



Morrinsville College



4 February 2021 NEWSLETTER 1

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



Welcome back to school life to all students, especially those who have newly arrived at Morrinsville College, and welcome too to you, their parents or caregivers. At this early stage, it looks like our roll will be significantly up, with probably around 700 students compared to our official 1 March roll in 2020 which

was 668. We now have two large cohorts at Years 9 and 10 and 12 new enrolments from other schools at other year levels, which is a sign that our school has a good reputation, as it should have.

For our Year 9 students, many of whom will remain with us for the next five years, settling into College life can be very easy for most, but a bit traumatic for others. We will certainly be doing our best to make all of these people feel very welcome and to ensure that they are happy here.

On Wednesday this week we had an excellent powhiri welcome for all those new to our school, and also to those returning. Sadly, we also acknowledged the passing of Mrs Govender's mother who lived in South Africa and succumbed to the COVID-19 virus. Needless to say, our aroha is with Mrs Govender and her family. New teachers welcomed to our school for the first time were:

- **Mrs Helen Hyde-Hills** who has replaced Mrs Fitzgerald as Learning Area Leader in our English Learning Area.
- **Mr Ryan McIntyre** who has replaced Mr Tom Chapman-Smith as Learning Area Leader of Music.
- **Ms Sharee Macnee**, who is joining Ms Jodie Morris as our second Guidance Counsellor following the departure of Mr David Watson. The good news is that following a conversation I had with our Prime Minister when she came to open our Performing Arts Centre last year, Government has given more staffing to secondary schools (and for the first time primary and intermediate schools) to allow for the employment of more counselling time, so Ms Macnee is also full-time.
- **Mr Adam Kemp**, who has replaced Ms Marian Fogarty in the Mathematics Learning Area.

- **Miss Savannah Patterson** who has replaced Mr Moroni Sunnex in the English Learning Area.
- **Mr Thomas Pilkinton** who is replacing Mr Colin Vette in the Physical Education and Health area while Mr Vette is on study leave this year from late February to early November.

We have also welcomed back to our school **Ms Nikki Paton** from her maternity leave.

I want to thank members of our Maori community, particularly Mr Kaka Waaka, Mr Tangi Tuhakaraina, Mrs Awhi Tuhakaraina and our school's kuia Mrs Te Ao Marama Maaka, the Principal of Morrinsville Intermediate School Mrs Jenny Clark and Mr James Higgins also from MIS, the Principal of David Street School Mr Brian Harrop, Whaea Tania Anderson who is DP at Morrinsville School and Whaea Ngapera Thompson who is also from Morrinsville School, who attended our powhiri, and the large number of parents who also attended. We really do encourage parents/whanau to take part in as many aspects of school life as possible as we know that when there is a close partnership with parents our students always do well.

Year 9 Parent Welcome Evening

Parents of our new Year 9 students are invited to attend our Year 9 Parent Welcome Evening which will be held on **Wednesday 17 February, commencing at 7pm in our Performing Arts Centre**. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your son's/daughter's subject teachers while enjoying refreshments provided by students from our Home Economics classes and members of the PTA, and to discuss how they are engaging in their classes. A bit later in the evening there will also be an opportunity for you to meet your son's/daughter's learning coach in their Hub classroom and to discuss how they are settling in to life at Morrinsville College. You will also be given an opportunity to obtain the results of our e-ASAT testing which we did late last year, which identify strengths and weaknesses that your son/daughter might have and which our teachers will need to be aware of. If you would like to bring your son/daughter along to the evening, you are most welcome to do so, but this is not absolutely necessary. The evening should conclude before 9pm.

NCEA Results

Our interim NCEA results for 2020 are very positive once again, despite the disruptions caused last year by the COVID lockdown. It looks like our pass-rates at each of NCEA levels 1, 2 and 3 will be at or above the national mean, with a particularly excellent result for our Year 13s with Level 3. These results also saw a pleasing upwards achievement trend for our male students and once again for our Maori students. A full report on our interim NCEA results will be issued very soon by Deputy Principal Mr Scott Jenkins, and a report update later in the month when all of the reconsiderations are completed and data is finalised by NZQA.



