let us know. We have a supply here and can get the basics to your son.
-  **School Charges / Invoices:** Your son will not miss out if you can't pay all your school charges. But please let us know so together we can work on ways to ease that pressure for you. Really important to tell us if you can't pay for an after hours activity like sport, we'll find a way to help.
-  **Diocesan Attendance Dues:** There are hardship relief options available to you. Phone or email the Catholic Diocese Office on 07 858 3710, dues@cdh.org.nz to let them know about your situation.
-  **Please Ask for Help:** Of course we'll keep any request confidential and we'll be super discreet in the ways we can help. Tell us for yourself, or let us know about another family that needs a hand. Drop us an email to familyspirit@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz or call direct to speak with one of these people:

School Bill: Mrs Dianne Murphy, Finance, 07 856 7091 ext 2821 - she's lovely!

Student or Whanau Support: Mrs Carolyn Morris, Head of Counselling 07 856 7091 ext 2747 or Mr Marcel Bormans, Director Catholic Character 07 856 7091 ext 2749 - they're lovely too!

LAUGHS APLENTY



After braving COVID restrictions, uncertainty about the fate of the competition and a shorter, more intense competitive season, St John's College's Junior and Senior Theatresports teams took to the Waikato finals on

Monday the 7th of September. What followed was a hilarious night full of talent and very tough competition, that saw our teams challenged by other students and the judges alike. In the end, the St John's Junior team (appropriately named the Holy Boys) came in a close second to our yearly rivals Hillcrest High. The theatresports teams are coached by Mr Conor Maxwell and Mrs Mandy Hale, and every year continue to build our school's reputation as a comedic force to be reckoned with! Congratulations to our senior and junior competitors: Thomas Button, Thomas Srhoj, Justin Flintoff, Charlie Raj, Harry Ashton, Rory O'Carroll, Raphael Ferdinands and Alex Keogh.

- Mr Conor Maxwell, TIC Theatresports

NEW BUS ROUTE PROPOSED

Waikato Regional Council's BUSIT team are planning a new bus service to link the west and east of Hamilton, launching next year. The service will replace the 2 Silverdale and 8 Frankton buses and be:

- Frequent - running every 15 minutes weekdays
- Direct - no more needing to change buses
- Linking key destinations - from St John's students will be able to get to Silverdale, Hamilton East, the CBD, Frankton, Dinsdale, Nawton and the Rotokauri Rise areas, all without having to change buses

The route is currently out for public consultation - if your son is a bus user, have a look, and please take the time to provide feedback. For more information and to have your say visit: <https://www.busit.co.nz/travelling-with-us/new-bus-servicenecessary>.





1ST XI HOCKEY

Based on a COVID shortened season and no end of year tournament, the decision was made to enter A grade for the first time in a number of years. With an exceptionally young team, 10 juniors in our squad of 17, we saw the step up as an opportunity to get experience for next year knowing that results this year were unlikely to be favourable. The season kicked off with our traditional friendly game against Sacred Heart Girls 1st XI.



After being shell-shocked in the first match, players have improved in an aspect of play in each game. While we are yet to put our best game on the turf for an entire match, the highlight so far has been a close match versus St Peters. While the juniors are finding it tough competing against their older opposition they have all improved and had their individual moments.

A management decision made during lockdown to scale back practices has hampered our progress, but it has been great hearing of players doing extra work at lunchtimes and at home to develop their skills and we are seeing the benefits of their extra work in our practices and games. The season has allowed us to identify the changes we need to make after the end of the season to prepare us for 2021. Results: 1 win - 4 losses.

2ND XI HOCKEY

Despite a shortened COVID season, this team has grown under a new coach/manager team - thank you to Craig Ward, Thomas Davy and Kathy Duff for stepping up.

We are a new look team this season with 7 players continuing from last year and 9 new to the squad. Even though we're playing in C grade we are finding that the majority of our opposition has been 1st XI teams. While struggling to compete on the scoreboard, we are learning what hockey looks like at that level and where we can aspire to be. Our Goal Keep and defence get a good workout most games. We have put together 4 well deserved goals during our season with 2 of them against a 1st XI opposition. Morale is high and we are just thankful in these unprecedented times to have been able to have a hockey season. It is just great to see the boys out on the turf enjoying their chosen sport.

- Mr Ub Van Jaarsveld, TIC Hockey



WINTER SPORTS WEEK SUCCESS FOR 1ST XI FOOTBALL

Even though NZSS Football cancelled all the usual Winter Tournaments, Lindisfarne College gained permission to hold a Central North Island (CNI) tournament at Level 2 and under. The team travelled down to Hastings on the Sunday in preparation for Monday's games against Francis Douglas of New Plymouth and Rathkeal from Masterton. A great start, notching up 2 wins on Day 1 3 nil & 1 nil respectively.

