



**Building our future:
A new Chapel for
St. John's College**

06

**International students
flourishing at
St John's College**

07



09

**1st XV reflect on
successful season**



10

**Gold Awards at Itinerant
Music Festival**



15

**Te Haka Roopu a
Hato Hoani**



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents

As parents of teenage boys, we sometimes wonder what happened to the smiling young face we see in the photos on the dressing table when theirs (and our) lives were a great deal less complex, and there were apparently far fewer distractions and perils about. A time when we could largely mold and protect our sons from a seemingly hostile world. We worry now if we did a good job, and if he will turn out okay.

For teenage boys there is a tried and true formula that has worked over the ages and, while nothing is a cast iron guarantee, will certainly give him the best possible start.

1. They attend school every day of the year.
2. They play a sport, or are involved in the arts and/or cultural activities.
3. They never experiment with drugs.
4. Their parents are involved in their education and have a connection to the school.
5. They are able to talk to a responsible adult in their lives about any serious emotional or mental health issues they may face.

This is a challenging time for teenagers as they try to find their place in the world but if these five areas are looked after then there is every chance your son will grow into a well-balanced successful young man who is well prepared for the life ahead of him. In doing so they will learn the value of routines and showing up even when they do not feel like it. They will learn the importance of teamwork and that success is rarely the result of luck or individual brilliance. They will not be drawn into a sordid world of drugs where they are coming into contact with people who are more interested in what they can get from you, rather than about you. They will have role models who will not only illuminate the path ahead, but also give them the blueprint of how to one day be great husbands and fathers themselves. They will learn that it is human to share their burden, to love and to weep.

While sometimes it can be easier to give into our sons when they do not feel like turning up to training, or to protect them from taking responsibility for something they have done, we do them a disservice and they risk forming bad habits that will hinder rather than promote self-actualisation.

As a team, the school, the community and the parents play a pivotal role in guiding our boys through their teenage years and there are times when we have to let them fail in order to learn from the mistakes - we can't do it for them, but we can be there to help pick them up. Learning through failure builds resilience.

God Bless,

Mr Shane Tong
Principal

“

They will learn the importance of teamwork and that success is rarely the result of luck or individual brilliance.

”

From the Director of Catholic Character

Our Year 10 Religious Education (RE) students have this term studied the life and legacy of St Francis of Assisi, which fits beautifully with the school's pillar focus for 2024 - Simplicity. As well as being the patron saint of pets (the students loved learning about this) St Francis is also notable for shunning a life of wealth and privilege, for one of poverty and simplicity. In his words: *"Do few things but do them well, simple joys are holy. A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows."*

In the Catholic tradition, simplicity in the teachings of Jesus Christ is celebrated. The Simplicity pillar is all about being genuine and straightforward and to present a world of learning to our young men as directly, and as uncomplicated as we can. Schools are busy places and for me this pillar plays out through our wonderful teachers and students who do good, quietly, through living the Gospel values. Each day, every day.

Every second Wednesday, Monsinger Frank Eagleton celebrates Mass with two of our houses. It means that each student attends mass twice a term and can receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist at school. In our most recent mass, Mons Frank told the students about the life of another Saint, St Augustine. The students reflected on his belief that true fulfilment is found in God. *"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."* Mons Frank epitomises what it means to be a Marist Man, through faith, integrity and service.

This term all of our Year 10 RE classes went on their annual one-day retreat. The retreats are run by the NET team, Catholic youth workers in the Hamilton Diocese. The students reflected on what it means to be 'brave' as a young Catholic in today's world. Our Year 13 students, who leave us in a few weeks' time, also had their retreat. It was time to reflect on their many blessings through their years at our College and the life challenges that lie ahead.

My thanks to the 15 students who represented St John's so well at the annual Chanel Shield competition at John Paul College in Rotorua in August. It is a special way to celebrate the Arts, with all of the five Catholic Colleges in the Catholic Diocese. It is our turn to host this event next year.

Finally, my thanks to our generous whānau who continue to contribute meals to families in times of great need through "Johnnie's Angels." A simple, thank you.

God Bless,

Miss Monica Holt
Director of Catholic Character



“

...
our wonderful teachers and students who do good, quietly, through living the Gospel values. Each day, every day.

”



Key Dates 2024

Term 4

14 October	Start of Term 4
17 October	Arts Awards Evening
18 October	Mufti Day
25 October	Closing Mass
28 October	Public Holiday (Labour Day)
31 October	Senior Prizegiving
1 November	Y13 Leavers' Dinner
5 November	NZQA Exams start
5-8 November	Junior Exams
3 December	NZQA Exams finish
3-6 December	Y9 Activities Week & Y10 Camps
10 December	Junior Prizegiving & End of School Year

Key Dates 2025

29 January	Teacher Only Day
30 January	Y9 Orientation Y13 Leaders
31 January	Y9 Orientation Y13 students (P1 & P2, course confirmation)
3 February	ALL Students



Successful blanket drive provides much needed warmth this winter

Thank you St John's College whānau and community!

At the start of the bleak winter term we sent a call out for blankets. We turned our annual clothing drive into a drive for bedding and warm blankets to support St Vincent de Paul. Every year they distribute warm blankets around our community and were short on stock this winter.

William Hernandez and Nathaniel Chong Linwood, our Arts leaders, put together a plan for the collection of blankets with each form class challenged to contribute. Nathaniel proposed that we could collect enough blankets to cover the basketball court and we came very close!

Mrs Greenwood's form class managed to collect a huge number of blankets and won themselves a pizza lunch. We were overwhelmed by the volume of donations which grew to a small mountain as the weeks went by. Many of the blankets and snugglies were brand new and showed the respectful and generous nature of our school community.

On the first day of the holidays we loaded an entire school van and delivered them to St Vincent de Paul in Frankton. We were given a tour of the food bank and learned that the largest contributors to that service are the Catholic schools of Hamilton. The blankets were gratefully received and will be put to good use.

We would like to thank William and Nathaniel for their mahi and also acknowledge the willingness of our parent community to get involved and help others who need it.

Ms Jude Bartram
Head of Faculty- Religious Education

New home for school van

St Anthony's Catholic School in Huntly are now the proud new owners of our old school van which we donated to them earlier this year when our brand new school van finally arrived.

St Anthony's Catholic School's Principal Louise Graafhuis said "Our Board is beyond grateful. We are very excited. The van will never be parked, it will be on the road transporting students from Te Kauwhata from day 1. Your gift is beyond generous. This truly shows the power of being part of the Catholic community".

The van also recently received a shiny new look.





Matua Milton's pōwhiri at Opononi Area School

Tihei Mauri Ora

I was privileged to travel alongside our Māori Leader, Wiremu Nepe, and Matua Jake to stand as a māngai for our college at a pōwhiri at Opononi Area School to formally send-off Matua Milton. It's not hard to see the massive role he has played at our kura for all our boys. His dedication to the reo (language) and ahurea (culture) has helped to promote the idea of succeeding as Māori and has supported our boys to be ambitious academically, athletically and culturally. We wish Matua Milton all the best for his new role.

Nō reira, e te Rangatira, ka rere tonu te mihi nei pērā anō i te ekara ki a koe mō tāu i mahi ai kia hapainga te ahurea me te reo ki Te Kāreti o Hato Hoani. Ko te tūmanako he pai te hokinga atu ki tō kainga whakaako ai i ngā māhuri hei whanake. Mā te Atua koe hei mānaaki.

Ngā manaakitanga o te hunga runga rawa

Arden Morunga
Year 12 Student



Chanel Shield in Rotorua

Chanel Shield is an annual speech and drama and performance competition with the five schools in the Catholic Diocese. This year it was held at John Paul College in Rotorua in August.

A team of 15 students participated in the categories of debating, bible reading, prepared speech, impromptu speech, poetry reading, Māori perspective speech and drama. Mrs Hale and Miss Holt went with the team and we shared a bus with the Sacred Heart Girls' College team.

We enjoyed the warm hospitality of the host school and some special Catholic Character traditions which included a mass with Bishop Richard, a dinner on the Friday night and a bible quiz.

A special congratulations to Y12 student Arden Morunga who took first place in the Māori Perspective speech section.

It is our turn to host Chanel Shield in 2025.

Miss Monica Holt
Director of Catholic Character



Racing to grow the Foundation's endowment fund

By the time you read this, we will have recently wrapped up our annual Blue and Gold Race Day, which takes place on Friday 27th September at the Te Rapa Racecourse. While I write this, I am feeling very grateful to report that we have just about sold all of the tables for this event and that once again our amazing community of supporters has gotten in behind us to make this day a success. I'd like to specifically mention our sponsors who have made a significant financial contribution to make this day happen, Graham Roberts from Craig's Investment, Peter Archer from Risk Group, Chris Grace from Pak n' Save Taupō, Blair Currie from BCD Group, Kris Browne from Fleet Image and Kevin O'Brien from Traffic Management Waikato. I'd also like to thank the people who have bought tables or tickets to the event and look forward to welcoming them on the day.

Money raised from the Blue and Gold Race Day will be put towards the school's endowment fund which was established through the support and generosity of our Catholic families. A prosperous and sustainable endowment fund will enable us to continue to deliver a first-class education for generations to come.

Lastly, we place great value in staying in touch with our wonderful alumni. One of our objectives is to build a vibrant St John's community beyond the college years - reconnect and keep in touch with former students, their whānau and supporters. We need your help with this. If you are an old boy or friend/supporter of the school, visit the website and register with us to stay connected, or email oldboys@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz for more information.

Kevin O'Brien
Foundation Manager



Jack McLaughlin, Captain, Matthew Harvey, José Riosa and Darcy Beckett

Chess club update

The 2024 St John's Chess team lost our 2023 captain Conall O'Toole but gained a young, skilled and very apt replacement, Darcy Beckett, who took on the serious job of Board 1. The competition was very enjoyable and many thanks to Hamilton Boys High School's Graham Nolan and Dr Kennedy for putting the event together and of course to Mr. Wood (HOF Science) for running the chess club and putting the team together.

In 2024 we were up against stiffer competition than in 2023 and finished in fourth place. Board Places from one to four: Darcy Beckett 1, Matthew Harvey 2, Jack McLaughlin 3 and José Riosa 4. Matthew Harvey won a close game with Hamilton Boys High School 2, who went on to win the best player of the event. Darcy Beckett and Jack McLaughlin won 2 matches against Hillcrest 2 and Cambridge High School and lost three matches HBHS 1, 2 and Hillcrest 1. Matthew Harvey had the same result barring the exceptional win against HBHS 2 player. José Riosa was unfortunately not so lucky losing all 5 matches.

Back to the drawing board for 2025. The lesson learned were regular participation at the Hamilton Chess Club and a mandatory Chess.com account for training.

Matthew Harvey and Jack McLaughlin as Year 13's sadly say goodbye and wish all the up and coming players the very best for the years ahead - and one day we will beat HBHS.

Jack McLaughlin
Chess Captain 2024

Building our future: A new Chapel for St. John's College

At St. John's College, our Catholic faith and Marist spirituality have always been at the heart of our school. Since the first lessons were conducted on our current site in 1962, our school roll has grown to educate more than 900 boys. But one important element has been missing—a dedicated sacred space. For many years, we have dreamed of building a chapel where our students, old boys and school community can gather to celebrate Mass, to pray and to reflect. This dream is now within reach.

Eighteen months ago, the Board of Trustees completed a 3-year strategic plan that identified the construction of a chapel as a key priority for St. John's College. Whilst the chapel will serve primarily as a sacred space for worship and spiritual growth, it may also be designed to accommodate other uses. The Chapel may provide additional classroom space and may be available for drama and performing arts, making it a versatile asset for our school community. In addition, we anticipate Old Boy's may wish to use the chapel for weddings and funerals.

Bishop Richard, as a proud old boy of the College is supportive of the Chapel project. The design process will include consultation with the Bishop, local clergy, teachers, parents, students, and the Board of Trustees. The design process, led by local architecture firm PAUA, will ensure that the chapel not only meets our needs but also reflects the spiritual significance that such a space deserves.

We are currently exploring two options: remodelling the current old gymnasium or constructing a completely new building. Each option has its merits, and we are carefully considering the best approach to ensure the chapel meets the needs of our students and school community now and in the future. The aim with each option is to create a chapel that can seat 500 students for Mass.

However, realising this vision will require significant financial support. The St. John's Foundation, an organisation deeply committed to the success and growth of our school, is excited to spearhead the fundraising efforts for this project. Their enthusiasm and dedication will be crucial in helping us achieve our goal.

We invite all members of the St. John's community—students, parents, old boys, and friends—to join us in this exciting project. Together, we can create a space that will not only help lead our young men to a life with Christ but will also strengthen the bonds of our community for generations to come.

Tony Fraser-Jones
Member of the Board of Trustees Chapel Sub-Committee

Old Boys and staff do the unthinkable with Cambridge Football Club

The 2024 season for the Cambridge Football Club Men's Southern Conference team has been an amazing one. The team won the league after 15 rounds and there was still six games to be played. The team narrowly missed out on a playoff spot and promotion into the Northern League last season by one point.

Patrick Woodlock, Thomas Walters, Hayden Miller, Haydn Roil and Marc Glenister.
Absent: Thomas Roach





International students flourishing at St John's College

St. John's College welcomed 20 new international students this term, including six Korean local government scholarship recipients. The term was vibrant and full of activities as we hosted four orientations and four farewells for our short-term students.

Our international students quickly settled into their learning at St John's, embracing the unique academic environment and the rich cultural experiences offered. Beyond the classroom, they had numerous opportunities to explore New Zealand, taking part in various trips designed to provide them with an authentic Kiwi experience. These excursions allowed the students to immerse themselves in local culture, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

St. John's College continues to be a hub of international exchange, fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for students from around the world.

Mr Edward Park **Dean of International Students**



New student Board of Trustees Representative

Students recently had the opportunity to vote for their new Board of Trustees Student representative. Aidan Butler was voted in and attends his first board meeting on Thursday 24 October.

Outgoing student BOT rep Arden Morunga shared his thoughts on his year on the board.

I have been so proud to serve our boys as the BOT Student Rep this year. During this time, I was fortunate to be a part of the incredible mahi that is done behind the scenes that support all areas of student life. It has also been an important part of leadership and getting amongst the kaupapa. It has been a privilege and I would like to acknowledge and thank the BOT and our Tumuaki for their continued vigilance in backing our boys.

Ngā manaakitanga o te hunga runga rawa.

Camping, tramping, rock climbing, abseiling, canyoning – our OED classes do it all

Since the last Eagle went out, our Outdoor Education classes have stayed busy. The Year 11 class has completed a multi-day tramp and camp trip, where they tramped from Wairere Falls, across the Kaimai Ranges and down to Aongatete on the other side where they spent two nights camping at the Aongatete Outdoor Education Center. While there they completed navigation tasks and river safety activities. They have also been caving with Waitomo adventures in the Hagas Honking Holes cave and have recently finished rock climbing and abseiling standards.

The Year 12s have taken part in a high ropes course in Taupō, which focused on safe behaviour and group work. They went canyoning with the team at Raglan Rock, focusing on the effect weather has on outdoor activities and they are currently completing a mountain bike maintenance standard while they prepare for two mountain biking trips.

The Year 13s had an action-packed trip through the Karamu caves focusing on self-protected abseiling, SRT skills and Kaitiakitanga. Since then this class has been working towards their 'top rope' and 'lead climbing' standards. While working on rock climbing they are also completing a standard on group processes.

Mr Kyle Jackways **Outdoor Education Teacher**





International team trip to China

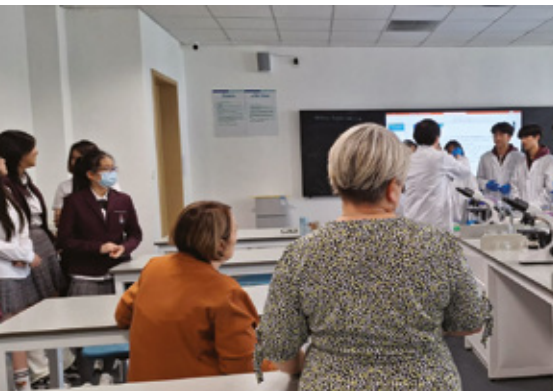
Towards the end of last term Edward Park and myself, together with staff from Waikato Diocesan, St Joseph's Fairfield and Morrinsville College, were lucky to be invited by China Youth International (CYI) to visit Zhejiang Province for a week. We visited a number of schools in and around Hangzhou where we signed a number of memoranda of understanding for each school and as well as Ministry of Education representatives.

Edward and I were blown away by the hospitality. We were welcomed onto the red carpet, there were light shows and lots of pomp and ceremony. Students performed a variety of dance, drama, and musical performances together with speeches and artistic displays. They even gave us an opportunity to have a go at traditional dancing, making zongzi (a pocket of sticky rice with delicious fillings, wrapped together in bamboo leaves) as well as writing Chinese characters with calligraphy brushes.

During the six days visiting schools, we signed 12 MOUs. The intention of these is to increase the number of short- and long-term students visiting us from this area. We are very grateful to CYI, the schools, the local educational department and in particular, Bena Zhu for hosting us.

We already have a group lined up to come at the beginning of the year so if you are interested in having a student for three weeks (or even longer) please contact Karen Johnson (homestay@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz).

Miss Jackie Smith
Deputy Principal - Student engagement and International students



Homestay families wanted for St John's College students

Open Your Heart and Home to the Next Generation!

Are you ready to make a positive impact on the lives of St John's College International students from around the world? We are seeking caring and welcoming families to host these young learners and provide them with a nurturing environment during their educational journey.

Why Host St John's College Students:

- Support Academic Growth:** Foster a conducive learning atmosphere for these students.
- Cultural Exchange and Friendship:** Build lifelong friendships and promote global understanding.
- Enhance Your Family Dynamics:** Create memorable experiences and lasting memories.

Earn Extra Income: \$360 per week, Tax Free

Personal Growth: Make a difference in a young person's life while fostering personal growth in your family.

How to Get Started:

Contact us by emailing homestay@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz or phone 021 283 4334 to express your interest in becoming a host family.

Hosting an international student is a rewarding experience!

Short and Long term Stays Available





1st XV reflect on successful season

As we reflect on the 2024 season, we're filled with a sense of immense pride and accomplishment. Our 1st XV rugby campaign was a journey marked by both challenges and triumphs, culminating in St John's College's first Central North Island Championship victory! An achievement that will forever be remembered amongst this special group of young men.

The season was not without its setbacks. We faced defeats that tested our resilience and forced us to confront our weaknesses. However, these losses proved to be invaluable learning experiences. We emerged from each setback stronger, more determined, and better prepared to face future challenges.

What truly set this season apart was the profound connection we forged as a team and the ability to be brave and try a different way of playing. We supported one another on and off the field, creating a bond that transcended the game. This camaraderie was the cornerstone of our success.

A special thanks goes out to our dedicated coaching staff. Their unwavering commitment, expertise, and guidance were instrumental in our development. We also extend our gratitude to our manager, support coaches, strength & conditioning coach, and physio. Their tireless efforts and support were invaluable.

We would also like to acknowledge the incredible support we received from our parents, friends, the entire school and wider community. Your enthusiasm and encouragement fuelled our determination and helped create a truly electric atmosphere at our games - particularly the semi-finals and finals!

As we look ahead to the 2025 season, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Building on the foundation we have established, we are committed to continuing our pursuit of excellence. We aim to maintain the strong team culture that has defined us and strive for even greater achievements.

For now, we will look to enjoy this special moment and remember all the hard work that went into making this an historical season for us, our whānau and our school.

Thank you to everyone who played a role in making this season a memorable one. Together, we continue to aspire to a legacy that will inspire future generations of 1st XV rugby players at St John's College.

Mr Tony Su'a
1st XV coach



Join the St John's Repair Shop team!

Launched in 2024 by the Electronics Science Club, St John's Repair Shop has been dedicated to serving our school community by repairing a variety of electronic devices, from Chromebooks and earphones to laminators, kettles, and lamps. As our workload increases, we are looking to expand our team with new technicians who share a passion for electronics science.

By joining us, you'll benefit from:

- Supportive team environment
- On-the-job training
- Access to learning resources
- A record of your service hours

The Repair Shop is open from 11:00am to 11:25am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and from 03:30pm to 04:30pm on Tuesdays

Interested? Visit us at PG,06 for more details.



The technicians fixed the laminator for the school. They were given the job each time the laminator was jammed. The students were proud of having a reputation for knowing how to fix things.



The Repair Shop completed a wide range of repair jobs such as chrome books, earphones, laminators, kettles, lamps, etc.



Gold Awards at Itinerant Music Festival

Mid-term proved to be a fun week for the Music department.

St John's school guitar group, Gat Attack, which is made up of students ranging from Year 9-13 playing guitar, bass, drums, and singing, performed at Sacred Heart and Marian to amazing audiences before they joined other music students at the big event, the Itinerant music festival, in Hamilton.

It was a day of gold for our students who came away with three golds and a bronze award. The golds were won by the combined St John's College/Sacred Heart Girls College concert band, The Saints, (who also received a merit award and cash prize), Gat Attack and our Irish Ceilidh Group. Congratulations also go to our jazz band for their exceptional performance and bronze award.

A big thank you to our itinerant music teachers and group leaders Chris Nation, Nathan Aish, Glenn Richards and Paul Norman for all their Mahi!

Mrs Donna McHugh
TIC Music



Lego Masters returns for 2024



Lego Masters: House Edition was held in the library this term. Teams of five - one boy from each year level - arrived to represent their houses. Pride and points were on the line as our defending champions, Marcellin, sought back-to-back wins.

The challenge this year? Build an Olympics-themed scene. Two teams opted for winter Olympics, with builds featuring ski and snowboard jumps. Silver medallists, Roncalli, made a Paris Olympics scene featuring Lisa Carrington, Hamish Kerr, Ellesse Andrews and even the Eiffel Tower. But this year's gold medal was awarded to Chanel. Their impressive build included a para-racing track, Olympic rings and a commentary box.

Many thanks to our judge, Ms Jackie "The Brick Woman" Smith, and congratulations to Chanel!

Mrs Lynley Keightley
Librarian





Hockey's 2024 season overview

This year marked significant growth for hockey at St. John's College, with the program expanding to four teams. This expansion is a testament to the dedication of Leon Teao, who played a pivotal role in recruiting students to the sport. We were proud to field a 1st XI, 2nd XI, and two Under-15 squads. We also welcomed Leon Teao as our new Teacher in Charge (TIC) of hockey.

Acknowledgments:

- **Umpires:** A special thanks to Aidan Butler, Levi Dyer-Bunce, and Brianna McIntyre for their invaluable contributions in refereeing the 2nd XI and the Under-15 teams.
- **Coaches and Managers:**
 - **1st XI:** Coached by Stuart McIntyre, the team had a successful year, achieving their goals by finishing 2nd in the Waikato competition and 3rd in the Midlands Intercity round. With 11 players departing, we face a rebuilding year in 2025.
 - **2nd XI:** Under the guidance of ex-Johnnie, Luke Hoskin, and managed by Melissa Martin, the team placed 4th in the 'C' grade of the Waikato Secondary Schools competition.
 - **Under 15A:** Coached by Leon Teao and managed by Megan Lane, this team showed great promise, securing 4th place in the Under-15A Waikato competition. Leon's efforts have positioned these players as strong contenders for the 1st XI in 2025.
 - **Under 15B:** Led by Harriet Reed-Hadley, this team, primarily composed of Year 9 students, faced challenges but showed growth throughout the season. Managed by Helen Kato, we are confident this team will be competitive next year.

Along with the school, thanks to all the coaches and managers who have supported the hockey sporting code at St. John's College. Your hard work and dedication have made it possible for our students to participate and excel in the game of hockey. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our students and for providing them with the opportunity to play this wonderful sport. Your efforts are truly appreciated by everyone at the school.

Representative Players:

Congratulation to the players below who have made Waikato, Thames Valley & Hockey NZ squads

Ashton Carter - Waikato Under 18's & Hockey NZ National Under 18 squad

George Hall - Waikato Under 18's

Ritchie Gemmell - Waikato Under 18's

Aidan Butler - Thames Valley Under 18's

Henry Hall - Waikato Under 16's

Sponsorships: Hockey at St. John's College would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. For over five plus years, JT Carter Plumbing and Swamp Frog Environmental & Tree Consultants have contributed significantly to our program. Their ongoing support has been instrumental in building a strong sporting brand at St John's College.

Mervyn Fernandes



Welcome Dr Harry Chen

Introducing Dr Harry Chen, who will be taking Mrs Jessie He's position as a teacher of Physics in our Science Department.

Mrs He resignation was triggered by a move to Auckland by her husband for work and is deeply regretted. However, it is our good fortune that we have been able to appoint Dr Chen with a background in Physics and Biochemical research. He is a timely addition to St John's College and comes to us from a teaching stint at our sister school Sacred Heart Girls College.

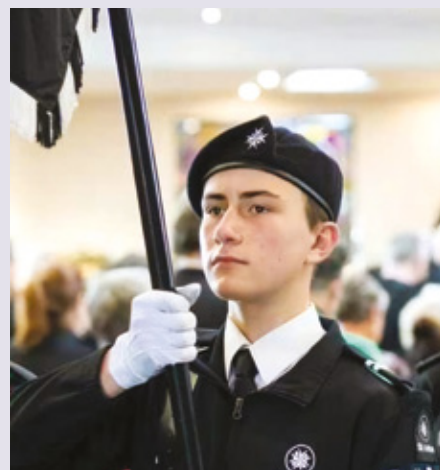
Dr Chen starts Monday 2nd of September and we wish him the very best for his time at St Johns College.

Mr Steve Wood
Head of Science Faculty

St John Youth Award win for young cadet

Year 9 student Michael Dobbs has received the St John Youth award of DCOTY (District Cadet Of The Year). He will be representing and supporting all of the Waikato within this large organisation that promotes community service, practical first aid in real life scenarios and provides leadership opportunities.

Michael will be taking part in nationwide events and training to develop the leaders of tomorrow. Congratulations Michael on this achievement!





Gateway and Wintec Trades



Wintec Trades Academy offers new career pathways

The Wintec Trades Academy programme has had another successful year and once again, this programme proved very popular for our Year 12 and 13 students.

Our students are enrolled in a range of programmes, including Level 3 mechanical engineering, sport & exercise science, and automotive engineering. Level 2 programmes include electrical engineering, manufacturing & technology, café skills and construction & infrastructure.

All of our students have thoroughly enjoyed the year-long programme and were able to gain a wide range of trade skills, experience and knowledge, as well as NCEA qualifications.

Wintec Trades Academy opens up career pathways for our students allowing them to gain specific skills in an industry-based setting for one day each week during the school term. It also offers some the opportunity to move directly into full-time employment, an apprenticeship or further study on the completion of secondary school.

Gateway programme opens doors

Joey Smart has been making the most of the vocational opportunities we offer through our Gateway programme at St John's College. Joey has joined the Laser Plumbing team in Hamilton two days a week and assists the team on all manner of jobs.

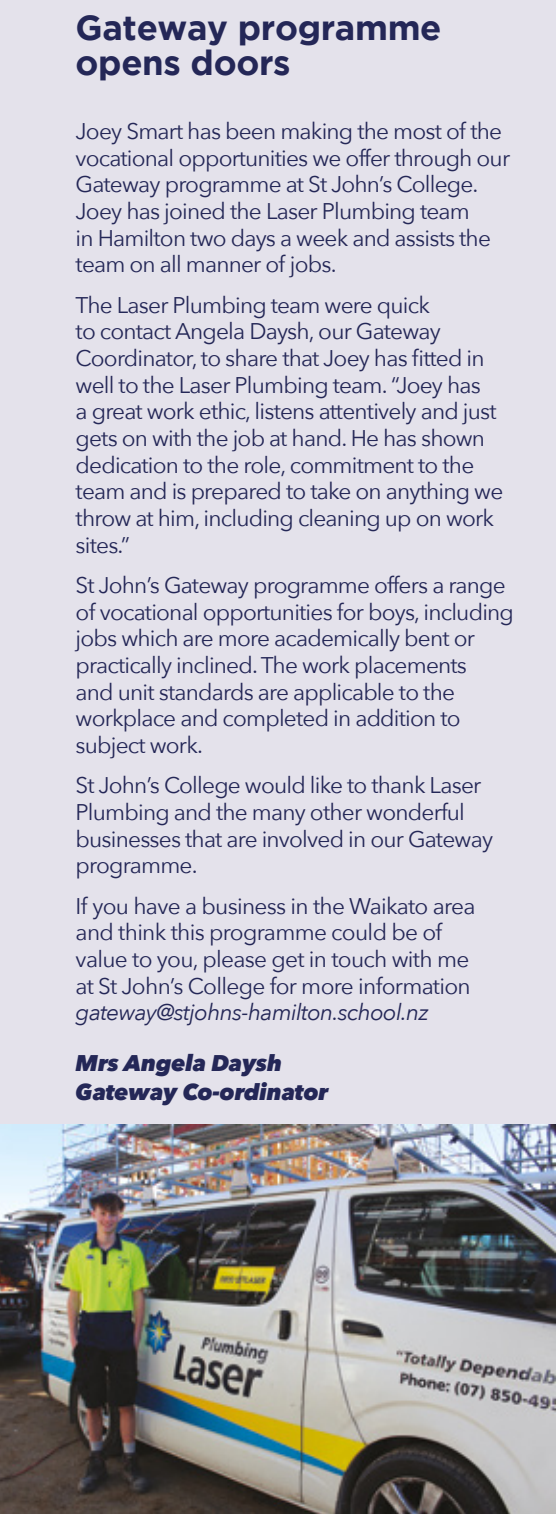
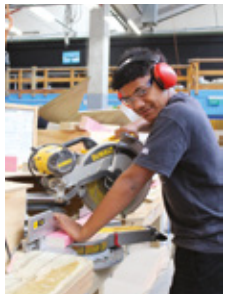
The Laser Plumbing team were quick to contact Angela Daysh, our Gateway Coordinator, to share that Joey has fitted in well to the Laser Plumbing team. "Joey has a great work ethic, listens attentively and just gets on with the job at hand. He has shown dedication to the role, commitment to the team and is prepared to take on anything we throw at him, including cleaning up on work sites."

St John's Gateway programme offers a range of vocational opportunities for boys, including jobs which are more academically bent or practically inclined. The work placements and unit standards are applicable to the workplace and completed in addition to subject work.

St John's College would like to thank Laser Plumbing and the many other wonderful businesses that are involved in our Gateway programme.

If you have a business in the Waikato area and think this programme could be of value to you, please get in touch with me at St John's College for more information gateway@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz

Mrs Angela Daysh
Gateway Co-ordinator





From learning to row to Maadi Cup dreams: The journey of St John's rowers

For the 2024/25 rowing season, St John's College Rowing has set an ambitious vision: to build a dynamic and inclusive community that excels in performance and teamwork. Our aim is to push the boundaries of our potential, committing fully to our team and a shared ambition for success. We are driven by dedication and passion, embracing a strong code of discipline guided by our Catholic values, and living by the principles of compassion, faith, and trust. We strive to accommodate all abilities with an open heart, working to strengthen the culture of St John's College Rowing.

This vision was crafted by the St John's College Rowing leadership group, a diverse team made up of rowers from various age groups within the squad. At St John's College, our vision and goals must be shaped by the boys themselves. As coaches, we see our role as "facilitators of what they want to achieve."

Before the season kicks off, our first task is recruiting new members, and Term 3 is all about our "Learn to Row" program. This program is open to any student interested in experiencing the sport of rowing. But it's more than just getting in a boat – it involves understanding every aspect of the sport, from assembling the boats to developing the physical and mental skills needed to excel.

This year, we are excited to welcome 12 enthusiastic boys from Years 9 to 12 who are diving into the program with eagerness. Our returning rowers and coxswains take the lead in these sessions, teaching the newcomers the ins and outs of rowing. This setup provides a wonderful opportunity for our young men to demonstrate their leadership skills and build a sense of camaraderie and mentorship.

Each session in the Learn to Row program sees the boys heading out in a coxed eight. It's fantastic to have reached a point where we can launch eights, a step up from the smaller boats that have traditionally been our focus due to the size of the squad. However, as our numbers have grown over the last few years, expanding our equipment has become a necessity.

One of the team's goals, driven by the growth in squad size, is to enter a St John's Under 18 Eight into the prestigious Maadi Cup next year. This ambition was sparked when this year's senior rowers realized that most other schools in the Hamilton area have regularly fielded crews in the Boys Under 18 Eight event, known as the Maadi Cup, since it began in 1948. "We want to be a part of this, and just because it hasn't been done before doesn't mean it's not possible," they said.

Achieving this ambitious goal won't be easy. The boys know they will have to work twice as hard as in previous seasons to make it happen. Alongside their dedication, having a modern coxed eight that suits the team's needs is crucial. A brand-new coxed eight costs around \$50,000, which means the boys have already started working hard to raise the necessary funds.

The St John's College Rowing Committee has also developed a sponsorship package, and we're reaching out to businesses and individuals who may be able to support us. If you or someone you know can help, please get in touch, jsmith@stjohns-hamilton.school.nz

Miss Jackie Smith
TIC Rowing



Why do I row?

"The reason I do rowing is to better myself as a person. Rowing gives me all kinds of challenges and goals to strive for and overcome. It also forms friendships that are like a brotherhood"

"I do rowing for the community and brotherhood we create as a squad. Rowing has made me more disciplined and punctual, helping to develop me into a young Marist Man."



Come and join the crew!

