



Morrinsville College



23 June 2022 NEWSLETTER 9

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



Matariki

As everyone will know, tomorrow is a public holiday to celebrate Matariki. Matariki is the name for the cluster of stars also known as Pleiades. This cluster of stars rises in mid-winter and is visible in the sky just before dawn. For many Maaori it heralds the start of the new year. Matariki means “eyes of God”

(mata ariki) or “little eyes” (mata riki). In legend, when Ranginui (the sky father) and Papatuaanuku (the earth mother) were separated by their children, Taawhirimaatea (the god of the winds) was so angry with his siblings that he tore out his eyes and threw them into the heavens, which are the stars that we see at this time of the year.

Matariki signifies reflection, hope, our connection to the environment, the gathering of people, and it is also connected to the health and wellbeing of people. It is a time to celebrate new life, to remember those who have passed away since the last Matariki, to plan for the future and it’s a time to spend with whaanau and friends to enjoy kai, waiata, taakaro (games) and haka. Our New Zealand Maaori tuupuna (ancestors) would look to Matariki to help with their harvesting. When Matariki disappeared in April/May, it was a time to preserve and store crops for the winter season. When it reappeared in June/July, tuupuna would read the stars to predict the upcoming season – clear and bright stars promised a warm and abundant winter, while hazy stars warned of a bleak winter. With lots of food stored away, Matariki is a time for singing, dancing and feasting.

Here at Morrinsville College, yesterday we celebrated Matariki by acknowledging the star Poohutukawa which carries the spirits of those who have died since the last raising of Matariki and which connects the living to those who have passed on. Our students and teachers wrote messages of remembrance to a loved one who had passed on on pieces of pieces of paper and our four Kaitiaki, representing each of our four Houses, collected these messages and placed them on the fire which we had in the quad between A and B Blocks. This was symbolic of our sending our aroha (love) to our

loved ones who have passed on, through the smoke which rose from the fire and went up to the star Poohutukawa. This was followed by all of our students passing through our cooking room to share some kai, to observe ‘whakanoa’, which plays an important role in Te Ao Maaori because it has the power to remove tapu following a special ceremony. Thank you very much to all of those students and staff who brought food along to be shared. We were very pleased that there was plenty of food to go around.

Throughout this ceremony to celebrate Matariki we were all very proud of the respect shown by all of our students. We are confident that they have learnt a lot about Matariki through our celebrations, particularly about how Maaori traditionally acknowledge and remain connected to their close relatives and friends who have passed on.



School Mid-Year Reports

Students’ mid-year reports were made available to parents and students on our KAMAR portal yesterday. These can be accessed through the following link, using the password that was sent to you in an email yesterday.

<http://reports.morrcoll.school.nz/student/index.php/login>.

Parent Interviews

These mid-year reports will be followed next week on **Wednesday 29 June** by parent interviews. In the light of Covid restrictions, this year these will not be held all together in the Performing Arts Centre, but in A-Block, B-Block and the Library. Teachers will make themselves available from 1pm-7pm to enable parents to meet with their son's/daughter's teachers and learning coach at a time which suits parents. Please find a Room Plan at the end of this newsletter, with teachers organised in Learning Areas for the afternoon. Our Head Students will be in the Library foyer to offer assistance with directions if parents are not sure where to go. These are important interviews, especially for students who have a number of negative comments on their reports, and we strongly urge you to attend.

As we have done in past years, school will finish at 12.15pm for all students next Wednesday 29 (we will work the first three periods of the day) to accommodate the interviews. Parents will need to make arrangements for their sons/daughters to go home at this time. For students who have to catch buses, these will continue to be available at the normal time, from 3.10pm, so parents will need to arrange for their kids to either be collected or go to a friend's house until they return to school to catch the bus.

To book a six-minute interview with each teacher, please book online by going to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> enter the Event Code **m497q** then follow the instructions to complete your bookings. The interview slots are eight minutes long to allow you two minutes to move between interviews, which will often involve moving from room to room. **You are strongly encouraged to wear masks. Thanks for your consideration.**

Covid Update

I am pleased to report to parents that over the last eight days we have had very few students and staff who have contracted Covid. However, there is a bad flu going around and there are still some students catching the tummy bug too, so that we have continued to have a number of students and staff off school each day.

Student Council Workday

Our annual Student Council Workday will be held on **Monday 15 August**. Our students are fundraising this year to add funds to those which last year's Student Council put aside to construct a bus shelter at our main school entrance, which is a project which the Board and I strongly support. Such a shelter will particularly benefit all bus students, but all of our students will benefit from using it from time to time when they are waiting to go on school trips or to be collected by parents.

Our Student Council hopes that all of our students will be able to find a job on Monday 15 August so that they can raise at least \$25 to contribute to their fundraising efforts and give something back to the school for future students to enjoy, and so they are encouraging our students to be seeking a job at this early stage, rather than leaving it to the last moment. More information will be sent out to parents early next term by the Student Council.

On the Workday, our Staff will be involved in the next Ministry-approved Accord teacher-only day to allow our teachers time to work on things like the new Literacy and Numeracy NCEA standards, implementing Te Maatauranga and also localised curriculum, including the New Zealand Histories Curriculum which will come into force from next year. This day is a national entitlement for teachers and not discretionary. Having our Student Council Workday on the same day as the TOD will help us to avoid having an extra day out of school for our students in Term 3.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Triennial Board Elections

The Board's triennial elections will take place in September this year. Nominations will open on **Sunday 31 July** to fill *three* Parent Representative positions. Nomination forms will be emailed to all eligible voters before 31 July. Nominations close at noon on **Friday 19 August**. Voting will close at noon on **Friday 23**

September. The voting roll will be open for inspection at the school Office from 31 July and can be viewed during normal school hours. If you are interested in joining the Morrinsville College Board, please contact me by email Ngaire.teahu@gmail.com or phone 0275057616, or if you require further information about the election process please contact the Returning Officer, Mrs Grace Martin, at 8898308 Extn 204 or grace-martin@morrill.school.nz.

Ngaire Te Ahu

Duke of Edinburgh Presentations

In 2020, Mr Mike Duncan restarted the Duke of Edinburgh Awards at Morrinsville College, beginning in that year at



the Bronze level. Last year, in 2021, he extended this to the Silver level and this year we are operating at Gold level as well. This is an international award that recognises young people's commitment and perseverance. To complete this award a student has to complete some serious work, not only for themselves but also in our wider community. A highlight for many students is the completion of the Adventurous Journey section which is achieved through overnight tramping trips.

Two of our current participants, Tessa Nicholson and Olivia Harris, both in Year 12 this year, have completed their Silver award, something they are rightly immensely proud of. I had great pleasure in presenting these awards at our recent senior assembly. Both of these girls are now working on their Gold award and we wish them all the best as they do this. Later in the year, this will include some four-day tramping trips which will be very challenging.

New Zealand Team Captaincy

I recently announced that our Head Girl, Lydia Hayden, had been selected for the New Zealand Under 18 girls' lacrosse development team which will shortly travel to play in Adelaide against Australian State teams, a notable achievement. I am proud to announce that Lydia has since been named co-captain for this team, a very prestigious achievement.



Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Awards

I also recently announced that Sarah Watene had won a special award at the regional Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition, in which our group finished in second place, winning the award for the Best Tragedy competition. At our recent senior assembly I was pleased to present Sarah with a certificate for the Most Energetic Performance Award and another certificate to acknowledge that she also won direct entry to the National Secondary Schools' production, which will be held in Dunedin in early October.



North Island Secondary Schools' Swimming

A team of three of our students went down to Wellington recently to attend the 2022 North Island Secondary Schools' Swimming Champs. Some very pleasing results were achieved by the team of **Ashton Rogers, Ayla Davie and Rylee Davie**, including placing 27th in the Co-Ed Schools' Team Division. This was a very good result for a team made up of just three students against teams which were a lot bigger. Individual results were as follows:

Rylee Davie (14yr girls)

100IM 41st, 100 Breaststroke 22nd, 100 Freestyle 38th, 50 Breaststroke 24th, 50 Freestyle 38th

Ayla Davie (16yr girls)

50 Backstroke 18th, 100 Breaststroke 10th, 100 Freestyle 19th, 50 Butterfly 17th, 100 Backstroke 13th, 50 Freestyle 23rd

Ashton Rogers (17-18yr boys)

100IM 8th, 100 Freestyle 10th, 100 Butterfly 5th, 50 Butterfly 6th, 50 Freestyle 8th

WaiBOP Cross Country

We sent a team of students to the Waikato/Bay of Plenty Cross Country Championships, where the level of competition is very high and the number of runners in each of the fields is high. There were some very good results, including a fabulous 4th placing for Kayley McMillan in the Year 9 girls' event. Full results were as follows:

Year 9 Girls - Kayley McMillan - 4th, Sabrina Chong - 21st

Year 9 Boys - Kyle Pratt - 13th

Junior Girls - Zoe Young - 38th

Junior Boys - Rico Douthett - 35th

Senior Girls - Kali Craig - 25th

**SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES**

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected for representative teams in the winter sports:

Netball

Thames Valley U18: Maddison Fowler

Thames Valley U16: Navyon Hopa, Devonte Manihera-Walker

Hamilton City U16B: Natasha Wilson

Morrinsville U14: Zoe Aitchison, Jazmine Birchall, Brittney Hart,

Delana Kidd, Kayley McMillan, Gabrielle Scherer, Skylar-Rose

Williams.

Basketball

Waikato Country Basketball

Under 17: Karl Haddock

Under 15: Delana Kidd, Kayley McMillan

Te Aroha/Thames Valley

Under 15: Rico Dare.

Gymsport - Waikato Team

Sabrina Chong - Step 8

Mia Abapo - Step 5.

RECENT SPORTS RESULTS**Week 6 Term 2**Basketball

Junior Boys' Kingmakers Gold lost against Matamata Ball-Boys 41-49

Junior Boys' Kingmakers Blue won against Putaruru HS Jnr B 63-8

Senior Girls lost to Putaruru Kura Wahine 46-49

Senior Kingmakers Gold lost against Tokoroa HS Snr Boys 22-56

Senior Kingmakers Blue lost against Matamata College A 36-70

Hockey

Senior Boys' XI lost against HBHS Sen Boys' Black 1-5

Senior Girls' XI won against Hillcrest HS Sen Girls 3-1

Lacrosse

Premier Girls lost against St Peter's Prem

Development Girls lost against Cambridge HS 10-19

Boys won against Hamilton Boys' HS Red

Netball

Senior A lost against Fraser HS 11-30

Junior Premier lost against Rototuna HS 20-22

Junior Development lost against Hamilton CS Titanium 21-23.

Week 7 Term 2Basketball

Kingmakers Junior Gold won against Putaruru HS Junior 53-37

Kingmakers Junior Blue won against Cambridge HS 32-30

Kingmakers Senior Blue won against Putaruru HS Senior 41-36.

Netball

Open A lost against Allied HOB Development 19-25

Senior A lost against Rototuna Senior HS Prem 19-45

Junior Premier won against Cambridge HS 29-18

Junior Development lost against Fraser HS 14-33.

Rugby

1st XV lost against Putaruru HS 12-14

Under 15 won against Cambridge HS 32-5.

Lacrosse

Girls' Premier won against Hillcrest HS 12-7

Boys lost against Te Awamutu College 5-12.

Football

1st XI Girls won against St Peter's School 1st XI 1-0

1st XI Boys won against Hamilton BHS 7-0

Junior Boys won against Hamilton BHS 4-1

Junior Girls won against Paeroa

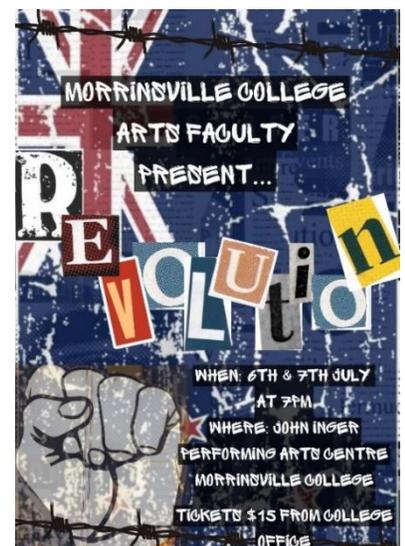
College 3-1.

FROM THE ARTS FACULTY**Power Of The Arts Presentation**

There's nothing like a good revolution to cheer you up in winter! You won't want to miss *Revolution*, a showcase of performance talent at the College. The Drama, Dance, Music and Maaori Performing Arts' Learning Areas have all come together with Visual Art to create a night of entertainment which will highlight the power of the Arts in revolution, both here in Aotearoa and globally. **The**

show will run for 2 nights only on Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 July at 7pm in the Performing Arts Centre. Tickets are \$15 each and are on sale now from the school Office, with cash door sales available on both nights if all tickets are not pre-sold.

John Inger



COMING EVENTS

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Friday 24 June | Matariki Holiday |
| Wednesday 29 June | Parent Interviews 1pm – 7pm |
| 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 |
| Wednesday 27 July | BOT Meeting, 7pm |
| Thur 28 – Sun 31 July | NZSS Swimming Championships |
| Monday 15 August | Accord Teacher-Only Day |
| Monday 15 August | Student Council Workday |
| Saturday 10 September | Senior School Ball |
| Friday 30 September | End of Term 3 |

Matariki: Te Whetū Tapu o te Tau



School Interviews Mid-Year Reports

2022

B22 Social Sciences

- Megan Chambers
- Richard Collette
- Callum Flynn
- Nicole Marwick
- Charlotte Osborne

Library Physical Education

- Lee Hawkes
- Cindy Morris
- Thomas Pilkinton
- Wendy Portegys
- Colin Vette

Library Science

- Jackie Driver
- Mike Duncan
- Samantha Farook
- Kobie Joubert
- Brian Killen
- Palvi Sharma

A24 English

- Thilo Govender
- Helen Hyde-Hills
- Ruth Kapoor
- Rebecca McArdle

B20 Social Sciences

- Stephen Cochran
- Scott Jenkins
- Jared Lynn
- Patrick O'Shaughnessy
- Jane Thomas

B18 Technology

- Esther Gwengo
- Erich Irlle
- Murray Pretorius
- Kimberley Snowden

B17 Digital Technologies

- Bruce Forsyth
- Jesse Watson
- William Van Zyl

A23 English

- Sarah Bennett
- Rochelle Johns
- Denisha Naidoo
- Vicky Marshall

L3 Japanese

- Keiko Sasanuma

A16 Arts

- Jasmine Birch
- Louise Keenan
- Ryan McIntyre

A13 Mathematics

- Adam Kemp
- Nilesh Prasad
- Theo van der Nest

A12 Mathematics

- Ed Krystman
- Kevin Rae
- Nick Smith

A7 International

- Julie Radice

M1 Maori

- Raylene Beazley
- Tipene Frearson-Kirkwood

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