All 5 pool games in the first 3 days were played at the Mitre 10 Sports Park which was hard as rock (mud dried by sun) creating a very bobbly pitch. Not ideal for this St John's team who like to play a dominant short passing game. With wins over Whakatane High School - 2 nil, St John's College Hastings - 3 nil, and Horowhenua College - 4 nil, the team advanced to the semi finals to play host school Lindisfarne College at The Farne, a big well groomed pitch ideal for St John's College.

The weather turned on Thursday with freezing cold winds and light drizzle coming off the Ruahine Ranges capped with snow. After scores locked nil all at halftime St John's College were too good for Lindisfarne wearing them down to create plenty of chances and eventually capitalising to win 2 nil. Captain Jerson Lagos Giraldo was influential in midfield and led the way scoring in every game in the lead up to the final.

The Final was also played @ The Farne against Whangarei Boys, a much taller and bigger side who like to dominate by being physical. The St John's College boys wouldn't have a bar of it and continued to play smart football with a quick passing game. For the majority of the match St John's College dominated, allowing Whangarei only a couple of half chances. A beautifully placed free kick by Tom Walters 20 mins in proved to be the winner. Toby Dowsett was unlucky being denied by the post late in the match. Whangarei battled till the end but like everyone else, couldn't penetrate through the backline.

This St John's College team went through the tournament undefeated and without conceding a goal. This is no easy feat, it's actually unbelievable.

A big congratulations to Geraint Walters who since his tenure coaching the 1st XI (over the past 5 years) has won 2 winter tournaments (2016 & 2020) and finished runners up (2019). And a special thanks to Nick Walters for being G's Assistant over the past 2 seasons.

A huge thank you to Kerron Sexton for

managing the team this year and pretty much organising everything in the lead up to tournament. Thank you to Karyn Walters for giving up her time to also attend and help Kerron with the mundane tasks at tournament. A big thanks to Old Boy Brendan O'Neill arranging with Vege King - Heaphy Terrace to donate the fruit & vege providing the sustenance needed for the week long tournament.

The team would like to thank everyone who has supported them this season. Your support is always appreciated.

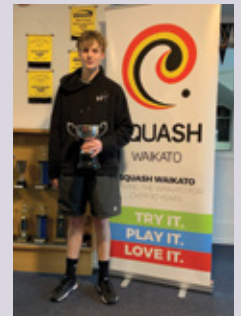
- Mr Hayden Miller, TIC Football





SAM KELLY - A GRADE AND GOING PLACES

Perhaps the best sporting news of Term 3 was Sam Kelly's selection into the NZ Secondary Schools Squash team. Sam earned his place after our St John's College team competed at the NZSS team's tournament in Tauranga, and selectors chose the strongest 6 players across the whole event. Our team performed strongly too, finishing 12th out of a 40 strong field. In a normal year, the NZSS team would have competed in a Trans-Tasman clash in Australia, but sadly that opportunity's been lost to COVID.



Non-squashies don't appreciate just how athletic and fit our top players are. Sam picked up a racquet at age 9 at the Te Rapa Club and hasn't looked back. He trains 4 times a week, as well as fitting in an interclub night and tournaments most weekends. Sam finally achieved his A Grade in July this year - a rare achievement for a young man of 17, and marks him as one of NZ's top young talents.

Next goal is selection in the NZ team for the World Junior Championships 2021. Sam's training in a squad of 11 young men, and needs to get into the top 5. Hard work, dedication and real athletic ability has got Sam this far, and we've every hope we'll see him achieve that goal.

But life's not all about sport of course - Sam is headed to Canterbury University next year to study Engineering, which is regarded as a tough academic degree. Sam is a Marist man that our younger students can learn much from. He's played cricket throughout (no surprise he's been a very tidy performer in our 1st XI), played some social rugby, led our squash teams, and is a Chanel House Leader. He's well respected here for his attitude and work ethic, and we wish him every success in his studies and in his squash career.

RUGBY ROUNDUP

The season is coming to a close as of print of this edition and this is a snap shot of where our teams currently stand. Of the 10 rugby teams representing St John's College all of them will finish in the top six of their respective division and eight of them will make semi finals as a minimum.

CNI CHAMPIONSHIP	1ST XV - playoff for 5th/6th
SENIOR XV PREMIER CHAMPIONSHIP	2ND XV v HBHS in Semi Finals
SENIOR XV OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP	15A - have already qualified for the Final 3RD XV - finished 4th
UNDER 15A CHAMPIONSHIP	U/14A v St Peters U/15A in the Semi Final
UNDER 15B CHAMPIONSHIP	U/15B v Morrinsville U/15A in the Semi Final
UNDER 14 CHAMPIONSHIP	U/14B lost to HBHS U/14B 26-19 in the Semi Final
UNDER 67 KILO CHAMPIONSHIP	U/67 - have already qualified for the Final v HBHS
UNDER 57 KILO CHAMPIONSHIP	U/57 GOLD v St Pauls Gold in Semi Final U/57 BLUE v HBHS Blue in 5th/6th playoff

ST JOHN'S 1ST XV RUGBY MAJOR SPONSORS



Supporting St John's College rugby development programme

Ray White Hamilton City | 07 839 7060

rwHamilton.co.nz

BASKETBALL

Instead of focusing on all that we've missed this season, remember there's been some fantastic highlights too!

