



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
NCEA ENDORSEMENT
STUDENTS**

05

**MARIST STUDENT LEADERS
FORUM**

14



06

NEW BISHOP



07

**IN THE FRAME
ART EXPO**



08

**KOROWAI
TAONGA**



“

Through sport our young men learn so much about themselves, self-discipline, teamwork and humility.

”

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DEAR PARENTS

Welcome to the first edition of the Saint John's College Eagle for the year. It has truly been a great start for our school and young men with approximately 950 students on the roll. This is slightly over our maximum number and something that we will need to closely manage going forward. These enrolment numbers are unprecedented in the College's history and has meant that for 2024 a number of preference boys missed out on a place. May I remind potential parents reading this that the only guaranteed entry for your son is if he is preference and attending a local contributing Catholic school (and gets his enrolment in on time) as this is our policy. I appreciate that for some there is no local Catholic school available.

I have enjoyed watching our young men involved in sports in this early part of the year. I am always struck by the amount of support these young men get from you, our community, on the sidelines. Your sons truly appreciate it and as a school many such events could not run without parents volunteering time and expertise to help. In the same breath I am indebted to our staff who give up their time to manage or coach sports teams. There is an old saying 'kids in sport stay out of court' which is proven to be true. Through sport our young men learn so much about themselves, self-discipline, teamwork and humility. Our young men are inevitably challenged and grow from the experience. Please remember if you are unhappy with a coach's decision that these people are volunteers, giving up huge hours for the benefit of our sons and deserve respect when being communicated to.

In a similar vein I am looking forward to seeing our production 'High School Musical' and have seen some of the rehearsals. Again, this is tremendous opportunity for our boys and a big thank you to the staff who are giving up enormous hours to get the show ready.

In conjunction with the Old Boys' foundation I feel very excited to announce that our next project will be the creation of a Chapel on site. We have never had a sacred space to pray or celebrate Mass and with all of the other recent redevelopment in the College this will be a significant statement of our commitment and intention going forward: to remain a truly Catholic institution which delivers first class faith-based education.

We are excited and proud to have an old boy Richard Laurenson elected as the new Bishop of Hamilton, Bishop was the same year as me here at Saint John's so we have a long history together. Later in this edition is an interview we did recently.

Finally, I am somewhat saddened to see Marcel Bormans moving on. Mr. Bormans has been a pillar of our Catholic community and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

In the spirit of St. John

Mr Shane Tong
Principal

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC CHARACTER

Easter, a season of rejoicing that follows a season of preparation, Lent.

What were we preparing for? Our own personal salvation offered to us by the living Christ. Let us remember the words of St Paul in reference to Jesus in his letter to the Philippians:

- “who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
- 7 but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
- 8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
- 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
- 10 so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- 11 and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”

Our faith story, our Marist story, centres on the simplicity and humility of Jesus and his total dedication to his mission. In the story of Jesus, we can see a reflection of parts of the life of St Marcellin. He was aware of a mission, simple in following it through, persevering through the difficulties, dying early because of the total self-giving to others that he lived. And we know with certainty, through the confirmation by the Church in granting him sainthood, that St Marcellin now rests in the presence of God, of Jesus, Mary and all the angels and saints in Heaven. What a wonderful hope for us to have that, if we live humbly and simply, faithful to our God in every way that we can be, we too can live in God's glory.

And if we feel that we let Lent slip by, we don't need to wait until next year's Lent, we can act now in the spirit of Lent for our resurrection from this life into eternal life is a calling common to us all.

I would like to close with a few personal words. After 13 years at St John's College as a teacher of Religious Education and 7 years in the role of Director of Catholic Character, I have decided it is time to change course in my life. I will be leaving teaching and joining my wife, Stephanie Bormans, in real estate.

I am so grateful to the school community for your support over the years.

God bless,

Mr Marcel Bormans
Director of Catholic Character



“

**I am so grateful
to the school
community for
your support
over the years.**

”



KEY DATES 2024

TERM 2

29 April	Teacher Only Day
30 April	Start of Term 2 (All Years)
23 May	Y8 Information Evening
3 June	Holiday (King's Birthday)
5 June	Marcellin Champagnat Mass & Celebration Day
28 June	Matariki (Public Holiday)
5 July	End of Term 2

TERM 3

22 July	Teacher Only Day
23 July	Start of Term 3
24 July	Junior Parent Evening
14 August	Senior Parent Evening
2-6 September	Winter Tournament Week
26 September	Senior Sports Awards Evening
27 September	End of Term 3

