



# Morrinsville College



6 December 2021 – Issue # 15

A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL

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

## From the Principal



### External Exams

The NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 and Scholarship examinations, which this year run through until next Tuesday 14 December due to Covid lockdowns, have been running smoothly according to Mrs Sandy Tritt, who is in charge of the supervision of all of the exams. She has once again commented that our students are working and behaving in an exemplary fashion. We look forward to hearing the results of our students in about mid-January. We are expecting these to be very good for most students, despite the interruptions to our students' learning this year due to COVID 19.

### School Programme

We feel very fortunate that, as far as I am aware, there have not yet been any cases of Covid-19 in our immediate Morrinsville community. This has been a blessing in enabling us to continue to run our school's planned end-of-year programme, including the very successful Year 9 Camps at Pauanui and, we are expecting, the Spirit Week activities which are scheduled to take place this week from Wednesday to Friday. I am very grateful to all those staff who gave up their personal time to organise and attend the Pauanui camps and to those staff who have planned and organised our Spirit Week activities, and who will accompany our students on their treks outside the school and the activities that will take place within the school later this week.

It has been a great shame however that this year our senior students missed out on the Senior School Ball and their annual Graduation Dinner. I was pleased that a group of parents organised for a big group of our Year 13s to gather at the Morrinsville RSA last Wednesday to have a celebration of their time together at Morrinsville College. We from the College were not able to be part of this event, because we have been specifically directed by the Ministry that discretionary events connected to the school are not permitted to be held during this time of Covid.

### School Yearbook

We are very grateful to staff member Ms Savannah Patterson who, with some support from our Deputy Principal Mrs Thilo Govender, has done an enormous amount of work in preparing the 2021 Yearbook for publication. This is a very attractive document which records many of the highlights of 2021, which has been a pretty successful year in many respects, despite the Covid lockdowns. The Yearbooks will be issued as follows:

Mrs Holten in our school Office has this morning texted our **Years 11 to 13 students** to advise them that the Yearbook is available to be collected from the Office during normal working hours from 9am to 3.30pm each day. We hope that these can be collected this week if possible. **Years 9 and 10 students** will receive their Yearbook next Monday before our Junior Prizegiving ceremony. For those junior students who do not attend next Monday, they will need to come in to collect the Yearbook before Thursday 16 December.

**I remind parents of our Years 9 and 10 students that next Monday 13 December is our last day for students and that Tuesday 14 December will be a Teacher-Only Day, with the Board's authority of course.**

## Junior Reports

Junior reports will be published to our school portal early on **Tuesday 14 December**. Deputy Principal Mr Forsyth will send out an email to parents as soon as they are published, advising that they are available to be downloaded.

## Term Dates 2022

### TERM 1

#### **Tuesday 1 February to Thursday 14 April**

Thursday 27 January	CoL TOD
Friday 28 January	School TOD
Monday 31 January	Auckland Anniversary holiday
Tuesday 1 February	Day 1 - Year 9
Wednesday 2 February	All students and powhiri
Monday 7 February	Waitangi Day Holiday
Thursday 14 April	Cluster TOD
Friday 15 April	Good Friday

### TERM 2

#### **Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July**

Monday 6 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Friday 24 June	Matariki Holiday

### TERM 3

#### **Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September**

### TERM 4

#### **Monday 17 October to Friday 9 December**

Monday 24 October	Labour Day Holiday
-------------------	--------------------

## Start of Year Dates for 2022

Full details of the arrangements for the start of school next year will be published in *Your Morrinsville News* in mid-January and will be available on the Morrinsville College Facebook page and website [www.morrcoll.school.nz](http://www.morrcoll.school.nz). In summary they are: All Years 12 and 13 students have the opportunity to meet with one of the Senior Deans and the Careers Adviser to discuss their 2022 course on **Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 January** from 8.30am – 3pm. Online bookings with the Deans and the Careers Adviser are now open and appointments can be made by going to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz), entering the event code **t8uag** and following the simple instructions.

**Tuesday 1 February:** Year 9 students commence school. **Wednesday 2 February:** all students attend school, commencing with a powhiri at 8.50am which parents are welcome to attend – we will update parents on the arrangements for this powhiri, which will depend upon the state of the nation with Covid at that time. **Sunday 6 February** is Waitangi Day and next year **Monday 7 February** will be a Public Holiday because Waitangi Day falls during a weekend.