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR - MRS NGAIRE TE AHU

On behalf of the Board I would like to welcome back all staff, students and parents/caregivers and also a big welcome to all new staff and families of our school.

I would like to introduce our current Board of Trustees: Deputy Chairs – Mrs Tia Wikaira-Wilson, Mr Matthew Judge and Mrs Catherine

Young, and other Board members Mrs Margaret Wilton, Mr Chris Wright and Mr Kelly Gray. The Staff rep is Mr Kevin Rae and the student rep is David Bhandari.

Property Works

Following the completion of Stage 1 of the Performing Arts Centre late late year and our now having only a little bit of Ministry Property funding left until the next 5YA instalment which is due in July next year, there has been very little property work done over the break. Heat pumps have been installed in two classrooms so that now all of our classrooms have air-conditioning for these hot summer months. Our swimming pool has been newly-painted and some other painting maintenance work has been completed in some classrooms and new carpet has been laid in the Library. Our school's local contractors have undertaken other maintenance work that needed attention.

Mobile Dental Clinic

As a trial, the Board has agreed to our having a mobile dental clinic caravan on-site in Term 1 this year from which 'The Tooth Fairy', Ms Cherie Baker and her assistant Ms Jo Sinclair will provide a free service to those of our students from Year 9 until they are 18 years' old whose parents agree to them receiving dental treatment from Cherie, who has 20 years of experience in the dental profession. The Board feels that this is an excellent opportunity for our students to get regular dental care, which we know does not occur for many of our students. **Further information about this service is attached at the end of this newsletter, including a form for you to complete and sign if you would like to take up this offer. Please return the signed form to the school Office or through your son/daughter directly to the clinic.**

Strategic Foci for 2021

In brief, our key strategic foci in 2021 will be very similar to last year's foci, and will include:

1. To further embed blended learning in our school and to deliver blended learning programmes to all of our Years 9 to 12 classes. This strategic focus proved to be very important last year when we had a COVID lockdown so that the Board was very pleased with our teachers' ability to deliver online learning to our

students in their homes. Due to our expectation that there remains a strong possibility of another COVID lockdown in 2021, our staff members have been preparing resources and systems to deliver online learning even better than they did last year. There remains good evidence that our blended learning programmes at Years 9 to 11 have been better engaging our students through the provision of more personalised and differentiated individual and group learning tasks and enabling our students to more often work at their own pace, and increasingly by providing a wide range of accessible online resources for our students.

2. To further improve the learning of our identified priority learners to accelerate their learning to help them to work at their expected national curriculum level. Considerable progress was made in achieving this strategic goal last year and we want to continue to use and improve the targeted strategies that we have been using, as well as adopting new strategies.
3. To work with the other 10 schools in our Kaahui Ako cluster to further improve learning in all of the schools across our community. In 2021 our plan is to:
 - Continue to strengthen our cultural knowledge and intelligence to enable culturally-responsive teaching strategies across our Community of Learning
 - Better understand and support our learners through crucial transition points in different learning environments
 - Further develop a learning support register to track students across our Community of Learning to enable a strong learning support network which ensures more equitable outcomes for all learners
 - Nurture responsible digital citizenship in our learners.
4. To continue to grow our connected learning at our school by building further opportunities for special cross-curricular programmes, as we did very successfully for instance with Year 10 students late last year.

Sports Sign-Up

Sport is strong at Morrinsville College and we encourage all of our students to consider signing up for one of the many sports that are on offer. Our students have already been issued our sports information booklet which has been produced by the Sports Coordinator Mrs Vicky Broomfield. Sign-up for the summer sports will happen tomorrow and sign-up for the winter sports will take place on Friday 5 March (see list of Sports Fees for 2021 at the end of this newsletter). We hope that you as parents will encourage your sons and daughters to involve themselves in the wider life of the school, especially in sports and other cultural activities in order to become good all-rounders.

