



YEAR 10 CAMP – KAUAERANGA VALLEY

A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

**Morrinsville
College**

26 March 2026 Issue No. 3

PRINCIPAL
MR S JENKINS, B.A (HONS), PGDIPEDLD, DIP.TCHG



FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SCOTT JENKINS

As we head into the remaining two weeks of the term, it has been jam-packed with events and trips as we squeeze the last remnants of the warm weather in order to take part in education outside the classroom. It does mean that some of our students and teachers have had limited time in the classroom, but it does set them up for a very focused academic term after the Easter break. Year 10 camp returned

yesterday before the weather turned and all of the reports so far have been highly positive with our Year 10 students pushing themselves further than many thought they were capable of.

Next week is just as busy over the last four days with a number of senior agriculture, horticulture and science trips taking place. This is an important focus of our school and an area of difference to our city counterparts. I wish to acknowledge the support of Tatua Dairy Company who have provided funding for these particular trips to take place and of their ongoing support across a number of years.

NCEA Report and Ministerial Announcement

At the bottom of this newsletter we have included our Annual Report to the Community highlighting our progress in NCEA for 2025. The data provided comes directly from NZQA and is not generated by the school, however the analysis and graphs provided with the data is produced by Mr Nilesh Prasad as Principal’s Nominee and our DP in charge of curriculum and assessment. The results are very positive and continue a general trend over the last five years of results that match or exceed national averages when compared to secondary schools across the country and across a number of different indicators.

This morning, the Minister of Education Ms Erica Stanford announced the result of the long-awaited NCEA review. Nothing has shifted from the consultation package announced last year and from 2028 (when our current Year 9s will be in Year 11),

NCEA as it currently stands will change significantly. While there are a number of key decisions still to be announced, a very simplified version is that

- Level 1 NCEA at Year 11 will be replaced by a foundational award focused on Numeracy and Literacy. However, it is intended that this will have far less assessment than current Level 1 NCEA
- Replace NCEA with a new qualifications system with two levels across Years 12 and 13
- Integrate industry led subjects into the senior curriculum within a single qualification pathway. At this stage this is an area of concern to us as little work has been done in this area as yet and this will be a critical area for students of Morrinsville College.

There will be a number of other decisions from the Minister in the near future that will add detail around this decision. This will be vital as the lead in time for this significant change will have a massive impact on the success of its implementation.

Year 10 Camps

Our Year 10 camp groups successfully returned yesterday from Year 10 camp. We have included a number of photos in this newsletter. It is affirming that as the world changes rapidly around us that when kids enter the Kauaeranga Valley and go into the bush, they are still kids on an adventure, no different than the generations that went before them 40 years’ ago. This is a really healthy thing that unfortunately is becoming more difficult for schools to provide for their students and is fast disappearing from EOTC programmes around the country.

I wish to thank those staff members, parents and Year 13 leaders who work together each year to make Year 10 camp possible. I also wish to acknowledge those businesses in our community who subsidise the cost for each individual to go to camp which might otherwise be possible in these otherwise financially difficult times.

Winter Uniform

You will recall that towards the end of last year, the Board of Trustees signalled to our community that there would be a change in the uniform around long trousers worn during Terms 2 and 3. Up until three years' ago, students in Years 9-12 did not have the option of wearing long trousers during the winter terms. This was allowed after a request from the students. While our students have been doing particularly well with their uniform over the last 12 months, the long trousers have been an area of concern. Therefore the Board decided last year that they would bring in a uniform pair of trousers as some were confused about which dress black trousers were acceptable.

The new trousers for Years 9-12 can be worn only in Terms 2 and 3 are navy in colour and have a school crest on them. The navy trousers will be in stock at Harry's from the second week of the April school holidays. They do have some samples in store now. If you would like to pre-order a pair please go into Harry's to be correctly sized and they will contact you once they arrive. Year 13 students are in a transition year and are able to wear black trousers.

It should be noted that the trousers are ONE option and that a significant majority of our students prefer to wear shorts or skirts during the winter terms as well.