Sponsor St John's College rowing

Our goal is to provide a positive and holistic experience for students, installing in them a life-long love of rowing and helping them develop skills of commitment, resilience, courage and teamwork. We have crafted differing levels of support that can align your brand with a sport that continually pushes the boundaries of strength, fitness, endurance and commitment. Sponsors will be well looked after with exposure throughout the school and rowing communities as well as brand exposure and recognition at regattas. We welcome you and your business to join our crew and help us make the boats go faster.

Bronze Sponsor: \$500 pa

Benefits:

Naming on the sponsors panel of the supporters tent at regattas
Social media promotion to the St John's College Rowing Community

Silver Sponsor: \$1,500 pa

Benefits in addition to those offered with the Bronze Package:

Logo on the sponsors panel displayed at the supporters tent
Two tickets to the annual quiz night fundraiser and logo promotion on the night

Gold Sponsor: \$3,000 pa

Benefits in addition to those offered with the Silver Package:

Logo on the rower's Maadi training shirts
Logo on the sponsors board on our trailer
Two more tickets to the annual quiz night fundraiser

Platinum Sponsor \$10,000 pa

Benefits in addition to those offered with the Gold Package:

Logo exposure on one of our boats and the oars
Logo exposure on a building at the school facing the terraces of the main rugby field
Four more tickets to the annual quiz night fundraiser



Bronze awards at Waikato Culinary Fare

Saint Johns' College participated in the Waikato culinary fare run by Caterplus and Te Pūkenga in the last week of term 2. Six students represented our college in two different classes.

Michael Douch, Ryder Nicholson, Mikaere Cull and Nathan Gilliver entered the Mystery box category. Students completed this in pairs and were given their ingredient lists an hour before they were to prepare and present two portions of a main course from scratch. The boys came away with merit and bronze awards respectively. Michael and Ryder prepared a sticky chicken stir-fry with a moulded timbale of rice. Mikaere and Nathan prepared a chicken curry served with a carrot and onion sambal and a homemade roti flat bread. An impressive effort all round!

Aaron Philpott and Tynan Wolken entered the creative burger class. This is an individual challenge where the students practice a hamburger of their choice and then prepare two portions in a hot kitchen contest on the day of the competition. Both students prepared beef burgers and came away with a bronze medal each with Tynan pipping Aaron by four points!

All categories are judged by a panel of qualified judges and time management and kitchen hygiene plays an important part. All six students did our college proud and came away feeling that they had gained confidence through the experience.

Tynan Wolken said: *"The Culinary fair is a great experience to have. It is a great time if you like cooking. I highly recommend doing it."*

Mrs Linda Myburgh
HoF Technology Faculty



Successful 'Springtime in Japan' Ball

Our 2024 ball, themed Springtime in Japan, was a spectacular success! Held at the Wintec Atrium with more than 300 attendees, the vibrant atmosphere was adorned with cherry blossoms and traditional decor, truly setting the scene. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this a night to remember!

William Hernandez
Year 13 student





Te Haka Roopu a Hato Hoani

He mihi aroha ki to koutou Kiingi Tuheitia Potatau Te Wherowhero Te Tuawhito, a ki te Whare Kaahui Ariki hoki.

Paimarire.

This term has seen our Haka roopu (in conjunction with Sacred Heart) stand at the Koroneihana, Te Hui Ahurea and in the last week of this Term our Maaori Awards. With the busy schedules of all our kaihaka the toughest part has been trying to co-ordinate practice times. Thankfully we have been able to work to these times along with the support of our whaanau.



Our roopu was fortunate enough to perform to Kingi Tuuheitia, two weeks prior to his passing, a beautiful kaupapa enjoyed by friends, family and staff members. Our second kaupapa of Te Hui Ahurea (all Catholic Kura within our Kahui) was full to the brim with our kaihaka performing to all of the Primary Schools but also having the opportunity to share our bracket to our staff on our whenua.

Finally, always a big thank you to our tutors and kaiako who give of their time helping make our roopu look and perform like they do.

Mauri ora

Mr Jordan Rangihika
TIC Te Reo Māori



Raphael Ferdinands' a national poetry finalist

Year 13 student, Raphael Ferdinands, was one of ten finalists announced in the prestigious 2024 National Schools Poetry Awards run by Victoria University. His poem was titled "Balancing with a Taiaha", and explored his loss of Indian heritage living in New Zealand.

Administration block upgrade

A larger sick bay, an additional office and a more functional entrance foyer are some of the main benefits to the administration block upgrade that will begin in the October school holidays. During term 4, the school office will be based in the Mel Young Foyer of the MC Gymnasium (top level of the 'new' gym). The Mel Young Foyer is where all visitors to the school need to report and where you can collect your son from sick bay, and other tasks you usually do at the school's front office. Our Deputy Principals will be based in the MC Lounge at the back of the St John's College 'old' gym and other support staff will be based around the school. The work is scheduled to be completed in time for the start of term 1 in 2025.

