



A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

Morrinsville College



3 August 2021

PRINCIPAL

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



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back To Term 3

Yesterday, at our first assembly for Term 3, I stressed how very important this term will be for our senior students in particular in picking up credits to ensure their NCEA success. This term will go by quickly and in Term 4 our seniors will only be back here for about three weeks before the NCEA external exams begin on **Monday 8 November**. This also means that our seniors should now be planning their revision programme ahead of both the external exams and the internal school practice exams which run from **Monday 13 to Friday 17 September**. The internal exams will give our students a very good guide as to what they need to revise in their study programmes, the areas which they are not so good at.

I am also expecting that very shortly quite a few of our learning areas will begin offering lunchtime tutorials to help those students who need extra work to complete internal assessments to gain a few more credits and/or to prepare for their external exams. It is important that our students are prepared to give up some of their lunchtimes to take advantage of these extra tutorials.

Our students are currently tracking pretty well overall with their credit gathering. Three students have gained NCEA Level 1, and quite a few students are not far off achieving this. We are especially pleased because 33 students at Level 2 have already gained sufficient credits, which is very encouraging. While no students have yet gained Level 3 (as is usually the case at this time of the year) some are nevertheless close to gaining this qualification. I have however reminded those students who have already gained their NCEA qualification that this is not an opportunity to slacken their efforts. Many will be aiming to gain Excellence or Merit endorsements so this will require continued hard work, but, for everyone, school is more than just about achieving NCEA; it's about learning as much as you can and developing the best possible learning habits while you're at school.

Teacher-Only Day

I advise parents that there will be another Ministry-sanctioned Waikato-wide Teacher-Only Day next week on **Thursday 12 August**. Our school, and other secondary schools in our region, will be closed on this day. This TOD has been set aside to enable staff to be further informed about the upcoming changes to NCEA, particularly the review of all of the Achievement Standards and the changes that are being made to Literacy and Numeracy requirements.

Student Council Workday

Rather than have a separate day out of school to enable our annual Student Council Workday to go ahead, we have decided that this year this will also take place on **Thursday 12 August**. All of our students should have received a letter from the Head Students explaining the purpose of the Workday and a Work Intention Form which students should complete and return to their learning coach once they have secured a job. The Student Council hopes that each student will be able to work towards raising at least \$25 for their work on Workday, so that this can be brought into the school to go into the Student Council's funds.

This year the Student Council has decided to work with the Board of Trustees to construct a 9m x 6m covered bus shelter near our main gate under the oak trees. Our bus students often get wet during the winter and on other rainy days because there is currently nowhere for them to shelter while they wait for their buses. The shelter will also be useful for non-bus students when they are waiting to be collected or arriving back from school trips and for other special activities and gatherings.

This is also an opportunity for all of our students to 'give back' to their place of learning through supporting a project which will benefit them and future students of the College. In the past, the Student Council has worked with the Board to fundraise for projects like the installation of the artificial turf on the tennis courts, shade sails, the canteen canopy, signposts around the school, the small bus shelter at our front gate, the electronic

information board at our front gate, new seating, water fountains and the construction of a crossfit course.

I hope that parents will also support the Student Council by encouraging their sons and daughters to get involved in fundraising on Workday.

Mid-Term Break

Each year the Board of Trustees approves a mid-term break in Term 3, both for the sake of our students but also as a thank you to all of our staff who provide cover for their sick colleagues in non-contact periods throughout the year. This one-day break usually takes place at the beginning of the Secondary Schools' Winter Tournament Week, when we typically have a few of our students and staff out of the school anyway at their sports tournaments. This year the Board has once again approved our mid-term break on the first day of Tournament Week, **Monday 30 August**. The school will be closed on this day, but other local schools will not be.

Student Representative Election

We will shortly be beginning the process of appointing a Student Representative on the Board of Trustees for the period October 21 to September 2022. This is a very important position because the Board of Trustees is always very interested in our students' view when key decisions are made by the Board. All full-time students enrolled at our school are eligible to stand for election and to vote. Key dates are as follows:

- Nominations open on Monday 16 August and close on Tuesday 31 August at 12pm
- Candidates will speak at Assembly on Tuesday 21 September and students will be able to vote after that assembly
- Voting will close on Monday 27 September and the election result will be declared on Wednesday 29 September. The new Student Representative will take office from Tuesday 19 October.

Senior Ball

While quite a few schools have stopped holding an annual Senior (Years 12 and 13) Ball due to problems that they experience with a few students behaving poorly, the Board has approved our once again holding our Morrinsville College Ball, this year on **Saturday 25 September**. However, from this year the Board has approved our ensuring that this is an alcohol-free event and that no alcohol has been consumed by our students before the Ball, by requiring that on arrival all students and their partners must take a breathalyser test to determine whether there is any alcohol in their system. On purchasing their ticket, a student and their parent must have signed a contract agreeing to be breathalysed at the door. If a student or their parent and/or their partner refuse to be breathalysed at the door, or if there is a positive test result, the student or their partner will be refused entry to the Ball and there will be no refund on the ticket. As has been happening in recent years, students and partners will also be required to show the contents of their handbags and to open their jackets to be checked by teachers as they enter. If there is any suspicion that a student or their partner has smuggled in alcohol and used it at the Ball we reserve the right to breathalyse during the evening and send home anyone who has a positive test. The Board's usual school disciplinary consequences will follow a positive test for any student.

The Ball Committee and Board of Trustees discourage the holding of post-Ball parties which involve the consumption of alcohol or drugs.