The school Office will be open from **Thursday 20 January** from 9am to 4pm until school begins, but will be closed on **Thursday 27 January** when a special Staff-Only Day programme will take place for all staff. **A school Teacher-Only Day will be held the following day, Friday 28 January.**

## FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR SCOTT JENKINS

### NCEA Results



2021 external exam and external portfolio results for Years 11-13 students will be released around 15-20 January next year (the exact date has not yet been announced). This will signal whether students have attained passing grades and endorsements at each level. Scholarship results will come out a couple of weeks after this. To access these results students will need to go through their NZQA online accounts. Students should have already created these earlier in the year and will know that to get into these they need to go to the homepage on the NZQA website at [www.nzqa.govt.nz](http://www.nzqa.govt.nz) and click the "Log-in Options" button in the right-hand top corner of the screen. If students can't access their accounts as they have forgotten their passwords they will have to use the forgotten password button on the page, or phone the NZQA Helpdesk on 0800 697 296. The school does not have access to NZQA student accounts as they are their private accounts. Year 12 or 13 students in their final year at school should go into their NZQA and change the email address to a personal email account after they have checked their results as their school email address will be closed near the end of January.

When the results are released a small number of our Year 13 students may find that they did not get what they needed to gain University Entrance and they could be a few credits short. At this point they may wish to discuss a bridging course with the tertiary institution that they wish to enrol with, or they may be able to do summer school at Te Kura, the Correspondence School. The courses start about the middle of January and target specific standards. Students will still need to do the same amount of work for each standard through an online platform. This can be found at <https://www.tekura.school.nz>. If anyone has any questions, please contact myself or Mrs Jane Thomas.

The final NCEA exam results this year will be made up of a mixture of grades earned by physically sitting the exam and derived grades from our school's mock exams. NZQA will allocate whichever grade is the better of the two. This is part of the support package offered to schools in Auckland and Waikato which were impacted by Covid lockdowns. When students see their results,

if they discover a potential error from their derived grade, they should firstly contact the teacher who awarded that grade. We will then follow a process to have that grade altered where appropriate.

## From the Board Chair



### Mr Brian Hampton's Retirement

At the end of this year Mr Brian Hampton will be retiring after 45 years of service to Morrinsville College. He was raised in the Piako District and is very proud of his heritage and his long family history in the area. Over 45 years, Mr Hampton has made a huge impact at our College.

Mr Hampton has been an astute rugby coach who has taken school teams and Waikato Secondary Schools' teams to great heights, including Waikato winning the 1988 Northern Region Championship. He has organised school rugby trips, including South Island tours, to help with the development of younger players in the game of rugby in our school.



Mr Hampton was one of the instigators of our Year 10 outdoor education programme in the Kauaeranga Valley, because he has a passion for the outdoors. In the early days, this was a two-night camp, but it quickly developed into a four-night five-day camp. It is a real tribute to Mr Hampton and Mr Symon that the range of exciting activities are accessible to all of our students, no matter what their ability in the outdoors. There are many challenges and it is always great to see so many students responding positively to these challenges, giving them a go and achieving far more than they ever thought that they could. The camp is instrumental in building strong leadership and team-building skills in our junior students, which are then very evident in our senior students in the following years, and when many of them then go on Year 10 Camp as Year 13 student leaders. Much of the responsibility for Year 10 Camp has fallen on Mr Hampton's shoulders. His organisational skills and meticulous planning have been essential to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff on this camp. He has played a leading role in making Year 10 Camp one of, if not the best, outdoor education programmes in the country. Many of our ex-students have clear camp memories that will remain with them forever!

As a very keen Physical Education teacher and sportsman, in his earlier years at our school Mr Hampton was fantastic at organising sports interchanges with a number of schools. He has also played a strong role in organising and running exciting Electives trips each year, and he has always helped with the set-up and organisation of our school swimming and athletics days. Mr Hampton's contribution to sport has been much more than just to rugby. Over his many years teaching at Morrinsville College he has also been a great contributor to basketball, athletics and cross-country.

Mr Hampton has been an excellent teacher at our school. Highly-regarded for his abilities, for many years he has been our Specialist Classroom Teacher and he has taken a strong role in helping younger teachers to develop their teaching craft through passing on his calm and sage advice. He is an 'ideas man' and has brought many new games and activities to the PE Learning Area. He has a 'presence' and is generally very well-respected by all students. He thinks about the students in front of him and does his best to make every PE lesson enjoyable.

We thank Mr Hampton very much for this extraordinary commitment to the young people of our Morrinsville community. We acknowledge that he has played a significant role in fostering pride in the Morrinsville College family/whaanau. He will be sadly missed in his retirement, both in the PE Learning Area and by all of the staff.

Tena koutou katoa

**Ngairi Te Ahu**



### Holiday Wishes

I wish all of our students and their families a wonderful Christmas, a happy New Year and a safe holiday break.

**John Inger, Principal**

# 2021 YEAR 9 CAMP AT PAUANUI