Gymnasium Upgrade

The recladding and repainting of the gymnasium is in its final weeks and is currently on track to be used once again by our students at the start of Term 2. The contractors, Livingstone, has done a great job. While our students might not notice a lot inside, the outside of the gym has had the roof replaced, a majority of the windows and protective grills replaced, nearly all of the cladding replaced and all of the storage areas inside have had water damaged walls and ceilings replaced. The drainage and surrounding entrances have also been upgraded to future-proof the gym. The classroom kitchen has also been refitted. I wish to acknowledge our PE staff who have run their classes out of the pool area for the last two terms.

Race Unity Speech Success

Congratulations to our Head Girl, **Christina Parajuli**, who won her regional heat of the Race Unity Speech Awards on Tuesday night. The theme was *'Listen to Understand'* and she commanded attention as always.



Kart-Racing Success

Congratulations to Year 9 student **Charlie Jamieson** who competed in the New Zealand Karting Grand Prix in the Rotax Max Junior class at Manawatu recently and finished in third place out of the top 28 (12-15year olds) in the country. This places him 1st in the New Zealand Kartstars Championship points. Charlie will be competing in the New Zealand Nationals which will be held in Rotorua over Easter Weekend.



WaiBOP Secondary Schools Athletics Championships

Eight students attended the Championships last week.

Automatic qualifiers for the North Island Secondary Schools Championships were: Automatic Qualification (Top 3):

- **Eeshe Murti** – 1st, Junior Girls Javelin (26.88m)
- **Rosie Soffe** – 3rd, Junior Girls Long Jump (4.84m)
- **Samantha Leigh** – 2nd, Senior Girls 3000m (11:09.09)
- **Saskia Dewhurst** – 2nd, Intermediate Girls 80m Hurdles (13.45), 2nd, Intermediate Girls 300m Hurdles (48.58)
- **Hanno Oosthuizen** – 3rd, Senior Boys Shot Put (13.59m).

Eligible for Consideration (4th Place):

- **Samantha Leigh** – 4th, Senior Girls 1500m (5:18.57)
- **Hanno Oosthuizen** – 4th, Senior Boys Javelin (37.68m)

A huge thank you to Rita Dewhurst and Dennis Leigh, who looked after the team on the day and kept everyone who couldn't attend updated. Their support made a real difference.

Summer Tournament Week

This week saw a range of events happening in various with it being Summer Tournament Week.

- New Zealand Secondary Schools (NZSS) Waka Ama - Monday - Friday at Lake Tikitapu, Rotorua
- NZSS Basketball 3v3 - Mon & Tue at Bruce Pulman, Auckland
- NZSS Ultimate Frisbee - Tue & Wed at Owen Delany Park, Taupo
- NZSS Triathlon - Thursday & Friday in Mt Maunganui
- North Island Secondary Schools (NISS) Mountain Biking Championships - Thursday - Sunday in Wellington
- NISS Track & Field - Saturday & Sunday in Papakura

Some results:

NZSS 3x3 Basketball

Senior boys placed 13th in the open division.

Senior Girls placed 4th in the open division.

Ultimate Frisbee - Taupo

The boys' team won Most Spirited Team in the Open division, a prestigious award as 'Spirit of the Game' is integral to this sport.

There were 13 girls teams (our team placed 9th) and 17 open teams (ours placed 16th).

Sports Volunteers

As we prepare for the 2026 winter sports season, we are seeking volunteers who are willing to support our students across a wide range of sporting codes. Our programmes rely on the generosity, expertise, and enthusiasm of our community and we welcome interest from staff, parents, caregivers, students, and community members.

We are looking for:

- **Coaches and assistant coaches**
- **Team managers**
- **Referees and umpires**
- **General team support volunteers**

If you are interested in helping, please complete the [Winter Sports Volunteer & Management Application form](#). This form will ask you to indicate the sports and roles you are open to supporting, outline any relevant experience or qualifications, and share your availability for trainings and games. Applicants for coaching, officiating, or management roles will be directed to additional role specific questions.