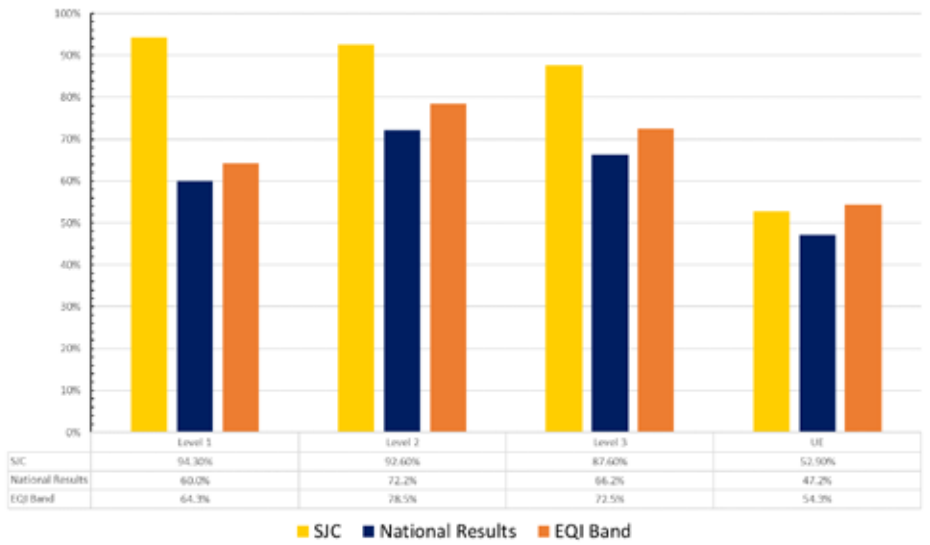
TERM 4

14 October	Start of Term 4
17 October	Arts Awards Evening
25 October	Closing Mass
28 October	Public Holiday (Labour Day)
31 October	Senior Prizegiving
1 November	Y13 Leavers' Dinner
5 November	NZQA Exams start
3-6 December	Y9 Activities Week & Y10 Camps
10 December	Junior Prizegiving & End of School Year

NCEA REPORT CARD

St John's College continues to see great NCEA results, even against the backdrop of national pass rates falling for another year. Our results continue to be some of the best within the region.

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE NCEA RESULTS 2023



	St John's College	All Schools	Similar EQI Band
NCEA Level 1	94.3%	60%	64.3%
NCEA Level 2	92.6%	72.2%	78.5%
NCEA Level 3	87.6%	66.2%	72.5%

Our Māori students have significantly higher pass rates than both national and similar EQI banded schools (Level 1 - 92.5%, Level 2 - 91.2%, Level 3 - 83.3%). Pasifika pass rates were 90.9% at Level 1, 88.9% at Level 2 and 80% at Level 3 (a significant increase over the past 2 years).

Qualification Endorsements

30.8% of students gained a Level 1 Merit endorsement, 3.7% down on the previous year and 11% gained an Excellence endorsement, down 5.7% on 2022. Excellence results were slightly below national results (16.8%).

25.8% of Level 2 students gained a merit endorsement, a spread of 0.1% over the past 3 years. 12.9% gained Excellence endorsement - a doubling of 2022 results and 1.8% below national results. Many students missed what they hoped to achieve in external exams which impacted the top end endorsements.

Level 3 Merit endorsements (22.6%) were below national results (26%). 12.3% of

students gained an Excellence endorsement (13.7% nationally). 52.9% of Year 13 students gained University Entrance (47.2% nationally).

I would like to publicly acknowledge all our staff, they work exceptionally hard to support all of our students throughout the year.

Scholarship

2023 saw our students gaining 3 Calculus, a Geography, Physics and Technology Scholarship. Congratulations to Christian Pearson who gained Scholarship in both Calculus and Physics.

Last year we had a great Year 13 cohort and we're congratulating 8 students who, through their hard work and effort, have gained an Excellence endorsement at Levels 1, 2 and 3:

David Castillo, Cole Claxton, Jack Fraser-Jones, Luka Henrikse, Matthew Jeremiah, Cayden Mckay, Christian Pearson, Mohnish Singh

Mr Dominic Tester
Deputy Principal



NCEA ENDORSEMENTS

LEVEL 1 MERIT

Sean Antazo
Cooper Bailey
Luke Bormans
Mitchell Brown
Aidan Butler
Monty Carter
Andrew Constantino
Rayven Jones Dandan
Carl Justin Dimaano
Charlie Dixon
Samuel Dobbs
Daniel Eastwood
Andrew Fairweather
Xavier Fong
Alex Gott
Toby Grant
Lucas Griffin
Piers Hansen
Blake Hennessy
Laughlan Karalus
Joshua Lane
Ryan Leslie
Taine Manihera
Matthew Matias
Connor McKay
Dominic Miller
Max Mitchell
Quinn Mitchell
Bobby Neels
Tobias O'Halloran
Jaxin O'Neill
Isaleli Pati
Louie Peart-Baillie
Kauri Peterson
Kane Pickens
Callum Pitcaithly
Graeme Pouafe
Kayden Rodgers

Samuel Scott
Conal Scrimgeour
Joshua Shaw
Joey Smart
Rhys Stevenson
Bobby Steward
Steven Sulit
James Tickelpenny
Fabian Tierney
Luke van Baar
Ethan Vanxay
Paea Veituna
Harry Virtue
Lachlan Wallace
Blake Watkins
Conrad Webber
Max Wilson
Louis Windlebom

LEVEL 1 EXCELLENCE

Alxyz Rian Adove
Kieran Aitken
Devon Boyd
Miller Brown
Byron Casson
Brendan Curran
Benedict Doohan
Zak Hendrikse
Noah Jones
Steve Joseph
Adam Kabel
Finn McDaid
Harper Mills
Arden Morunga
Blake Pitchford
Liam Plaisted
Torben Smith

Angus Spelman
Marco Villegas

LEVEL 2 MERIT

Sam Achilles
Sergio Alonte
Mika Bio
Max Bowe
Jack Calder
Reed Callaghan
Daniel D'Souza
Timothy Dobbs
Luke Duff
Josh Eastwood
Jack Egan
Miller Fairgray
Jasper Freeman
Pryce Gaanan
Jeshan Gosai
Shawn Halford
George Hall
Jake Hodges
Charlie Iremonger
Leighton Jones
Cruz Mason Scowen
Kurtis McCarthy
Luke McDonald
Caleb McIntyre
Joaquin Mujica
Oliver Mulligan
Ethan O'Neill
Chester Opperman
Dom Pearce
Logan Sexton
Mason Smith
Alex Steiner
Aidan Timbers
Rylan Toni