Our school is also very strong in the Arts. In particular, the Board is very proud that around 30% of our students are involved in music or performance music and the standard of music performance in the school is outstanding. Our Years 10 to 13 students are currently being organised for the continuation of their free music lessons from the range of tutors we employ and our Year 9 students will be given the opportunity to sign up later next week. Drama is extremely strong and we are once again expecting public performances by our students during 2021. Be sure to get along to watch these because the quality will be high. Dance is another feature of Arts opportunities available for some students. Visual arts are a feature of the school which we are very proud of and during the year you will no doubt see some high-quality students'

art work on display when you come in to school events. Kapa haka is also extremely strong. This year our tutors will once again be Mr Weka Nightingale-Pene and his team and we are very confident in their ability to continue to build our strong tradition in kapa haka.

We are generally very pleased with the way that the year has begun in terms of students wearing our school uniform with pride, although there have been a small number of students who are already testing our teachers' patience by arriving in non-regulation hoodies and caps. Thank you to parents for making the effort to get our students into the correct uniform at this time of the year when there are many expenses that must be funded.

Term 1 is a very busy term and traditionally also difficult for students with school starting during the hottest month of the year. If parents or students have any issues, please be directed by Office staff to the appropriate person to help you get things sorted. This may be a Dean, Kaitiaki, Learning Coach or, in special circumstances, one of our Deputy Principals or the Senior Leader.

We look forward to updating you regularly on decisions made by the Board and Senior Leadership Team around your child's education at Morrinsville College.

Ngairi Te Ahu

Contact Between Home and School

As a contact guide, the following may be helpful:

The best person for you to get in touch with in the first instance is almost certainly your son's/daughter's Learning Coach. Each Learning Coach takes on responsibility for the academic and pastoral needs of each of the 17 or 18 students in their Learning Hub. They help our students to set goals for themselves each year and monitor progress towards these and they track each student's learning and mentor their students in their Hub. They maintain contact with you as parents, especially if there are any issues with your son/daughter.

Each House also has a Kaitiaki leader who plays a very important role as guardian of our school culture, dealing particularly with the pastoral needs and guidance of our students. They are also responsible for leading our staff and students with our Contribute, Listen, Engage, Achieve and Respect (CLEAR) values which we teach to our students to endeavour to produce good learners and citizens. Our Kaitiaki can be contacted by you when there are ongoing issues at school, particularly if there are more serious issues which need to be addressed.

The Kaitiaki for 2021 are:

- Alexandra – Ms Charlotte Osborne
- Campbell – Mr Callum Flynn
- Lincoln – Mr Patrick O'Shaughnessy
- Studholme – Ms Nikki Paton

Each of these Kaitiaki will be supported when necessary by a Manukura. These people are our Deputy Principals or the Senior Leader as follows:

- Alexandra – Mr Bruce Forsyth
- Campbell – Mrs Thilo Govender
- Lincoln – Mr Nilesh Prasad
- Studholme – Mr Scott Jenkins

Our Deans are in charge of any learning/academic concerns and ensuring that students are placed in the right classes. In 2021 these people are:

- Year 9 – Mrs Vicky Marshall

- Year 10 – Miss Megan Chambers
- Year 11 – Mr Daniel McNamara
- Years 12/13 – Mrs Kobie Joubert and Ms Louise Keenan

Our Guidance Counsellors are Ms Jodie Morris and Ms Sharee Macnee. These people are specialist trained counsellors and are available to any students, who can self-refer or be referred by others, including parents.

Our Careers Adviser and Gateway Co-ordinator is Mrs Jane Thomas. She is very willing to talk with students and their parents about careers, further education and training, and our new Gateway Workplace Co-ordinator is Mrs Anna Pitkethley.

In the Administration area Mrs Grace Martin is the Principal's Personal Assistant, Mrs Glenis Holten and Mrs Andrea Keightley are our Office administrators, Mrs Lorraine Gould is our new Attendance Administrator and Mrs Ria Irlle is our Finance Secretary. Our Business Manager is Mr Patrick O'Shaughnessy. Mr Roger Harris is our school Caretaker and Mr Brendan Waters our Groundsman.

To contact your son's/daughter's Learning Coach, Kaitiaki, Deans, or Guidance Counsellors, please telephone the school Office (8898308) to arrange a suitable time. If there are what you consider to be very serious issues, please make contact with one of the deputy principals. Unlike in smaller primary and intermediate schools, you should not expect that it will be easy to contact me. I have a very big job leading and managing around 700 students and over 70 staff and I do not keep in close touch with the day-to-day running of the school, so I will only be available to deal with your queries if there are very serious issues that my PA believes that I need to know about. Please contact Grace in the first instance.