The form also includes a section for those wishing to be considered for one of the two vacant management positions for the 2026 Australian Netball Tour. Applicants for these roles will be asked to provide further information about their experience, availability, and suitability. All volunteers working with students are required to hold a current police vet or be willing to complete one.

Your support plays an important role in enabling our students to participate, compete, and grow through sport. We truly appreciate the time and energy you are offering to contribute.

Jacqui McCann – Director of Sport
Email: sport@morrncoll.school.nz

Touch Rugby Finals

The touch rugby finals were held earlier this week. Our junior boys won against St John’s College to come 4th. Their coach Daniel McQuoid was awarded awhi coach of the year, role modelling great values to his players. Our senior mixed team won against Ngataiatea Wharekura 6-1 for 3rd. Earlier in the term the senior mixed team took part in the Thames Valley Secondary Schools’ Tournament coming 2nd. Our Senior girls’ team, with only one sub, played Hamilton Girls’ High School. The full-time score was 4-4 after a great defensive display from our girls. This took the game to a drop off when the girls went down to three players on each team. HGHS scored the winning try to win 5-4. Morrinsville finished in 2nd place.

Thank you to all our Touch parents for all your amazing support.

Rugby News

In yesterday’s *Your Morrinsville News* there was an article on the collaboration of Morrinsville College, Kereone RFC and Morrinsville Sports under the banner of Morrinsville Rugby. The aim of this is to grow the number of young people playing rugby in our community

across all ages. This might include encouraging those younger players who have yet to reach secondary school level, those players in our area who may not be attached to a team at their school and also those transitioning from secondary school into adult teams. It also considers the role of coaches, managers, supporters and administrators at all levels. It recognises that rural communities only have so many people who can contribute and are often needed in multiple sports groups. This collaboration is aimed at sharing and growing that resource base by working together. It is good for rural communities when our young people are connecting and getting involved alongside their peers and community members. While this is in its early stages I wish to acknowledge the foresight of Kereone RFC and Morrinsville Sports Club and the support from our business community who have expressed an interest in getting behind the concept.