Aidan Tubridy
James Twaddle
Finn van Elzakker
Sam Van Hellemond
Okusitino Vea
Zygmunt Villacampa
Jake Walters
Keir Ward
Braeden Yee

LEVEL 2 EXCELLENCE

Cody Andrew
Nathaniel Chong-Linwood
William Conlon
Jonas Daborn
Luka Dale
Hamish Durran-Wolff
Raphael Ferdinands
David Fernandes
William Greentree
Matthew Harvey
William Hernandez
Daniel Hooker
Peter Ladur
Kieran Maternaghan
Callum McCabe
Jack McLaughlin
Alex Noble
Ansh Reddy
Kayden Webby
Jaxon Wiggins
Jake Young

LEVEL 3 MERIT

Zachary Almond-Bryant
Daniel Bainbridge-Smith
Regan Beetham

Lucas Bom
Ewan Caldwell
Sam Cartmill
Kyle Chandrasekera
George Coombes
Jack Edger
Harrison Holden
Jeifred Jarata
Halen King
Kieran Lee
Caleb Leslie
Xavier Mihaere
Tanaka Mukusha
Rory O'Carroll
Samuel Penfold
Curtis Reymer
Rhien Scrimgeour
Edmund Shum
Abraham Subritzky
Fletcher Virtue
Nils Wessling

LEVEL 3 EXCELLENCE

Jasper Bom
David Castillo
Cole Claxton
Nick De Vries
Paolo Dela Torre
Jack Fraser-Jones
Luka Hendrikse
Matthew Jeremiah
Stefan Lipinski
Cayden Mckay
Conall O'Toole
Christian Pearson
Mohnish Singh



CONGRATULATIONS BISHOP RICHARD



YOUNG VINNIES FUNDRAISE AND COOK FOR PEOPLE IN NEED

The Young Vinnies have hit the ground running for 2024. Around 50 boys have volunteered their time to help our school and the community. We continue with our fortnightly fundraising BBQ's for St Vincent de Paul; Athletics Day alone raised more than \$1000. In addition, this year we have students serving with the school's Weetbix and Lunch programme.

This term sees the first contribution from St John's in preparing a meal for The Serve via the Youth Group at the Cathedral. The Serve provides hot meals for homeless people in the Hamilton area. Thanks to the generous donations from staff, a lot of prepping and cooking by the volunteers from Young Vinnies, and Mrs Myburgh's top organisation 80 servings of Shepherd's Pie were delivered. We hope to continue this once a term and will call on our school community for donations of food and funds to support this initiative - keep an eye out for requests early next term.

With the Marist Man award becoming more ingrained in our school culture, more students are looking for service opportunities. If you are part of a community group or know of one that may benefit from service from our Young Vinnies, please contact me on Ngelston@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz and we will look at ways to get our young men more involved in the community.

Mrs Nicola Gelston
TIC Young Vinnies



OUR NEW BISHOP AND ST JOHN'S COLLEGE OLD BOY

PRINCIPAL SHANE TONG SHARES INSIGHTS FROM HIS CONVERSATION WITH HAMILTON'S NEW BISHOP RICHARD LAURENSEN.

I had the privilege of sitting down for a chat with our new Bishop Richard Laurensen. We go back 40 years to when we were both at Saint John's together and before that at the now closed Marist Intermediate which was on the current Marian school site. We covered a variety of topics about his journey to date.

Bishop was ordained just before Christmas so his first months in the job were quiet. However, things are just starting to 'ramp up' with the predictable paperwork and requests for help across the Diocese. Bishop Richard has some fond memories of his time at Saint John's such as running down Grantham Street and swimming in the river for PE or at other times we would swim at the now closed Municipal Pools and had swimming sports days there. But school was also tough for him, as it is for many. "It's not the easiest time of people's lives...and it's hard work when you're learning what it really means to be a man," Bishop reflects. However, Bishop was ultimately a success and achieved well. Some of his favourite teachers were Max Mueller, Steve Atkins and Kevin Frewen.

He spent most of his classes sitting near the front. "One thing I learned early on was to sit at the front of the class (something I didn't do but should have!) because if you sit there the teacher doesn't suspect anything," reveals Bishop Richard. I certainly remember Bishop being better than me in most classes. I asked Bishop how he felt the College had changed over the years. His response was that we appear to be getting very good grades so "universally the teaching quality has improved".

On the topic of how his calling to the priesthood came about, Bishop has felt the presence of God in his life from puberty so there was a call there that never went away. There was no 'blinding flash' but it was the only thing that constantly interested him despite looking at other options. He compared his journey to one of drafting

sheep where as they come down the drafting ramp to the gate; some are sent one way and some the other so "I took some opportunities and that closed off others". It was a different journey than his call to his military service as a priest. It wasn't something he asked for but he was 'voluntold' by his brother priests at the time, and Bishop agreed. This has given him a breadth of experience to call on.

Cannon Law is an area of expertise for Bishop. He holds what is effectively a Master's degree with honours. He spent three years in Rome and sat all his exams in Italian. He is often called upon for advice on what can or cannot be done under Cannon law in the Church.

I asked Bishop what message he might have for any young man thinking about joining Priesthood. His response was "the Lord is calling for real men to become Priests...young men who have grown up, and if you are a real man you will answer. Priesthood is tough but fun, and marriage is not easy either".