Always telephone the Office firstly to make an appointment with members of the Senior Leadership Team as we are always very busy and you cannot expect that someone will be available if you turn up without an appointment. We will, however, make every effort to see you the same day if at all possible.

Unless there is an emergency, please do not contact us at home - we appreciate the time that we get with our families.

School to Home

You will be notified by newsletter (which is directly emailed to parents approximately every two-and-a-half to three weeks) or text message of special evenings, meetings and events during the year. You will also be advised by text message if your son/daughter is not at school and we have not received a message from you to signal why this is the case.

Parents can access each newsletter on the College website, www.morrncoll.school.nz. The website also contains a wide range of other information that you may well find interesting, so please take a look at it.

We also have a Morrinsville College Facebook page which also contains photos of events during the year and a lot of other information to keep parents informed.

Stationery Shop Helpers

The Board is very grateful to our parent volunteers, Wendy Vollebregt, Julene McQuoid, Andrea Bruin, Trina Aitchison and Cherie Aitchison who are currently giving up their time to prepare stationery orders for our students during this very busy time. This is a really big job and the school could not function effectively without this wonderful support.

Whanau Support Meeting

The first Whanau Support meeting for 2021 will be held on **Tuesday 16 February in Te Ao Whaanui, starting at 7pm**. This is an opportunity for whanau to meet with our kuia and guide in all things Maori, Te Ao Marama Maaka, me as Principal, Matua Ngahu Potaka and other key staff associated with Te Puawaitanga and academic and pastoral guidance in our school. I encourage interested people to come along to ask questions and provide feedback so that we can continue to improve our school practices to enhance learning outcomes for our Maori students. We will also be discussing an important reunion occasion which is coming up early this year.

John Inger

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR SCOTT JENKINS



Any Problems with Students' 2020 NCEA Results

I sent out an email to all students and families on Wednesday January 20, the day before NCEA results were released, so if some of this sounds familiar, it is an important reminder.

If your son/daughter finds an error in their achievement record in terms of internal assessment results then they should contact the teacher in question as the first point of contact.

NZQA is currently returning all of the external exam scripts to your addresses by mail and have informed us that the Year 11 papers will be the last to be returned and they plan for these to be sent out this Friday. They should reach you by early next week. If your son/daughter thinks that they are unsure around a grade given by the external markers then they should take the script to their class teacher. If their teacher also agrees that there is a clear discrepancy the student can appeal by downloading and completing the Request Review application form which can be found on their NZQA account. This needs to be sent back to NZQA with the exam script **by Friday 26 February**. You are able to send these Freepost.

Students bringing vehicles to school

VEHICLES SHOULD ONLY BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL WHEN THERE IS A GENUINE NEED.

Driving behaviour must be of a high standard and certainly must not be a danger to other students or members of the community. Nor may vehicles be used at lunchtimes without permission. If instances of unsatisfactory behaviour are reported, parents and caregivers will be asked to stop their son or daughter from bringing the vehicle to school.

Students who wish to bring motor vehicles to school, including Year 13 students, will need to collect an application from the Student Office. It will need to be signed by both the student and caregiver and returned to the Office. When the car pass is approved and completed it will be issued via your son's/daughter's Learning Coach.

Students must not carry other students as passengers in cars or on motorcycles unless I firstly receive a note from the parents of both the driver and the passenger giving permission for this to occur, and if it is allowed within the rules of the student's licence. We have a strong relationship with our local Police and actively encourage them to also keep a close eye on our student drivers.

Lunch Passes

Any student wanting to go home for lunch on a regular basis must complete a lunch pass request form and a permanent lunch pass will be issued. Lunch passes are for going home, not down town or to other students' houses. Nor are they for taking other students home. Passes will be rescinded if the privilege is abused.

Parents Requiring Students To Get Passes to Leave School

Parents requiring students to leave school during school hours, for instance to attend a dentist's or doctor's appointment, must contact or send a note to the school Office BEFORE school so that passes can then be processed and collected by students at interval. We do not give passes for Years 9 to 12 students to go down town to get lunch or a coffee, however this is a privilege allowed for our Year 13 students, as long as they sign out at the Office before they leave and sign back in on their return.