- Akiva McBirney-Griffin's awesome selection and contribution to the winning Otago Nuggets NBL team
- The naming of 2 St John's College Old Boys, Jayed Bezzant and Nikau McCullough, in the BBNZ Olympic long list of players on a pathway to Olympic selection. They join our Head Boy, Finn Lally, on that prestigious list - he's one of only 2 schoolboys in that talent ID programme.
- Awesome large crowds watching all our St John's College teams in our very own home gym. And a live streaming programme which meant we could watch from home - so professional! How proud and excited would Mel be??
- Our Eagles team are UNBEATEN this season, and that includes all the 'friendly' matches in addition to the Waikato regional comp.

At time of writing, the Eagles were headed into Waikato semi-finals playoffs, and still focused on a Nationals campaign in October - and desperately praying that will proceed. The basketball committee is very grateful to Classics Museum for their sponsorship of the code this year.





WHO'S READY TO LEAVE?

It's that time of the year when we prepare to farewell our Year 13 and senior students who will be moving on. There's a few events for students and parents to lock in now:

Final Mass	1.00pm - November 12th	Cathedral
Senior Prizegiving	6.30pm - November 12th	Cathedral
Leavers Dinner	6.00pm - November 13th	College Gym
Documents Day	10.00am - December 4th	Atrium

Year 13 students and their parents will be invited to the Leavers Dinner, held in our Gymnasium. This is a very special final celebration for all the Year 13 students who are leaving in 2020.

Documents Day / Leavers Hoody - We require Yr 13 students and other leavers to attend briefly and complete a final sign-out process. This is the day to return blazers, textbooks, sports kit and other school property, donate uniform to our 2nd hand shop, collect your leaver's hoody, and say farewell to all your favourite teachers!

2ND HAND UNIFORM

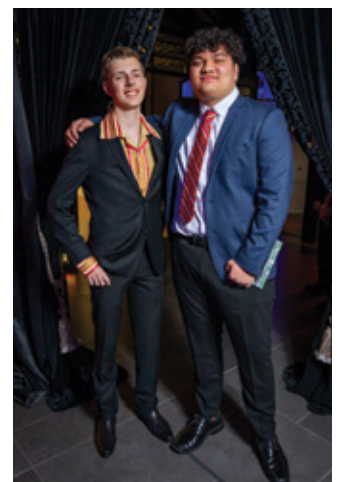
As the year draws to an end, please remember to donate unwanted uniform back to the College. The PTFA sells this through an online ordering system (search 'uniform' on our website), and it can make such a difference to families who are struggling to meet all their bills - and ain't that all of us from time to time? Uniform should be dropped into Student Services please. And better yet, sales go towards our student welfare fund, supporting students who need a hand financially.

PARENTS - LOCKDOWN REMINDER INFO

We practised a lockdown drill in September, a fire drill earlier in the term, and then a surprise fire alarm evacuation too (science experiment gone awry - plenty of smoke but NO fire!). These drills seem dull and boring to our students, but the repeated evacuations mean our students know exactly what to do, how to exit and where to gather in the event of a real emergency. We have all students evacuated in around 4 minutes, at which point roll calls are taken and we account for every person on site.

In the event of a real lockdown, parents will understandably be worried and your first instinct may be to message your son. Here's some key points for you all to understand and remember:

- The Police will be notified immediately, and the College will be following their instructions
- We will text, email, post to the St John's social media pages and post on our website with information as soon as we can, and will keep you updated as new information becomes available.
- Students are asked to LIMIT cellphone use to avoid misleading or inaccurate information being posted to public sites; the school reserves the right to collect cellphones to be held by teachers. Do not be alarmed, therefore, if your son does not respond to your messages.
- Please do NOT come to the College before you are advised to do so - you may place yourself and others in danger. You will be advised when the emergency is over, and arrangements for releasing students if that is necessary.





A NIGHT IN PARIS - 2020 BALL

Much to everyone's relief the timing for the 2020 Ball was spot on, sneaking in just before Level 2 struck again. This year's theme was A Night in Paris and the ball committee decorated the Wintec Atrium with all the glamour and flair expected of a French ballroom. Thanks to all those who contributed to making this a memorable night for everyone, including the year 11 waiters who worked tirelessly, Mrs Curran for catering a superb array of food and Miss Quinell and Mrs Bartram for all their organisation.





PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE

