



Morrinsville College



17 March 2023 NEWSLETTER No. 3

A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL

Mr S JENKINS, B.A (HONS), PGDIPEDLD, DIP.TCHG

FROM THE BOARD'S PRESIDING MEMBER MRS NGAIRE TE AHU



Term 1 has seen some continued industrial action across the country. There has been a ban on teachers doing relief for colleagues since the start of the year. While this may not have been noticeable to the public, it has made it quite difficult for our senior staff to provide outside relievers to cover classes. While we

have covered each class when staff members have been sick or undertaking education outside the classroom, it has come at a financial cost. The one-day strike that went ahead yesterday is likely to be followed by further industrial action before the end of the month if negotiations between the PPTA and the Ministry of Education are unable to make reasonable progress. While nobody wishes to see our children out of school after the disruptions of the previous three years, it is important that there is a substantial shift in the pay and conditions of our teachers if we are to retain our current workforce and attract the best and brightest to the profession. I wish to publicly thank our parents for supporting our teachers despite the inconvenience that it must have caused to many of you. We will keep you informed as potential dates for the industrial action are confirmed.

Parent Teacher Association

Last Monday night, the first PTA meeting was held. Attendance was smaller than expected but was ably chaired by Ms Kylie Williams. She has set out several events to raise funds for the school and to support our students. These include a market day to be held at the

school early next term, a quiz evening towards the end of Term 2, the Op Shop Ball to be held in conjunction with our senior school ball and a potential Housie evening. There were a number of other jobs where people could contribute such as the security for the school ball. If anybody has an interest in joining the PTA or even helping with one of these events, please contact Kylie through the school Office.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL – MR SCOTT JENKINS



I would like to share with you a snippet of the message I delivered to our whole school at assembly on Tuesday. After a quiet start in terms of discipline at our kura, we have had a run of incidents over the last two weeks that have required me to stand a number of students down. In discussion with my Principal

colleagues across our region, they have all had exactly the same situation at exactly the same time in their schools. I would like to relay to our parents the key part of my message, so that we can all be on the same page.

When I looked at these different events most related to what people chose to bring through the school gate with them when they come to our kura. We will never, ever ask you to leave your whakapapa and your family at the gate, they are you. We will never ask you to leave your culture, faith or spirituality at the gate. We will never require you to leave your aspirations, your gender or your gender preference at the gate when you come in. Your confidence and your fears about learning walks with you through the gate. Some of you are diverse thinkers, some have physical disabilities and many more have not so visible disabilities,

some of which you share with your peers and some of which you do not. These are very much a part of you and you should feel safe to bring these with you through our school gate each day. Your feeling of well-being and your wairua walks with you each day as you come through our school gate.



The converse of this is what do you leave at the gate each day when you come to kura, so that over 800 students and staff can co-exist and feel that they have a genuine chance

of meeting their aspirations long term or maybe just for each day? At the gate you leave your dramas from the weekend. If you have an issue with someone you don't sort it out here. You leave your online and social media conflict at the gate. Our teachers are not your social media referees they are educators. You leave at the gate the rumours, the whispers you heard that someone said something that went through a few people that you 'sort of know', but was not said to you in person. Gossip is as ancient as time, but if it is your weakness park it at the gate. We leave our petty jealousies and our egos at the gate. If you want to be the cool kid more than you want to learn then you are not in the right place. It stays at the gate. If you feel the need to follow around rumours of conflict between people, to watch it, to laugh at it, to encourage it and to even it video you are part of the problem. That mentality needs to stay at the gate. If you are involved in any of these, you are a participant in the drama and cannot then hold your hands up and say "it wasn't me". Each day you come through the school gate and drama is more important to you than your learning, or the genuine relationships you have with your peers and our staff, you are not doing so for the right reasons.

Over the days since the assembly, we have used this message to reinforce the expected behaviours from our students. We appreciate all of the support from our parent community as we work hard to create a very safe space for our students to learn and grow as young people.

Tyler Trust Award



I am very pleased to announce that **Emma Taylor**, who was named Dux at our Senior Prizegiving Ceremony late last year, has won the Tyler Trust Award for 2022. This award recognises the top achiever in NCEA Level 3 once all of the external results are confirmed.

Emma did extremely well at NCEA Level 3 last year, gaining 99 Excellence credits, so the high standard of her work is really remarkable. Emma is currently studying at Otago University. Emma was very pleased to receive a payment

of \$1650 and she was honoured to receive the award. This amount of money represents the interest earned in 2022 from the Tyler Trust account, following a bequest many years ago to the school by the late Nerissa Minnie Tyler, an ex-staff member.

I also want to recognise the excellent NCEA results at Level 2 of **Alex Khanal** (101 Excellence credits) and at Level 1 **Lucy Bonnar** (85 Excellence credits). I am confident that all of these students will go on to be very successful in the future.

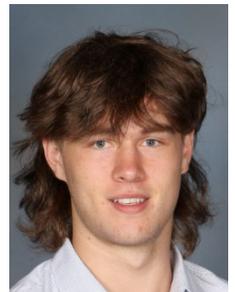


Teeka Randall

Teeka Randall won the New Zealand Under 18 200m athletics Championship recently in a time of 25.08 seconds. This is an exceptional achievement to be crowned national champion at this elite level as she still has some years left in this age-group category. (See Teeka taking 1st place on the podium on this newsletter's masthead).

Finlay Birss – Jiu-Jitsu

Finlay Birss was successful at a number of levels recently in two national Jiu Jitsu competitions. He was awarded the 2022 Gi National title in the Juvenile Division. Finlay then went on to take the North Island Gi Championship in the Men's Division and the no Gi title as well.



Kayley McMillan

Kayley McMillan has continued her outstanding run of results in Mountain Biking and was placed 3rd in the Under 17 mountain-biking XC national championships.



SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS

At our school's athletics finals recently, the following champions were decided:

Junior Girls

1st Samantha Leigh, 2nd Megan Mitchell, 3rd Georgia Mills

Intermediate Girls

1st Sabrina Chong, 2nd Jessica Leigh, 3rd Sofia Bonnar

Senior Girls

1st Charlotte Whittaker, 2nd Jameelah Warner-Morris, 3rd = Kaelyn Gibberd and Ryleigh McAra

Junior Boys

1st Hanno Oosthuizen, 2nd Cole McMahon-Graham, 3rd Ethan Beatson

Intermediate Boys

1st = Alex Harris and Alex Dewhurst, 3rd Jayden van Kessel

Senior Boys

1st Jay-R Abais, 2nd Nathan McQuoid, 3rd Carter Mikkelsen

HOUSE CAPTAINS

I am pleased to announce the Senior House Captains for 2023. These people were elected by the Kaitiaki and learning coaches of their Houses last week. There are some very good leaders amongst them.

Alexandra

Leaders: Karl Haddock and Ash-lee Barker

Deputies: Nathan McQuoid and Lydia Dodunski

Campbell

Leaders: Grace Hornsey and Eryn Gardner

Deputies: Noah Admiraal and Ryleigh McAra

Lincoln

Leaders: Alla Wyen and Kaden Cranfield

Deputies: Finlay Birss and Kaelyn Gibberd

Studholme

Leaders: Rachel Wilson and Brooke Bell

Deputies: Ashton Marshall and Shay Wright

JUNIOR HOUSE CAPTAINS

The Junior House Captains for 2023 were announced at Junior Prizegiving on our last day of school in 2022.

Congratulations to the following emerging young leaders:

Alexandra

Leaders: Joel Van Den Anker, Sofia Bonnar

Deputies: Jono Waetford, Jazmine Birchall

Campbell

Leaders: Brittney Hart, Cole McMahon-Graham

Deputies: Abbie Hornsey, Rhys Owen

Lincoln

Leaders: Aurora Herbert and Rhys Gibberd

Deputies: Delana Kidd and Hemiona Green

Studholme

Leaders: Lieke Steenhoven, Lukas Gaiger

Deputies: Kayley McMillan, Jayden Rhodes

Arts, Sports and School Spirit Leaders

New this year has been the development of some new leadership positions to help develop the leadership capabilities of our senior students and to forward our school goal of encouraging 'connection through participation'. These were selected after our Year 13 students completed an application form and went through an interview process which doubled as excellent practice as they transition from school into the wider world.

Our Sports Leaders for 2023 are **Karl Haddock** and **Jameelah Warner-Morris**. Our Arts Leaders are **Rachel Wilson** and **Mapera Ratcliffe**. This year we have appointed four School Spirit Leaders to get this role off the ground. They are **Jacoba Gread**, **Ahmed Al-Suleiman**, **Tessa Nicholson** and **Bailee Steiner**. These are all very 'hands on' leadership roles as they work with our designated staff to organise events and opportunities for our students.

Year 10 Camp New Dates

As indicated in the previous newsletter the dates for our two Year 10 Camps have now been confirmed as from 5-9 and 9-13 September.

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR BRUCE FORSYTH

Parent Report Evening

The school Interim Reports will be posted to the parent portal on Wednesday 22 March.

Our Parent Report Evening will be held on **Tuesday 28 March**. If parents log into the website

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz, they will be able to use the booking code **ge3tx** to make an appointment to see their sons/daughters teachers. Bookings will be open on **Wednesday 22 March**



FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MR NILESH PRASAD



On Wednesday this week, all of our Year 12 students were involved in the RYDA Driver Safety Course. While schools do not usually provide driver education for students, we saw this particular course as being a key life-skill for young people in a rural environment where many of our students learn to drive earlier than their city peers. The messages and demonstrations were based around driving on winter roads and conditions that many of our rural young people face.

Whaanau Support Meeting

A Whaanau Support Meeting is be scheduled to be held on Tuesday 28 March, in Te Ao Whaanui at 7pm. All welcome.

COMING EVENTS

Sun 18-Wed 22 March	Year 13 Geo/Bio Trip
Tuesday 21 March	WaiBOP SS Athletics
Wednesday 22 March	Interim Reports posted to parent portal
Sun 26 – Tues 28 March	Year 12 Sports Studies Camp
Sun 26 – Wed 29 March	Year 13 Ag-Sci Trip
Tuesday 28 March	A Block, B Block and Library
Thu 30 and Fri 31 March	Year 13 SPS Mountain Biking Trip
Thursday 6 April	End Term 1
Monday 24 April	Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 25 April	ANZAC Holiday
Wednesday 26 April	Start of Term 2