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MRS THILO GOVENDER



Parent Teacher Association

We are looking forward to welcoming all of our parents and caregivers, especially those who are new to our school and community, to the first PTA Meeting for 2021, to be held on **Monday, 22 February in the Agri-Innovation Centre at 7.30pm**. We want to briefly review and discuss the

results of the Parent Survey completed last year and look at how we can move forward with some of the suggestions made.

An Executive Summary of the survey results will be posted on our school website next week so please keep your eye out for this. We will also post a link to this on our Facebook page. We hope to see you on 22 February at our first meeting for the year.

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR BRUCE FORSYTH



Attendance

The higher the percentage of attendance in class the better the learning that occurs for all students. Students' attainment of academic, cultural and social goals and also their development of sound habits towards future employment are greatly enhanced. Thank you

for supporting your child to attend school regularly and on time, making a huge difference to their education.

If possible, please let the school know in advance of any absence. Students late to school for any reason should supply a signed note of explanation from you, rather than your phoning and leaving a message. Due to the high number of phone messages that we receive each morning it is difficult to check all messages before students start signing in late. For any absence please text Mrs Lorraine Gould in the Office 027 488 1825 or use the Skool Loop App by 9am with a detailed message including your child's full name and the reason for their absence.

For any known periods of leave in term time, please obtain permission by prior application in writing to the Principal.

A reminder that the school day starts at 8.50am and all students are expected to be here at that time. We encourage parents to help their children to develop routines to ensure that they are at school on time.

Term Dates

TERM 1

Tuesday 2 February - Friday 16 April

TERM 2

Monday 2 May to Friday 9 July

Monday 7 June Queen’s Birthday

TERM 3

Monday 26 July to Friday 1 October

TERM 4

Monday 18 October to Tuesday 14 December

Monday 25 October Labour Day

Easter Holiday

This year the Easter holiday break falls within Term 1, from Friday 2 to Tuesday 6 April.

COMING EVENTS

Friday 5 February	Summer Sports sign-up
Mon 8 – Wed 10 February	Year 13 Leadership Camp
Thursday 11 February	Te Puawaitanga BBQ - Pool 3.30pm
Thursday 11 February	BOT Meeting, 7pm
Tuesday 16 February	Whanau Support Meeting, 7pm
Wednesday 17 February	Swimming Heats
Wednesday 17 February	Year 9 Welcome Evening, 7pm
Friday 19 February	Swimming Finals
Monday 22 February	PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
Tuesday 23 February	Octathlon
Wednesday 24 February	Photolife ID photos taken
Sun 28 – Wed 3 March	Year 13 Geo/Bio field trip
Thursday 4 March	Athletics Finals
Friday 5 March	Winter Sports sign-up
Thurs 11 to Fri 12 March	Year 13 Mountain Biking trip
Thurs 16 to Sat 20 March	Year 10 Camp 1
Sat 20 to Wed 24 March	Year 10 Camp 2



CONSENT FORM FOR FREE DENTAL TREATMENT AT MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

All students, Year 9 till their 18th birthday, are eligible for FREE dental care on board our mobile dental clinic. Students will be seen during school hours and you will have the option to be present for this.

Cherie (Owner/Clinician) has 20 years experience in the dental profession, with 12 of those being an oral health therapist treating adolescents.
We aim to inspire young adults to improve their oral health and to help them keep their teeth for life.

Every student who completes their dental treatment is given a Dominos Pizza Voucher AND

All those who complete their dental treatment during Term 1 at Morrinsville College, will enter the draw to win an Oral-B Genius 9000 Electric Toothbrush valued at \$400.

This is consent for an initial consultation. For any further treatment required, we will be in contact with you for permission and to discuss options.

An initial consultation includes:

- Dental Examination	- Teeth Cleaning & Polish
- X-rays	- Fluoride Treatment (When needed)
- Oral Pathology & Oral Cancer screening	- Oral Hygiene instructions & tips

Please let us know if there is anything on the above list that you do not consent to.