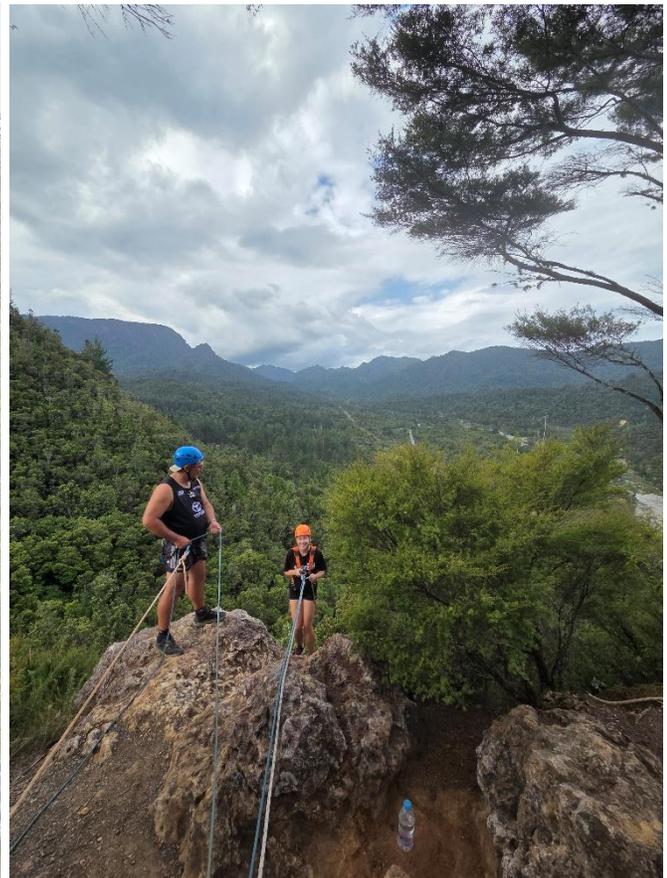
COMING EVENTS

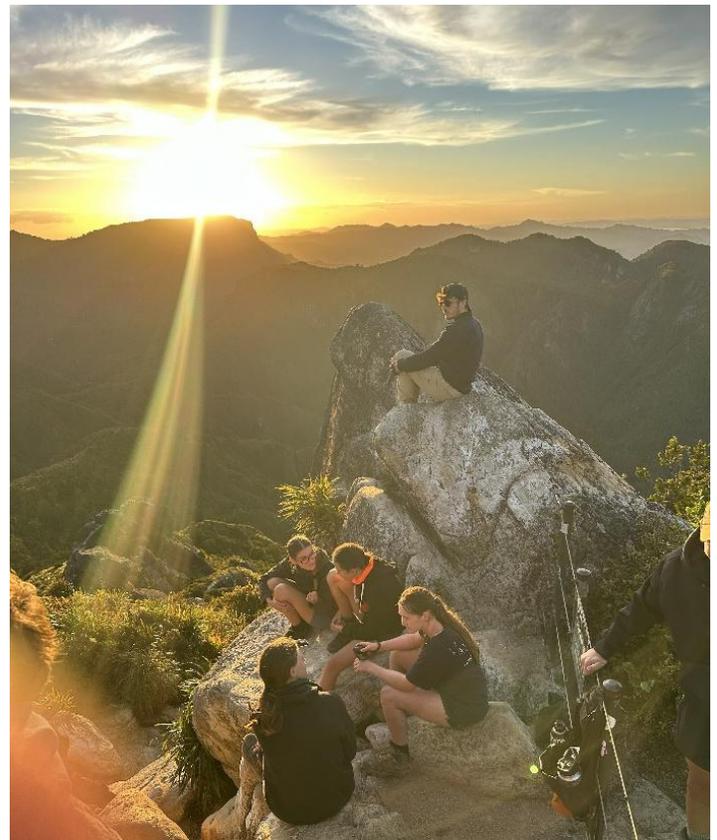
Tue 31 Mar – Thur 2 April	Mana Wahine Trip
Wednesday 1 April	BOT Meeting
Thursday 2 April	End Term 1
Monday 20 April	Start of Term 2
Wednesday 22 April	ANZAC poppy mufti day
Friday 24 April	School ANZAC Assembly Period 1
Monday 27 April	ANZAC DAY Holiday observance
Tues 5 - Friday 8 May	Mana Tane Trip
Wednesday 6 May	Parent Interviews 3.30pm – 7pm
Mon 18 – Fri 29 May	CAA Exams
Monday 1 June	King’s Birthday Holiday



BOYS’ ULTIMATE FRISBEE TEAM







MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT(NCEA) REPORT 2025

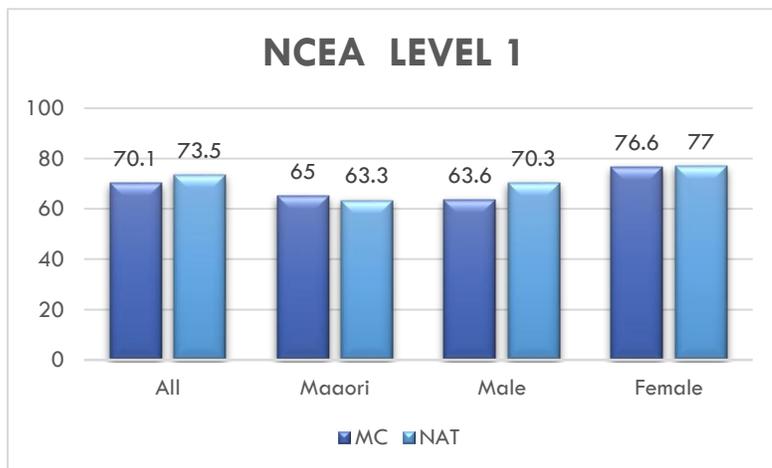
The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) serves as a key indicator of academic success at Morrinsville College, reflecting the dedication, perseverance, and hard work of both students and staff. Analysing the NCEA results for Levels 1, 2, and 3 provides valuable insights into overall achievement trends, subject performance, and areas for future development.

