



We Will Remember

Moss surrounds the statue of a man returning from war
His military clothing tells a story of sorrow
His boots are worn thin from walking the trenches
His hat is strapped tightly around his weathered chin
His face is miserable from the battles he fought
His tattered coat holds badges from the fights he won
Trees circle him, whispering unbearable memories
The remembrance of trauma, sudden flashbacks
The thought of being placed in that position again
The complete despair of war will stay with him forever
He cannot forget

Morrinsville College



18 March 2022 NEWSLETTER 4

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



After our students' attendance rates last week were consistently around 53-54%, this week they have been 77-78%. It has been good to see so many students returning to school. To date, we have had no more confirmed positive cases with staff members and the three staff who were previous cases are back at

school. However, there are currently three staff members who are away because they are a household contact of a confirmed positive case. These low numbers of staff away from school are very unusual in secondary schools in our region at the moment. We are certain that this reflects the health and safety measures that we have in place at school, particularly mask-wearing. It also reflects the fact that our teachers are being very careful in their life outside of school in trying to avoid catching the virus. We are very pleased that we have been able to continue to deliver face-to-face learning for the majority of our students, while also offering online learning for those students who are isolating at home and well enough to engage in this learning.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Board Resignation

The Board has recently received the resignation of Mr Kelly Gray. Mr Gray will be moving to the Whakatane area. We thank him for his very good service on the Board in recent years in the interests of all of our students.

Staffing

The Board has very recently made an internal appointment to the position of Learning Area Leader of Science, with Mrs Samantha Farook being selected for this position up against some very good candidates.

After 18 years of excellent service to this school, Mr Hein van der Westhuizen has advised the Board of his resignation. He will

be moving to Australia to take up a new chapter in his life. We thank Mr van der Westhuizen for his fine work in setting up Electronics as a subject in our school. He was also an excellent Dean for a time and contributed to extra-curricular activities, especially through coaching rugby.

Mr Ngahu Potaka is now on study leave for most of the remainder of this year and Ms Nikki Paton is now on maternity leave and expected to return for Term 2 2023. Mr Tipene Frearson-Kirkwood is replacing Matua Potaka and Mr Richard Collette is replacing Ms Paton. Both are very experienced teachers and we are sure that they will do a very good job.

Board of Trustees Triennial Elections

The Ministry of Education has advised that the Triennial Board elections which would normally take place in May 2022 have been moved and will now be held between 5 September and 23 September 2022.

Ngairi Te Ahu

Student Successes

I am very pleased to announce the top students in NCEA at Levels 2 and 1 for 2021, who have received \$100 prizes from our Parent Teacher Association. At Level 2 our top student was **Samantha Reyes** who gained 128 Excellence credits, as well as nine Merits and 21 Achieved credits. There were a number of other Level 2 students



who did extremely well, including **Emma Taylor, Olivia Matthews, Seren Stevens and Merrill Abapo**. At Level 1, our top student was **Alex Khanal** who gained 138 Excellence credits, 11 Merits and four Achievement credits. Other students to do extremely well were **Kaelyn Gibberd and Ahmed Al-Suliman**. Congratulations to all of these high-achievers.





There have been a number of outstanding student successes announced recently.

Lydia Hayden has been selected as a training partner for the New Zealand Blax Lacrosse Team. This is part of the team training for the 2022 New Zealand Women’s Lacrosse World Championships which will be held in Maryland USA. Lydia will continue to train with the team and if anyone becomes unavailable she is in line to be called up. This is an excellent achievement.

Kayley McMillan competed in the National Under 15 Mountain-Biking Championships held in Christchurch recently. Kayley had a fall early in her race, but managed to get back on her bike and she ended up winning by a very narrow .08 seconds. This was a really gutsy effort and we are very proud of Kayley.



Olivia Day has been named in the ANZ Next XI Cricket Academy which is designed to assist very promising young cricketers to get into elite level cricket and possibly future World Cups with the White Ferns. Olivia will have the opportunity to meet with the White Ferns, which will be exciting for her. We wish her all the best in becoming a member of that team in the near future.

Teeka Randell, who is in Year 11 and only 15 years 8 months old, recently competed at the New Zealand Athletics Championship in the Under 18 section. After finishing second in her 400m heat to make the final, Teeka finished third in the final in a time of 57.65s, which was a personal best for her and just outside the school record of 57.56s held by Ms Charlotte Osborne, a teacher at our school, who as a student here represented New Zealand at the Commonwealth Games. Teeka also competed in the 200m event, winning her heat and finishing fifth in the final in a time which was .01 seconds outside our school record held by Heather Shanks since 1989. Teeka has every chance of beating these two records very soon! We are very proud of her.



Teeka also competed in the 200m event, winning her heat and finishing fifth in the final in a time which was .01 seconds outside our school record held by Heather Shanks since 1989. Teeka has every chance of beating these two records very soon! We are very proud of her.

Jacob Hagoort of Year 10 recently played in a Waikato Valley trial cricket game and scored a magnificent 201 not out as his team chased down the 282 runs posted by the opposition. Cricket followers will know that this is an amazing

effort, and particularly so in that Jacob scored over 70% of the runs for his team.

Jack Hamilton of Year 9 has recently had his picture of a soldier published alongside an excellent poem in *ToiToi*, a national journal of writing and art by young New Zealanders. This is a really prestigious achievement which Jack can be very proud of. The poem, entitled *We Will Remember*, including Jack’s picture, appears on the masthead of this newsletter.



Recent Cricket Results

Both our girls’ and boys’ 1st XI cricket teams have recently had to dig deep to find players due to Covid infections. After a recent very good 56-run win against Cambridge High School, in which **Jenna Durran-Wolff**, **Keira Wilton** and **Olivia Day** all did well with the bat, and Olivia and **Ella Wynen** bowled well, in their latest game our depleted girls’ team went down by six runs to Hauraki Plains College. **Danica Liddington** and **Keira Wilton** both made good scores, but we came up just short of the opposition score within our 30 overs, finishing on 120 for four wickets.

In a recent game, where both teams were short of players due to Covid isolations, family and work commitments, our boys narrowly went down to St Peter’s School by two wickets. Year 9 student **Matty Gordon** was the pick of our bowlers taking three wickets.

Changes To Vaccine Pass Requirements For Teams And Groups

We have been advised of another change to the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Protection Framework) Order. All students enrolled in a registered school are now able to participate in all school-organised teams and groups, regardless of their vaccination status. This change will also apply to any individuals representing their school at an event or competition - for example, an individual representing their school at a debating competition.

For Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC), this will mean that an offsite provider will not be able to ask students participating in school-organised curriculum-related activities for evidence of vaccination.

Social events, fund-raising events or other activities where student participants are not in a school-organised team or group are not included in this exemption from vaccine pass requirements - for example, school balls, school fairs, quiz nights.

John Inger

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 5 April	Octathlon
Wednesday 6 April	Photo ID catch-up
Friday 8 April	Athletics Finals Super Afternoon
Thursday 14 April	Teacher-Only Day
Thursday 14 April	Term 1 Ends
Monday 2 May	Term 2 Begins