I _____ give consent for _____ to
be seen by The Tooth Stylists at Morrinsville College during Term 1.

I would like to be present for the consultation/treatment. YES NO

Signed:

Phone:

Email:

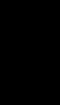
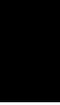
Please return this form back to us once completed via
toothfairy_cherie@yahoo.co.nz or return it to the school office.

Cherie Baker

THE TOOTH STYLISTS

SPORTS FEES 2021

Please note that these sports fees are the approximate cost. They may change slightly depending on association subscriptions. If you have any questions or concerns, please phone or email vicky-broomfield@morrroll.school.nz

	Cricket - Teacher in Charge - Patrick O'Shaughnessy . Please note that the fees are for the whole year. 1-2 trainings a week + a Saturday game (Boys) 1 training a week + Tuesday afternoon game (Girls) Terms 1 & 4	1st XI Boys - \$120 Junior Teams - \$100 Girls – Tuesday - \$30
	Touch Rugby - Teacher in Charge - Ngahu Potaka/Mere Nock Play Mondays at Steele Park Hamilton Terms 1 & 4	Monday afternoon teams - \$60 whole year Own uniform extra Regionals - an extra cost
	Basketball - Teacher in Charge – TBC 1-2 trainings a week depending on which team Terms 2 & 3	Senior Boys - \$120 approx Senior Girls - \$140 approx Junior Teams - \$120 approx
	Netball - Teacher in Charge – Cindy Morris Games on Thursday night or Saturday during the day. Open A - Train 2 times a week. Terms 1, 2 & 3	Open A - TBC Hamilton teams - \$100 Thursday night teams (Morrinsville) - \$100 Tournament week - \$300+
	Rugby - Teacher in Charge - TBC Train twice a week and games on a Saturday, Terms 2 & 3	1st XV – \$280 approx. Other teams \$60
	Football - Teacher in Charge - Ed Krystman You must purchase your own socks. 1-2 trainings a week and games on a Saturday, Terms 2 & 3	\$70 approx. all teams
	Hockey - Teacher in Charge - Daniel McNamara You must purchase your own socks, mouth and shin guards. 1-2 trainings a week & games midweek. Terms 2 & 3	All teams - \$180 approx. Tournament week - \$300+
	Badminton - Teacher in Charge – Denisha Naidoo Games at the school gym on a Wednesday 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Optional inter-school competition, Terms 2 & 3	\$20 for all players
	Tennis - Teacher in Charge - Wendy Portegys School Tennis Championships, played during Lunchtimes. Waikato SS Tennis Championships - Wednesday after-school competition with Hamilton Schools, Terms 1 & 4	Costs on an event by event basis. \$25 each player each term in SS competition
	Volleyball - Teacher in Charge - Charlotte Osborne Seniors – Term 1 Saturday at The Peak, Rototuna Juniors – Term 4	\$55 approx.
	Lacrosse – Teacher in Charge – Sharnay Moxey You must purchase your own mouth guard. Girls' and Junior Boys' games are on a Saturday afternoon, Terms 2 & 3	Girls - \$70 approx Boys - \$100 approx May differ if hiring or buying uniforms
	Futsal – Teacher in Charge – Vicky Broomfield Terms 1 & 4 Games are played at The Peak, Rototuna, on Sunday afternoons/nights	\$65 per term
	Softball – Teacher in Charge - Vicky Broomfield Thursday after school Games Saturday morning Resthill Park, Hamilton, Terms 1 & 4	\$30 per team All gear provided
	Athletics – Teacher in Charge – TBC Terms 1 & 4 Tuesdays 3.15pm - 4.30 pm	\$35 per term
	GymSport – Person in Charge – Julene McQuoid Terms 1, 2, 3 & 4 Teen Gym and Trampolining take place on Mondays There are additional fees if selected for the Waikato or NZ Secondary Schools' GymSport Champs	\$55 per term for Teen Gym
	Other Sports – Contact person – Vicky Broomfield This includes Equestrian, Swimming, Cross Country, Motor Cross, Indoor Bowls, Outdoor Bowls, Golf, Croquet, Table Tennis & Mountain Biking	These events are charged on an event by event basis