A significant component of this analysis involves a close examination of literacy and numeracy data—foundational skills that underpin academic progress and are essential for students' success both within school and in their lives beyond secondary education. These results not only highlight the efforts of students striving for excellence but also acknowledge the ongoing commitment of teachers and support staff who guide, mentor, and encourage them throughout their learning journey.

This report will outline key achievements, compare performance across all three NCEA levels, and recognise the collective contribution that helps strengthen the academic foundation at Morrinsville College.

It is important to note that the official NCEA data used in this analysis is supplied directly by NZQA. This dataset includes every student enrolled at Morrinsville College for at least one term except NCEA Level 1 which has changed to participation-based result. Additionally, the results incorporate achievement information from other providers such as Te Kura, Northern Health School, and various secondary schools where students may have undertaken additional learning or assessments.

NCEA Level 1



The achievement rate of **70.1%** at NCEA Level 1 reflects a **5.9%** improvement compared with 2024. However, this result remains just below the national average.

It is important to note that NZQA's revised reporting system for **Level 1 only** is based on *participation rates*. For Levels 2 and 3, schools are required to report on **all students**, as expected. However, Level 1 results included **only those students entered for at least 60 credits**, which is the minimum required to gain a qualification under the new system. In addition to these 60 credits, students must also achieve **10 Literacy** and **10 Numeracy** credits.

This approach can make national achievement data appear stronger, as some schools could potentially choose to enter only those students, they believe are likely to meet the

60-credit threshold. Schools like ours, which prioritise equal opportunity and enter all students for a full programme in Year 11, are therefore statistically disadvantaged.

In 2025, almost all our Year 11 students (154 out of 156 as of end of 2025) were entered for enough credits to achieve a qualification. Of these, **108 out of 154** successfully gained NCEA Level 1. Among the 46 students who did not achieve the qualification, several were only a few credits short and are expected to meet the requirement early in Term 1 of 2026. A few of these students are also on a two-to-three-year journey to gain a qualification.

We also had a small number of students who had gained more than 60 credits but did not meet either the Literacy or Numeracy co-requisite. As a result, NZQA removed 10 credits from their tagged standards to compensate for the missing co-requisite, reducing their total below the qualification threshold. Additionally, some students still need to meet the co-requisite and continue accumulating credits to reach the Level 1 requirement.

In 2025, Māori student achievement showed a significant improvement, rising **23.9%** compared with the 2024 pass rate. This reflects strong progress, with the overall achievement rate of 65% surpassing the national rate for Māori students. A total of 40 Māori students were enrolled in sufficient credits to gain a qualification. Of these, 26 successfully achieved their qualification. Among the 14 who did not yet pass, the majority were still working towards their literacy and numeracy requirements, while a few needed additional credits to reach the 60-credit qualification threshold.

Over the past few years, our male students have consistently performed below the national achievement rate. A significant proportion of those who did not achieve an NCEA Level 1 qualification last year were male, and many of them did not meet their co-requisite requirements. In contrast, our female students have generally performed above the national achievement rate, which made last year's slight dip in female achievement unexpected. As noted earlier, the revised NZQA reporting system has influenced our NCEA Level 1 data across all categories.

NCEA Level 2

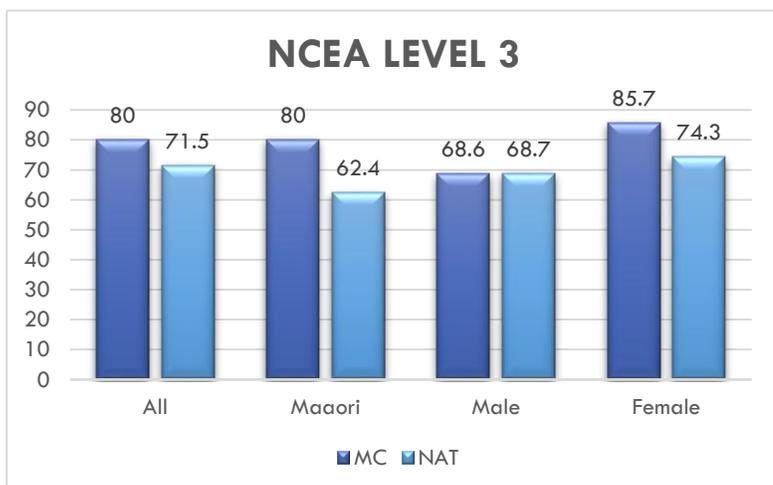
Morrinsville College is performing **consistently better than national averages** across all categories for NCEA Level 2. The overall achievement rate in Year 12 in 2025 surpassed the national achievement rate by **9.4%**. This demonstrates the success of our NCEA Level 2 programme at Morrinsville College and the collective effort of all our stakeholders. The same cohort in 2024 achieved a pass rate of 64.2% (participation based) and an achievement rate of 83% shows the commitment this group has demonstrated throughout the year. However, it is important to also note that this group of students were the first group to attempt the new NCEA Level 1 standards in Year 11 in 2024 which most students found challenging.