RECENT STUDENT SUCCESSES

NZSS Swimming

Congratulations to two of our students, **Ashton Rogers** and **Ayla Davie**, who recently attended the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Swimming Championships where the level of swimming is very high in our country. Both did extremely well. Ashton swam in the 17/18 year boys' division. He swam Personal Best times in four of his eight events, an excellent achievement. Ashton's best results were 16th in the 100m backstroke, 18th in the 100m butterfly and 19th in the 200m freestyle events. Ayla swam in the 15 year girls' division. She swam Personal Best times in five of her six events, which was also outstanding. Her best result was 21st in the 200m freestyle.



Culinary Fare

Congratulations to **Maia Hodge** who late last term entered the Waikato Culinary Fare held at WINTEC. Maia entered the Cafe Cake section by making an Oreo cake with an Oreo and peanut butter, butter-cream filling and she won a bronze medal for her efforts. A photograph of Maia's cake creation is on the masthead of this newsletter. It looks delicious!



Duke of Edinburgh Award



At our assembly yesterday, I was pleased to present a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award certificate to **Shelten Kitney**. Shelten particularly enjoys tramping in the outdoors, which has greatly assisted him to gain this Bronze Award.

RECENT SPORTS RESULTS 31 July

Rugby

1st XV

Morrinsville College 1st XV defeated Tokoroa High School 1st XV 54-0. Both teams have had a tough season with no competition wins this year, despite some close games. In Saturday's game our



boys dominated and played the faster game, which tired out the bigger Tokoroa players. In the forwards Cole Craig (1 try), Grant Vollebregt (1 try) and Toihau Wilson gave the Morrinsville backs front-foot ball to allow them to play their best game of the year. Josh Tretheway (4 tries) and player of the day, Shaydan Sayer (1 try) and Ernie Aitchison (5 conversions) were the best of the backs. Our team has had a big year without a lot of reward, so it was great to see both players and coaches with smiles on their faces after the game.

Our boys will play their last game of the season at home against Te Kuiti High School this coming Thursday at 2.30pm. We are hoping that good numbers of our students will stay on after school to support them.

Under 65kg

Our Under 65kg boys' last game for the season saw us up against Hamilton Boys' High School on our home ground. Having not played for four weeks, our boys were 'pumped' and ready to take to the field. We defended well throughout the game. HBHS scored first after 20 minutes and converted, but our boys responded with a try to Mason Inglis-Doherty which was successfully converted by Rico Dare, so that it was 7 all at halftime. Soon after, HBHS intercepted and scored a converted try to take the lead. Shay Wright was then unlucky to just miss scoring after he chased down a kick, but soon after Mason crossed for his second try of the game, which was not converted. Late in the game HBHS scored an unconverted try so that the final score in a great game was 19 to 12 to HBHS.

There are some very promising players in this team who live and breathe rugby and who will go on to play 1st XV rugby next year. Behind the scenes, a number of people have worked tirelessly to encourage our boys through the highs and the lows, including Richie Payne, Dean Lammass, Kris Rollerson, Whana Tuhakaraina and Team Manager Ang Martin. We thank them all for their dedication.



Lacrosse

Our boys' team played in a top-of-the-table clash against Cambridge High School and played very well to win 13-5. This was a great result as our boys showed an awesome level of skill and we only had one sub, whereas Cambridge had five.

MC Prem Team - Lost 9-13 to Sacred Heart GC.

MC Development Team - Lost 4-9 to Hamilton Girls' HS Development Team.

Basketball

In their competition semi-final, our Senior Boys defeated Fraser HS Senior Girls lost against Hauraki Plains 35-75.

Netball

Open A won against Rocket 34-32

Senior A lost against Fraser HS 10-38

Junior Premier won against Waikato Diocesan 24-19

Junior Development won against HGHS 34-24

Junior Blue won against Hillcrest HS 22-6.

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL SCOTT JENKINS

NCEA Entries



Yesterday at our assembly we discussed with senior students about their end-of-year NCEA external examination entries. Over the next four weeks it will be important for students to discuss with their teachers and their parents which exam standards they will be sitting. This will need to be confirmed with teachers by **Friday 27 August**. Our senior school exams will be in Week 8 of this term and teachers will soon be discussing preparation for exams with your sons and daughters. As with last year, these exams will be critical should we face the unfortunate event of a lockdown during the external NCEA exams in November, in which case our teachers may need to recommend a derived grade for our students. This is also important if a student becomes sick or loses a close loved one at the time of the external exams.

COMING EVENTS

Tue 3 Aug	PM's Education Exc Awards Videoing
Tue 3 Aug	PTA Meeting
Thu 12 August	Waikato NCEA Teacher-Only Day
Thu 12 August	Student Council Workday
Tue 17 August	BOT Meeting, 7pm
Wed 18-Wed 25 Aug	Year 13 College Cuisine
Thu 26 Aug -Fri 3 Sep	Year 12 College Cuisine
Mon 30 Aug	Mid-term Break
Mon 30 Aug-Fri 3 Sep	UNISS Netball
Thu 2-Fri 3 Sep	Year 11 Drama Production
Mon 6 Sep	Sports and Cultural Photos
Mon 6 Sep	Senior Speech Finals' Evening
Tue 7-Thu 9 Sep	Music Solo Performances, Library
Wed 8-Fri 10 Sep	Junior Extension Enrichment Programme
Mon 13-Fri 17 Sep	Senior Internal Practice Exams
Thu 23 Sep	Matamata Cultural Exchange
Sat 25 Sep	Senior School Ball
Fri 1 Oct	Term 3 Ends
Mon 18 Oct	Term 4 Begins

