



Morrinsville College



3 June 2022 NEWSLETTER 8

A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL
J.M. INGER, M.ED. ADMIN [HONS] B.A., DIP. TCHG

FROM THE PRINCIPAL MR JOHN INGER



COVID Update

In most recent days we have continued to be reasonably fortunate in terms of staff illness with COVID, with COVID in their household, with colds and with tummy bugs, as are all going around. This has meant that we have been able to remain open for face-to-face teaching, unlike most secondary schools in our

region. We are fortunate that we have a small pool of loyal relievers, and parents and students should also be very grateful to our staff who are well and who are often covering classes at short notice in emergency situations for their sick colleagues.

The Board's move to encourage mask-wearing indoors but to make it optional, has unfortunately resulted in most students choosing not to wear masks. However, to date this does not appear to have affected the ongoing pattern of our daily case numbers for students. Each Monday, after a weekend, parents are advising us of a large number (8-20) new positive cases for students, but so far the Tuesday to Friday numbers have typically been only 2-3 additional students. It is almost certainly inevitable that at some point soon there will be greater transmission of the virus here at our school due to our students' decision not to wear masks. Many teachers are continuing to do so to avoid catching COVID, this because we know that it is in the best interests of our students' learning if we do not have to resort to online learning. We know that when this occurs, there will once again be a pattern of quite a number of our students choosing not to get involved in their online learning and falling behind in their education.

Elsewhere in the country, and indeed in the wider Waikato region, many secondary schools are currently rostering home year levels due to large numbers of staff being absent and it is probably inevitable that we will have to do the same very soon. There is good data to show that teachers in our schools and universities are currently amongst the most affected with COVID throughout the country and this is no surprise when our teachers typically teach between

120-150 students each day, any one of whom could pass the virus on to them. As with other people, some teachers are being affected with long COVID, where they experience severe fatigue well beyond the seven days of their isolation at home and a few are falling very ill and having to stay away well beyond seven days. I am sure that our parent community understands the risks that our teachers are taking each day in the best interests of our students' education and so that for our younger secondary students' parents, they can continue to go to work each day rather than be forced to make a decision to stay at home to look after their sons and daughters because of rostering home.

I once again warn parents that the Board and I are not prepared to allow those of our staff who are well to become unwell and stressed themselves because of the need for them to continually and frequently relieve for their teacher colleagues and that, while we hope that it will not be necessary to do so, **there is every possibility that at short notice one or more year levels may well be rostered home very soon**, to be provided with online learning. I also signal to parents again that an outbreak in our school community might very well lead to the Board once again requiring mask-wearing indoors.

Upcoming Public Holidays

This coming weekend is the Queen's Birthday weekend and there will be a public holiday next **Monday 6 June**. There will also be a public holiday to celebrate Matariki **on Friday 24 June** and the school will once again be closed.

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Lacrosse Selection

We are very proud of our Head Girl Lydia Hayden (No 43 in the photo), who has recently been named as Co-Captain of the New Zealand Under 18 Girls' Lacrosse Development Team which will travel to Adelaide, Australia, to play in the Lacrosse Australia Under 18 National Championships in July.



CROSS-COUNTRY RESULTS

On Wednesday we held our annual school cross-country championships in the afternoon. The weather was very kind to us and conditions were perfect for this event. It was very disappointing that large numbers of our students did not come to school for the whole day, presumably in many cases supported by their parents. It was nearly as disappointing that a considerable number brought notes from their parents and signed out after Period 3 in the earlier lunch break which we ran. We have also seen a dropping off of the number of students involving themselves in school sports due to the lengthy COVID period when school sport did not happen, and it is a real worry too that they are not returning to play in sports teams now. Far too many of our young people these days are not taking part in enough active exercise to protect their health and wellbeing and there is a real risk that they will pay the price with their health in the future.

The highlight of the day was the outstanding performance of Kayley McMillan in the junior girls' event where she broke the previous school record set in 2021 by Jessie Morris of 14.43 by nearly a minute by finishing in a time of 13:48. The placegetters at each level were as follows:

Junior Boys: 1st Kyle Pratt, 2nd Rico Douthett, 3rd Jayden Dobson

Junior Girls: 1st Kayley McMillan, 2nd Sabrina Chong, 3rd Zoe Young

Intermediate Girls: 1st Kali Craig, 2nd Kaelyn Gibberd, 3rd Jordyn Bell

Intermediate Boys: 1st Amiri van Essen, 2nd Wiremu van Essen, 3rd Kaleb Cook

Senior Girls: 1st Olivia Day, 2nd Ryleigh McAra, 3rd Lauren Young

Senior Boys: 1st Josh Tretheway, 2nd Sam Daldy, 3rd Connor O'Meara.

House Competition Results: 1st Studholme, 2nd Alexandra, 3rd Campbell and 4th Lincoln.

Central Zone Cross Country Results

We sent a team of athletes to the Central Zone Cross-Country Championships, and were very proud that several students finished in Top 10 positions as follows:

Boys

Year 9: 6th - Kyle Pratt

Junior U16: 10th - Alex Harris

Senior U20: 9th - Amiri van Essen

Girls

Year 9: 3rd - Kayley McMillan, 10th - Sabrina Chong

Senior U20: 7th - Kali Craig, 10th - Olivia Day

Team Results

Year 9 Girls' 3-person team - 4th

Year 9 Boys' 3-person team - 2nd

Junior Girls' U16 3-person team - 4th

Junior Boys' U16 3-person team - 3rd

Senior Girls' U20 3-person team - 2nd

Senior Boys' U20 3-person team - 4th.

Swimming – WaiBOP Champs

A strong group of swimming representatives recently attended the Waikato Bay of Plenty Swimming Championships. A highlight of our results was Brooke Bell winning the senior girls' 100m butterfly event, which is a significant achievement at this high level of competition. Brooke also did very well to finish 5th in the 100m



individual medley. Ayla Davie, who is an accomplished swimmer, finished 5th in both the 200m freestyle and 200m individual medley in the intermediate girls' section and Ashton Rogers finished 4th in the senior boys' 100m freestyle and 5th in the 200m freestyle. The full results were as follows:

Junior Girls: Rylee Davie - 200IM, 8th, 50m freestyle 9th, 100m freestyle 11th.

Intermediate Girls: Jordyn Bell - 50m freestyle 8th, 50m breaststroke 10th, 100m freestyle 13th.

Ayla Davie - 200m freestyle 5th, 200IM 5th, 100m backstroke 8th.

Intermediate Boys: Alex Harris - 50m breaststroke 11th, 50m freestyle 14th, 100m freestyle 14th.

Senior Girls: Brooke Bell - 100m butterfly 1st, 100IM 5th, 50m butterfly 10th.

Senior Boys: Ashton Rogers - 100m freestyle 4th, 200m freestyle 5th, 100m butterfly 7th.

We also had a girls' 15 & over medley relay team with Ayla (back), Rylee (breast), Brooke (fly) and Jordan (free). They placed 6th.

GymSport – Midlands Regional Champs

Congratulations to Sabrina Chong who won a gold medal in the Step 8 Under 14 division at the recent Midlands Regional Gymnastic Championships. This is an outstanding success!

**North Island Equestrian Championships**

Congratulations to Kaelyn Gibberd who was recently drafted into a Waikato equestrian team which placed 4th overall at the North Island Equestrian Event, an excellent achievement for Kaelyn.

Previously, Kaelyn, Tyla Gotty, Jordyn McAra and Ryleigh McAra represented our school and competed in the team event at the Waikato Inter-Schools' Showjumping Championships held on 11 May. This is the

first time in a few years that we have been able to field a team at this competition, which is pleasing.

Bay of Plenty Motor Cross Champs

Three of our students, Chase Hooker, Peyton Chambers and Mason McCormack, recently attended the Bay of Plenty Inter-Secondary Schools' King of School Motor Cross Championships. All of our riders competed well. Congratulations to Chase who placed 4th overall.

**OTHER RECENT SPORT RESULTS**Week 4Hockey

Girls' 1st XI lost to Waikato Diocesan 2nd XI 0-4

Boys' 1st XI won against Fairfield Mixed 11-0

Rugby

1st XV lost to Te Kuiti High School 14-31

Under 15 won against HBHS (65kg) 26-17

Netball

Open A lost to Cambridge HS Prem 11-26

Senior A lost to Fraser HS Taniwharau 12-31

Junior Prem lost to Te Aroha College Jun Prem 25-26

Junior Development lost to St Peter's School 6-49



Basketball

Junior Boys’ King Makers Gold won against St Peter’s School
 Junior Boys’ King Makers Blue won against Te Awamutu College
 Senior Boys’ King Makers Gold won against Matamata College 44-40
 Senior Boys’ King Makers Blue won against Cambridge HS 77-33
 Senior Girls won against Te Awamutu College 55-25

Football

Boys’ 1st XI lost to Melville HS 0-3
 Junior Girls lost to Sacred Heart GC 1-3

Lacrosse

Boys lost to Cambridge HS Premier Boys 2-11
 Girls’ Prem had a bye
 Girls’ Development won against Hillcrest HS 18-5

Week 3

Basketball

MC King Makers Senior Boys’ Gold won against TWKNPOTA 56-36
 MC King Makers Senior Boys’ Blue won by 12 against St Peter’s School Senior Boys
 MC King Makers Junior Boys’ Gold won by 22 against St Peter’s School Junior Boys’ Red
 MC King Makers Junior Boys’ Blue won by 11 against Te Awamutu College

Netball

Open A lost against Sacred Heart GC Prem 11-30
 Senior A lost against Sacred Heart GC Prem Res 21-23
 Junior Prem lost against Sacred Heart GC Junior Prem 14-36
 Junior Development lost against Waikato Diocesan 10B 13-32

Rugby

1st XV won against Hamilton Boys’ HS Green 25-19
 Under 15 won against St John’s College Blue Development 15-5

Hockey

1st XI Girls won against Melville HS 8-2
 1st XI Boys lost against HS Tradies (Mixed) 2-3

Lacrosse

Prem Girls’ lacrosse lost 1-19 to Cambridge HS. Another tough game for the team. Our girls defended well and kept giving 100% effort despite the score
 Development Team had a bye
 Boys’ lacrosse played Hamilton Boys’ HS Black in the senior league. Our boys did themselves proud with some strong defensive and attacking skills and they never let up. The opposition had two NZ players who dominated, and our boys did not let this deter them. It was very close at half-time at 4-5 and the final score was 7-11

Football

1st XI Girls lost against Matamata College 1st XI 1-2.

Term Dates 2023

TERM 1

Thursday 2 February to Thursday 6 April

Monday 30 January	Auckland Anniversary Day
Thursday 2 February	Day 1 Year 9
Friday 3 February	All students and powhiri
Monday 6 February	Waitangi Day Holiday
Thursday 6 April	Term 1 ends
Friday 7 April	Good Friday

TERM 2

Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June

Tuesday 25 April	ANZAC Day Holiday
Monday 5 June	Queen’s Birthday Holiday

(Matariki Holiday falls in the Term 2 holidays on Friday 14 July)

TERM 3

Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

TERM 4

Monday 9 October to Wednesday 13 December

Monday 23 October	Labour Day Holiday
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Practical Driver Testing Services

We understand that it has been difficult for some of our students to book to take their driving licence tests. Parents and students may be interested to know that after seven years Cambridge will very shortly have practical driver testing services up and running again. This will ease the waiting time for students in Cambridge, Te Awamutu, Morrinsville and Tokoroa. There will be an official launch held on Thursday 9 June a 10am in the Cambridge Town Hall, Victoria Room.

John Inger

COMING EVENTS

Monday 6 June	Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Wednesday 8 June	WaiBOP Cross-Country Champs
Sun 12 and Mon 13 June	Waikato Careers Expo at Claudelands
Tue 14 and Wed 15 June	Year 8 Enrolment Tours
Wednesday 15 June	BOT Meeting
Tue 21 and Wed 22 June	Year 8 Enrolment Tours
Wednesday 22 June	Mid-Term Reports posted to portal
Friday 24 June	Matariki Holiday
Wed 29 June	Parent Interviews
Friday 1 July	Tough Guy and Gal Event
Friday 8 July	End of Term 2
Mon 18 and Tue 19 July	NZ Cross-Country Champs
Monday 25 July	Start of Term 3