While our Māori students at NCEA Level 2 had an achievement rate lower than the rest of the analysed group, they were still **5.2% above the national achievement rate**. This result is an indication that all our intervention programmes like tracking, mentoring and the leadership programme for our Year 12 Māori students is successfully working.

Our female achievement rate at NCEA Level 2 has historically been better than the male achievement rate. 2025 was no different and we saw a **4.7% gap** in the achievement rate between female and male student in Year 12. A similar pattern can be seen nationally as well. It was great to see that both of our male and female groups surpassed the national achievement rate in the respective categories. Female achievement rate at Morrinsville College in Year 12 has been the highest in all the analysed categories, surpassing the overall achievement rate for all students as well.

Twenty-two students in Year 13 in 2026 from this group still do not have a NCEA Level 2 qualification. Ten students from this group have achieved their literacy and numeracy component but need to get of the 60 credits threshold to gain a qualification. These ten students are our priority over the first few weeks of this term, and we already have a few intervention programmes in place to support them. The remaining twelve students either need Literacy, Numeracy or both. These students will be our target group for corequisite assessments in Term 2.

NCEA Level 3



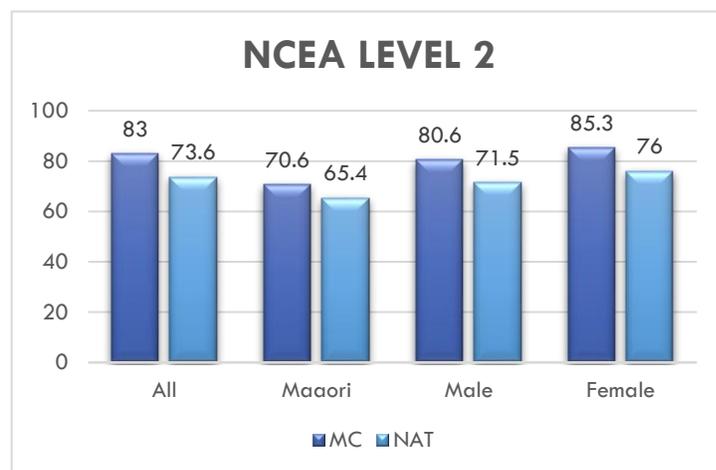
The graph on the next page shows that Morrinsville College Year 13 achievement rate exceeded national achievement rate in 3 out of the 4 analysed categories. The difference varies substantially by group, with the largest gap in the Māori category and the smallest in the Male category. Once again, the female achievement rate is the highest and surpasses the overall achievement rate at NCEA Level 3. Comparing our overall pass rate with the national figure, we are performing **9.5% above the national achievement rate**. This is an excellent achievement by our Year 13 students in 2025.

However, we must also acknowledge that **20% of our students** (approximately 20 learners) who were enrolled with us for a significant period did not achieve a qualification. It is important to note that for most of these

students, gaining NCEA Level 3 was never their intended goal. They remained enrolled until they secured employment and left school once they did so. These students required only **NCEA Level 2**, which they successfully achieved before exiting.