Bishop is not yet sure of what he believes he wants or needs to achieve in the Diocese "because there's no point in directing the boat until you know which way you need to go and where the rocks are". However, he says that the prayer he prayed at his ordination by Richard of Chichester forms his present vision so it is fitting that we end with this.

*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits thou hast given me,
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne
for me.*

*O most merciful redeemer, friend and
brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day.'*

Amen

Mr Shane Tong
Principal



CELEBRATING ST JOHN'S COLLEGE FOUNDATIONS' INAUGURAL 'IN THE FRAME' ART EXPO

Fifty-six artists, more than 200 volunteer hours, 148 pieces of art, two expo days, one opening night. That's the inaugural Waikato Art Expo "In the Frame" in numbers.

But, this fundraiser, led by the St John's College Foundation, shouldn't be measured in numbers.

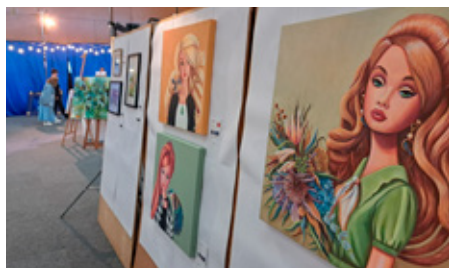
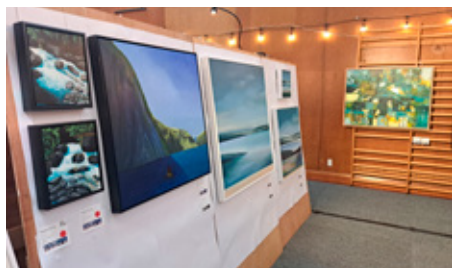
The Old Gym never looked better. For a few days, it was transformed into an exhibition space full of stunning pieces of art, ranging from photography, mixed media and watercolours, to oil and acrylic paintings, pottery and sculpture. We've had a fantastic response from artists, many local, but also from as far away as Kerikeri and Whanganui. The arrival of the artworks created quite the buzz among staff and students. It was great to see students getting a sneak peek of the expo and hear them discussing their favourite piece of art.

The Old Gym was the perfect venue, as the college hopes to transform it into a multipurpose space with a dedicated Sanctuary area. Our own chapel would allow the school to host fortnightly mass for more than 500 students in an appropriate setting, provide performing art space for up to 100 people and offer a quiet space for prayer and reflection.

Our thanks must go to our sponsors and supporters, in particular First Credit Union, The Cook Bar, SCG, Wintec, Vilagrads, Waikato Society of Arts and The Narrows Landing. Without their support, we would not be able to present such successful events.

Volunteers are often at the heart of any fundraising and this Art Expo was no different. Thank you to the many student and staff volunteers who all chipped in, the Jazz combo, the hospitality students, the many helpers who set up the venue and welcomed guests during the expo. Gratitude to Caroline Peacocke, our curator, and Michelle Ryan, organiser extraordinaire. The expo was truly a community effort.

Mrs Gaby Douglas
Marketing and Communications Co-ordinator



RIVER ASSESSMENT REFLECTS LAND USE IMPACTS ON RIVER

Year 11 Geography students recently spent the day assessing stream health along the Ohinemuri River. They looked at various water quality and ecology indicators to understand how land use impacts the health of our waterways, collecting data at four different sites along the river. The water clarity changed markedly, and the macro-invertebrates were very different at each site.

Mrs Andrea Bossenger
TIC Geography





St John's College



INFORMATION EVENING

Thursday 23 May 2024

All Parents and Prospective Students Welcome

- Meet Principal, Staff and Current Students
- Tour School Facilities

St John's College:

+ Values-based education	+ Caring community
+ Academic excellence	+ Individual attention

Please register at: www.stjohns-hamilton.school.nz

6 pm to 8.15 pm
Marcellin Gymnasium
85 Hillcrest Road, Hamilton



PREPARING YOUNG MEN FOR LIFE



KOROWAI TAONGA PRESENTED TO COLLEGE

After two years of planning and creation, two Korowai were presented to the school at a pōwhiri earlier this term, one for staff and one for students. We are blessed to have these taonga coming into the life of the College.

The Korowai were made by Caroline Huirama whose mokopuna Laughan Shelford attended St John's College from 2012 to 2017. Caroline is highly respected in Waikato/Tainui for her skills in toi rangara. Jude Bartram, Head of Faculty Religious Education had worked with Caroline to learn about preparing feathers for the cloak. She then shared this knowledge with our female staff who came together to prepare some of the hundreds of feathers needed for the Korowai.

Caroline gave a kōrero about this process at the pōwhiri and explained the cloaks' design. The Korowai were then presented to Principal Shane Tong and Head Student Leighton Jones.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for their financial support to commission the Korowai. Acknowledgement to Milton Ross, Shane Tong, Monsignor Frank, Rick Cartmill and Jacob Kelly who came together to plan out what aspects of the St John's College story we would like included in the design of the Korowai. Special mention to Matua Jacob Kelly, Whaea Jude Bartram, Matua Milton Ross and Matua Jordan Rangihika for their mahi with the planning for the Korowai proposal, planning of Korowai presentation and the pōwhiri for the Korowai.

Matua Jacob Kelly
Māori Dean



PAPAL KNIGHTHOOD CONFERRED TO PAUL BARNETT

Congratulations to St John's College Old Boy and Waikato business man Paul Barnett, class of 1970.

He was conferred the Papal Order of Saint Sylvester - one of five Papal knighthoods awarded directly by the Pope - on 16th January this year. The ceremony took place at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

A papal knighthood is typically awarded to acknowledge and honour Catholic lay people who are actively involved in the church.

A well deserved honour for an outstanding Marist Man!

Photo Credit - Paul Melton, Melton's Moments Photography

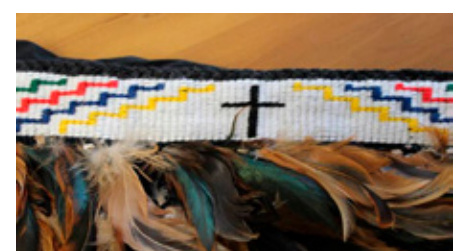
THE COLLECTED WISDOM FOR THE TWO KOROWAI IS AS FOLLOWS:

The Tuakana Korowai (Staff) - Features:

- White band of feathers to represent the church/sacredness
- Hukahuka (tassels) to indicate the status and importance of the person wearing it
- There are five rows of hukahuka one for each year level at the College
- The blue crosses in the Marist colour show our foundation as a Marist school and our sacred connection to Te Atua
- The gold surrounding reflect the colour associated with Hato Hoani; Jesus as a disciple

The Teina Korowai (Students) - Features:

- Blue/Green band of feathers to represent Mary and Marist
- Poutama pattern; Education/love of work and rising upwards, always striving to improve, to grow and develop.
- The four house patrons' colours remind us of all the men, our brothers, uncles, parents; all who have come before, us in the present, and those yet to come into this kura





SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS TOURS - LET'S GO!

The time has finally arrived. By the time you are reading this, the St John's College Development Cricket team will already be in South Africa followed by the St John's College Development Rugby team.

The St John's College South Africa sports tour has been in the making for almost six years. Unfortunately, the 2020 cricket tour got cancelled because of Covid-19. But the cancellation served as a great motivator to make this trip a reality and so the cricket tour was reborn and the rugby tour was added.

The cricket group, consisting of 13 players and 25 supporters leave on 8 April and return 15 days later. The rugby group will depart on 23 April and arrive back on 8 May. This group is made up of 26 players and 33 supporters and staff. There are four games scheduled for the cricket team and three games for the rugby team. The rugby boys will be rubbing shoulders with some of the best rugby schools in South Africa.

However, it is not all about sport. Both groups will be treated to amazing African experiences, different cultures and extraordinary sightseeing opportunities. Highlights will definitely be Cape Town and everything it has to offer, Sun City and a safari.

Lastly, I want to use this opportunity to thank all sponsors, donors, players, parents and staff who helped make this a reality.

Joe Smal
Director of Sport



KAPA HAKA

**"Kia hiwa ra, Kia hiwa ra, Kia hiwa ra.
Kia hiwa ra ki tēnei tuku kia hiwa ra ki
tēra tuku"**

Term 1 has seen our haka kick off from where it finished in 2023. With numbers around the 50 mark last year, this term has seen between 90 and 105 students attend Haka every Friday at Sacred Heart. Our students were lucky enough to perform at The University of Waikato recently, welcoming all the International students attending various kura throughout Hamilton. This kaupapa is open to all of our kura and we welcome any student who would like to participate.

Haka is another avenue for our students to show their successes to our school and the community.

**"He manawa ū nōku ki te pupuri I
te mana kua whakatōkia mai e ōku
mātua tupuna."**

Matua Jordan Rangihika



FLY-FISHING

Welcome to our newest members this year, James Rutledge, Kieran Anderson and Tianara Kipa. Our first river excursion in March took us to the Puniu River in the Waikato, which flows over forms of sandstone and alluvium. We learned new techniques for drifting our lines downstream and casting flies over short distances. The highlight for Elijah Taylor was seeing a trout splashing behind his fly as it attempted to grab it - not once, but twice - before finally hooking itself. Sadly, it was not to be landed and with adrenaline pumping - for both man and fish - it returned to its lair beneath the overhanging willow branches. Lesson learned! With a few more takes and one tiny fish being caught, it was the combined enjoyment of a day on the river, a bush luncheon and the beautiful scenery on the drive back that had us thinking ahead to our next trip. We shall just have to wait and see.

Mr Mark Anderson
TIC Fly Fishing





TOUCH RUGBY

This year we had a number of participants playing for U18 Mixed and Under 16 boys at youth Nationals and a number of past and present students who participated at Touch Nationals.

In the U16 Boys, Tamehana Biddle-Downes and Jacob Stone Pearn who have been regulars on the touch Waikato scene, played exceptionally well all week. They were staunch on defence, halting a number of crucial scoring opportunities. The Waikato U16 had a tough game in their final, falling just short to Counties.

Other students who also played Youth Nationals and must be commended for their efforts at that tournament were Richie Leiataua, Tamatekapua Koroheke-Wheki, Hunter Te Akau, Ezra Fulford and Jacob Haysom.

This term also saw the Open Touch Nationals being played in Rotorua with past students Jacob Te Rangi, Xavier Mihaere, and Kobe Reed playing alongside current students Navrin Campbell representing King Country and Aston Rangitūia representing Waikato.

Special mention must go to our Secondary Schools Touch Coach Tamainui Huirama and his partner Mere who used to teach at St Johns guiding the Waikato Open Women's Team to gold.

Matua Jordan Rangihika



IT'S ALMOST A WRAP FOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

It's been a big job to get High School Musical polished and on stage for our community. Students and staff of St John's and Sacred Heart Colleges have worked hard on and off stage to put their own take on a classic Disney show. Rehearsals ran all term, starting in the last week of January, before school even began. The commitment, talent, and teamwork we have witnessed has been admirable. This magazine goes to print before Opening Night so we are unable to include images of the season, but included are some images of the hard working cast in preparation. Our costume designer, Sandra Petrin, worked tirelessly to get the cast of 71 students looking good. We would like to thank the Creative Team of Mandy Hale, Malcolm Barr, Donna McHugh, and Emily Lory, who successfully helped our rangitahi to bop to top, and have an awesome experience.

Mrs Mandy Hale TIC Drama



CONGRATULATIONS TOLOA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year, St John's College saw six students receive the Ministry of Pacific Peoples Toloa Scholarship. This scholarship aims to foster and support Pacific students in STEAM subjects. The scholarship not only assists financially, it also provides students with a device and they experience Toloa Wellbeing support throughout the year, including time at MOTAT in Auckland with mentors.

We congratulate:

Paea Veituna

Paula Taumoepeau

Okusitino Vea

Joseph Kaufononga

Sosaia Kaufononga

Amota Tabera

Some students received this scholarship last year which reflects the continuing commitment from the Ministry of Pacific Peoples to support and encourage young Pacific students to engage in STEAM subjects.

Mr Dominic Kay Deputy Principal



From left to right: Sosaia Kaufononga, Amota Tabera, Paea Veituna, Paula Taumoepeau, Joseph Kaufononga, Okusitino Vea.



WAIKATO FUTSAL REPS

A big CONGRATS to Chester Opperman and Myles McLeod-Dunn, who represented Waikato at the recent Futsal Youth Nationals in Wellington.

Their team, the Waikato Rapids, won the tournament. They beat Capital 4 - 1 to secure the title of best U/17 Futsal team in NZ. What an awesome result.

NZF Futsal even captured some of the action, showing Chester starting off the final match in style.



NOTES FROM THE AOTEAROA SAILING JOURNEY

In late 2023, Liam Plaisted and I received an invitation from our Dean, Mr Sadumiano, to embark on the annual Marist Brothers Aotearoa sailing journey. The moment I heard about the opportunity to voyage around the Hauraki Gulf I was in. This trip wasn't just about exploring the islands dotting the Hauraki Gulf, it was also a chance to hone our leadership abilities and learn the essence of teamwork, whether in leading a group or by simply just being a supporter.

Throughout our journey we were taught about the life of Sir Peter Blake, a beacon of unwavering determination and collective success. The stories of his spirit, of striving for excellence, not only for himself but for his crew, left a permanent mark on us. We discovered that by working diligently, remaining receptive to diverse perspectives and embracing guidance from others, we could emerge as formidable leaders. With these invaluable insights, we aspire not only to lead effectively ourselves but to empower others to do the same.

Our sailing trip took place from 11 to 14 December and comprised 23 year 12 students, representing 12 different Marist schools from all across New Zealand. In this diverse group of people, most of us were familiar with only a handful of peers, while the rest were strangers to start with. Yet, as we sailed together, we were able to grow a strong connection. Whether it was doing team building games on Kawau Island, walking the tracks of TiriTiri Matangi Island Reserve or discovering the remains of the military outpost on Motutapu Island, we were able to learn about one another and better work as a team. Every interaction deepened our bonds and expanded our horizons.

Above all, this voyage taught me that the only barriers to forming meaningful connections are the ones we put on ourselves.

A big thanks to St John's College, Mr Tong and the Marist Brothers for allowing Liam and I to go on this trip and to build our leadership skills.

Luke Bormans
Year 12



SJC RUGBY WELCOMES NEW 1ST XV TEAM SPONSOR

Empire Concrete Pumping Ltd has come on board as the new team sponsor for the St John's 1st XV. The sponsorship deal extends to the end of the 2025 season with an option to renew for a further year and includes the naming rights to the 1st XV team. The College and the St John's College rugby community are absolutely stoked to have Empire on board.

A little bit about Empire:

Empire Concrete Pumping is based in the Waikato, but covers most of the North Island. They offer a professional, efficient, safe and reliable service. Empire Concrete Pumping operates within commercial, industrial, residential and domestic. No job is too big or too small for them! The new walkway by our terraces is a great example of their excellent work.

EMPIRE

CONCRETE

PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL & SIMILAR BUSINESS OWNERS!

WANT MORE PROFIT, TIME & FREEDOM?

VISIT PROFITABLETRADIE.COM



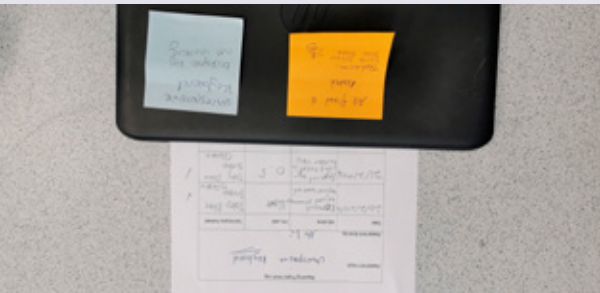
ELECTRONICS CLUB TECHNICIANS IN ACTION

The Electronics Science Club has got off to a great start in 2024 with the opening of their Repair Shop and a successful Year 9 Introduction Day seeing ten Year 9 students join the Club.

The Repair Shop offers a free service to the school community where they'll look at a faulty small electronic product and try to repair it. If they can't repair it, they will assess it and provide some advice based on their experience. They have been working on hands-on projects, including repairing the school's Chromebooks.

The technicians are all students who meet in PG.06 in break 1 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and after school on Tuesdays.

Mr Mike Li



FUTSAL - A POPULAR TEAM SPORT IN 2024

Futsal continues to rise in popularity. The College had a whopping 11 teams (6 Senior & 5 Junior) competing in the Waikato Secondary School Competition this term, three more teams than in 2023. Wezz Hendricks has continued the fine work he started last year, coaching the Senior Gold team, while Brooklyn Miller (Old Boy) is starting out as a young aspiring coach taking the helm of both the Junior Gold and Silver teams. As a result, the Senior and Junior Gold teams qualified to attend the 2024 New Zealand Secondary School Futsal Nationals in Wellington during Summer Tournament Week (20th - 22nd March).

In February Mr Miller ran a successful secondary school Futsal Tournament. This was a fundraiser to help reduce the costs for the Junior and Senior teams to attend the Futsal Nationals.

More than 20 school teams from the greater Waikato & Bay of Plenty regions entered. It was a successful day with very few issues. Thank you to WaiBOP for providing us with three referees for the day, Kukri and Soccer United providing prizes, Davy Engravers for the medals, Glenda McLeod for being the chief administrator and updating the results and points tables, Gavin D'Souza for volunteering his services as a physiotherapist and onsite 1st Aider, Chan Park for being the DJ and setting the positive vibe for the tournament and to all the Junior Gold parents who contributed in various ways on the BBQ and Food Stall. Thank you to all the teams for representing their schools with pride and playing fairly.

Congratulations to the Titans for winning the Senior Girls division, Aquinas College for winning the Senior Boys division and to the St John's College Marist Men winning the Junior Boys division.

All 3 finals were great spectacles for the sport. All in all a fantastic inaugural tournament which raised more than \$4000.

Mr Hayden Miller
TIC Football





ATHLETIC SPORTS DAY

The first House event of the year, St John's Athletics Sports Day took place at school at the end of February. The boys were encouraged to wear their house colours and compete in as many events as possible to get points for their respective Houses. Disciplines to choose from were Long Jump, High Jump, Shotput, Gumboot throw, Vortex throw, 100m 400m and 1500m. Participation rates were high, particularly in the track events.

Congratulations to Sifuiva Kaisa who broke the senior gumboot throw record with a distance of 30.70m. The final result was incredibly close with Chanel narrowly beating Roncalli.

Unfortunately constant drizzle throughout the day turned to heavy rain and the event had to be called off before the 100m Finals or Relays were completed. Nevertheless, everyone had a great time.

A big thank you to all the participants for the enthusiasm and effort on the day and to the staff who worked tirelessly to make the event a success under difficult circumstances.

	Chanel	Marcellin	Pompallier	Roncalli
Field	490	410	392	513
Track	348	262	210	322
Total	838	672	602	835



WAIKATO UNIVERSITY LIBRARY - A FANTASTIC RESOURCE RIGHT NEXT DOOR

All three History classes recently went on a field trip to The University of Waikato Library. This trip gave students an opportunity to access the New Zealand Collection and learn what it can offer. This activity was a key component of completing the internal research assessments and allowed students to gain some familiarity with a tertiary educational setting. Because of St John's College's proximity to the University, we can do these trips over lunch time and a period 5 History class, meaning students do not have to miss any additional classes.

Students are encouraged to visit the University Library by themselves after these trips as we have a good relationship with its staff.

Mr Sean Cullen-Wright
TIC History



CELEBRATING ST PATRICK'S DAY

St Patrick's Day celebrations got off to a great start at Bidy Mulligans as the St John's College Irish Ceilidh Group played from 8:30-10am. They were joined by 2023 Old Boys Conall O'Toole, David Castillo and Paola Dela Torre. Well done to the group for their energetic playing and looked the part dressed in green.

Mrs Donna McHugh
TIC Music





TUTORIALS

There's plenty of extra academic help for students if they need it. Please encourage your boys to use these tutorials if they wish to improve their grades. It is helpful if students have organised which areas they wish to cover or work they want help with.

MATHS

Tutoring is for any student in any class unless it says for a specific group. Students do not need to book in before and can stay as long or short as they need. A specific area to revise is helpful.

MONDAYS (6.00PM TO 7.30PM)

Mr Prasad and Mr Kaufononga
Pasifika students

TUESDAYS (BREAK 2)

R04 Mr Shi

TUESDAYS (AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.20PM)

R08 Mr Plant

WEDNESDAYS (BREAK 2)

R04 Mr Shi

WEDNESDAYS (AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.20PM)

R08 Mr Plant

Student Services Mr Sadumiano

THURSDAYS (AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.20PM)

R08 Mr Plant

FRIDAYS (BREAK 2)

R07 Mr Barr

Y13 Calculus only

SCIENCE

Biology and Level 1 Science has not started tutorials yet.

TUESDAYS (BREAK 1)

CG01 Mr Tsai
Physics (Yr 12 and 13)

TUESDAYS (BREAK 2)

CG01 Mr Tsai
Physics Scholarship

TUESDAYS (AFTER SCHOOL FROM 3.20 PM)

CG04 Mr Wood
Chemistry



MARIST STUDENT LEADERS FORUM IN CHRISTCHURCH

Head Boy Leighton Jones, Deputy Head Boy Callum McCabe and I had the privilege of attending the Marist Student Leadership Forum in Kaiapoi Christchurch in February. While we were gutted at first to miss athletics day, the lessons we learned, the knowledge we gained, and the friendships we made from the leaders of various Marist schools were precious and worthwhile.

This forum has opened my eyes to the mana that stems from being called a 'Marist' school. Through presentations and activities, this forum shed light onto the life of

Marcellin Champagnat, and the impact of being a servant leader to others. In between the formal workshops we also put ourselves to the test at Adrenalin Forest and Aqualand where many a manu was performed.

Callum, Leighton and I have gained new ideas and perceptive angles, to shape our school for the better. Thanks to Miss Smith for accompanying us on the trip and joining us on our leadership journey.

Raphael Ferdinands
Y13, Deputy Head Boy

INVASION OF THE WAIKATO HISTORY FIELD TRIP

The Year 13 History students from St John's College and Sacred Heart Girls' College went on the Invasion of the Waikato Field Trip, the second time the two schools have combined for this trip.

We used two days to complete the jam packed itinerary. This allowed more field work to gain a fuller understanding of sites such as the Old Pukekohe East Presbyterian Church, Rangiriri Pā, Pāterangi Pā, Rangiaowhia and Orakau. Standing on the actual Whenua where battles were fought made it easier for the students to see why things happened as they did and the decisions were made at the time. As an example, students were able to see for themselves how Te Wharepu was able to make General Cameron believe the defences at Rangiriri were weaker than they really were.

On day two we were able to make a brief visit to Matakaitaki Pā to see the Musket War Battle Site from 1822. This is a battle St John's College students learn about in Year 9 so the visit was a great opportunity to compare and contrast pre and post Musket Pā that culminated in the vast fortification of Pāterangi in 1864.

A key part of the trip was being hosted by the Waikato Black Powder Arms Club (WBPAC), who were generous with their time, expertise, and gunpowder. The students were able to see and touch firearms of the period including Muskets, Pistols and Mortars. Loading and firing these weapons (under close supervision) allowed the students to get a little taste of the battlefields of the Waikato in the 1860s.

Anyone interested in contacting the WBPAC can find them on Matua Google, or can contact Mr Cullen-Wright. If you are planning to visit the sites of the invasion of the Waikato, consider using the Heritage NZ site which includes downloadable apps etc.

<https://www.heritage.org.nz/resources/apps>

Mr Sean Cullen-Wright
TIC History





STUDENT CELLPHONE POLICY FROM TERM 2 2024

International research indicates some key challenges with cellphones at school such as being a major distraction for our students. These rules are designed to ensure that the learning of all students is maximised, while minimising any potential for distraction and cyber-bullying. Our approach is "away for the day"; meaning cellphones either do not come with the student to school, or are switched off and collected every lesson. When not in class, cell phones must be kept switched off in the bottom of the students' bag, this includes form time, morning tea, lunch and between classes.

It is important to note that if students do make the decision to bring a cellphone to the school grounds, they do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage caused to any cellphone.

We understand that some parents like their children to have a phone to communicate with them after school, students will be able to use cellphones after 3.10pm. If a parent or caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the office.

CELLPHONES 'AWAY FOR THE DAY' EXPECTATIONS

Students are always encouraged to regulate themselves and develop healthy in person relationships. In circumstances where a member of staff considers the device to be a harmful, disruptive, or distracting influence or that usage has breached the school cellphone rules the result will be confiscation for the rest of the school day and possible consequence. The device will then be retrieved by the student from the front office after school and the inappropriate use recorded in KAMAR.

Breaches of the cellphone rules include (but not limited to):

- using the device when not permitted
- any sort of bullying, including online bullying
- taking photos or videos of other people without their permission
- forwarding inappropriate messages or content.

Cellphones 'away for the day' exemptions

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

If cellphones are used for a learning activity, this will be at the teacher's discretion and the phone's use will be supervised by a staff member. Guidelines on appropriate usage still apply.

HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Students with additional learning needs who use cellphones in class to increase or improve their ability to participate and learn will be granted an exemption. In matters related to a student's immediate health and safety concerns, a parent or caregiver can apply at any time to the principal for a period of exemption (e.g., medical conditions or protection issues).

EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (EOTC)

Students may take certain digital devices on EOTC activities but should check whether their device is allowed before the activity commences. Usage will be at the discretion of teachers and other adult supervisors.

Please note with all exemptions and exceptions appropriate usage guidelines and other relevant school rules still apply.

THE PASSING OF TWO GREAT MARIST MEN

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of two St John's Old Boys and great men, **John Vaemolo** (class of 1980) and **Paul Schollum** (class of 1970).

Paul passed away peacefully at Totara Hospice on 22nd January 2024, aged 72, surrounded by his loving family. At St John's he was Head Boy in 1970 and was a wicket-keeper in the 1st XI cricket team.

John was arguably St John's top athlete. He played in the St John's College 1st XV rugby team in 1979 and 1980, was selected for the NZ SS Rugby team vs Australia in 1980 and was also an outstanding track runner:

- Waikato SS Track champion for 100m, 110m hurdles, 200m 1979/80
- NZ SS Track champion 100m, 110m hurdles 1979
- NZ SS Track Champion 110m hurdles, 2nd 100m (10.3) 1980
- North Island SS 100m, 200m, 110m hurdles and member of Waikato 4x 100m Relay team, all won in record time 1980

In November 1980, John ran a world record time of 6.4 for 60m at the Hamilton Athletic Club Champs-no wind was recorded so the record was not ratified.

Leaving school, John joined the army, progressing to the SAS and reached the highest rank possible for a non commissioned officer. John passed away on the 13 January 2024.

*Rest in Peace Paul and John
- you will be missed.*



St John's College