Māori student achievement at NCEA Level 3 was particularly strong—**17.6% above the national rate**, the largest positive difference across all levels and categories. In real numbers, **16 of the 20 Māori students** gained an NCEA Level 3 qualification, representing the best Māori pass rate at this level in the past five years.

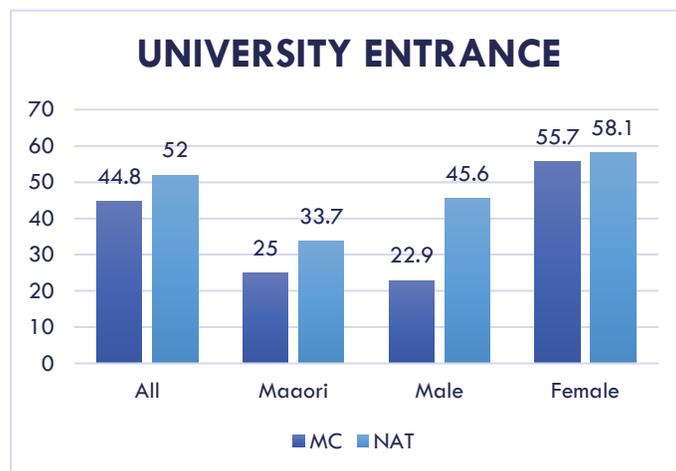
Female students at NCEA Level 3 once again led our achievement results, performing **11.4% above the national rate** and at least **5.7% higher** than all other analysed groups. It is also incredibly encouraging to see that, for the first time since 2021, our male NCEA Level 3 achievement rate is in par with national rate.



University Entrance

The University Entrance (UE) rate for Morrinsville College in 2025 was 44.8%, which is 7.2% below the national average. While this represents a slight decline from 2024, it aligns closely with the national downward trend. It is important to note that this figure includes *all* Year 13 students. If the calculation were based solely on students who intended to pursue university pathways, our UE rate would have been significantly higher. Those students performed very well overall, with most securing the credits required for university entry. Students with alternative career goals were appropriately supported throughout the year by the dean and the careers advisor.

Female students in Year 13 performed strongly in achieving University Entrance. This reflects the fact that a higher proportion of female students had set university study as their goal, compared with their male peers. Historically, many of our male students have shown stronger interest in trades-based pathways, which continued to be a key focus for them in 2025.



Increasing the number of male and Māori students gaining University Entrance remains a priority for our academic team. While we encourage and support all students to succeed in whichever pathway they choose, we also recognise the value of strengthening these outcomes. Ultimately, students make decisions based on their aspirations, and we remain committed to providing the guidance and support needed for each individual to pursue their chosen future.

Numeracy and Literacy

	YEAR 11		YEAR 12		YEAR 13	
	MC	National	MC	National	MC	National
Literacy	86%	78.9	95.2%	87.7	99%	92
Numeracy	78%	78.4	93.2%	87.6	98.1%	92.5

Morrinsville College has continued to perform well in meeting the literacy and numeracy requirements needed for qualification across all year levels. Historically, we have consistently exceeded the national achievement rate in both areas. However, it was disappointing to see our NCEA Level 1 numeracy rate fall just below the national rate last year.

One contributing factor may have been that several of our Year 11 students, who did not achieve their numeracy requirement, were not yet working at the level required to meet the numeracy co-requisites. By Term 3, many of these students had already attempted the numeracy CAA four times. The limited number of tagged numeracy standards available within the new Year 11 NCEA program also posed a challenge.

In 2026, we are once again running a dedicated numeracy class for these students. This will provide tailored support to help them prepare for the co-requisite assessments, and they will also work toward selected NCEA Level 2 numeracy-tagged standards. We are also running a separate literacy class in Year 12 to support students who did not achieve their literacy requirements last year.

Our NCEA Level 2 results — **95.2% literacy and 93.2% numeracy** — indicate that a small group of Year 13 students will need further support this year to gain their co-requisite credits. While numbers are too low to justify separate classes at Year 13, we closely monitor these students and provide targeted assistance outside their timetabled classes to ensure they are well prepared for the required assessments.

Nilesh Prasad

Deputy Principal