



Mr Mac's Year 10 Camp class on top of the Pinnacles wearing their ties in honour of Mr Ed Krystman

A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

Morrinsville College

2 April 2025 Issue No. 4

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SCOTT JENKINS



We are reaching the end of what has been a very busy Term 1 as we have tried to make the most use of the good weather to engage our students through learning outside the classroom. This has included Year 9 and 10 Camps which finish today, just as the weather starts to turn. We have also had a number of curriculum-based trips including to Tongariro National Park. We have also had a number of leadership-focused opportunities and last week a group of students ventured up to Waitangi, next week we have a group working in Rotorua and early next term our student leaders will head down to Wellington where they will be working with several MPs, including our own local MP Mr Tim van de Molen at Parliament.

Included at the bottom of this newsletter is our NCEA Achievement Analysis for 2024. We traditionally send this out to our community in order to provide information around learning at the senior NCEA level. In 2024 the results were very strong and followed the pattern of the last few years. This comes against a backdrop of falling national NCEA data, particularly with the changes to Level 1 assessments. We are very proud of these results and it highlights the hard work of our senior students and our staff. Next week in our final assembly for the term, we will be recognizing those students from Year 11 and Year 12 who received Merit and Excellence endorsements in 2024. Each one will be presented with a gold or silver badge to recognise the level of their endorsement. Next week's final newsletter will include a photo of all of these students.

BOARD NEWS

**Mrs Ngaire Te Ahu, Board Presiding Member
New Board Member**

The Board is very happy to announce that we have co-opted **Mrs Jems Brown** to our Board. Jems is a parent of the school and has always



been an active supporter in her children's schools. We look forward to having Jems on our Board.

Four Generations

The Board is pleased to acknowledge that we have four generations of one family at our school at present. Mrs Grace Martin has been our Board Secretary for many years and during that time has had four children and four grand-children pass through Morrinsville College. This year there are four generations of her family here.- Grace is the Principal's PA and Board Secretary, daughter Mrs Jocelyn Mitchell is teaching English, grand-daughter Megan Mitchell is in Year 11 and great-grandson Levi Priest is in Year 9. Quite an achievement!



Flu Vaccinations

The Board has once again agreed to pay for flu vaccinations for any of our staff who require one. Morrinsville Medical kindly come up to our school to administer these during a lunchtime break. This is a very good deterrent for winter ills and hopefully lessens the need for relievers over the winter months.

Student Success

Congratulations to Year 12 student **Christina Parajuli** who won the Waikato regional heat of the annual Race Unity Speech Competition at the Hamilton Bahá'í Centre on Thursday evening 27 March 2025. The competition is in its 25th year. Christina presented a powerful 8-minute speech on the topic: *Te Moana Nui o te Kanorau - The Great Ocean of Diversity*. This gave her a chance to share her vision for race unity and her ideas on how we can work towards eradicating racial prejudice



and injustice. It was also an excellent opportunity to meet some other talented and inspiring young people. We wish Christina well for the semi-finals in Auckland next term.

Lacrosse NZ Representatives

Congratulations to our Morrinsville College players, **Megan Mitchell**, ex-student **Jessica Leigh**, **Alex Harris** (co-Captain) and **Jayden Jeffrey** who have been selected to represent New Zealand in the Under 18 teams competing in the U18 Australian Nationals in Adelaide, Australia over Easter weekend! Good luck to the players and their teams as they have been training hard since the end of last year.

St John’s Youth Programme Award



Shannon Bill (previous recipient) and Ellamarie

Congratulations to **Ellamarie Steiner** who received a Grand Prior award for St. John's Cadets recently. To qualify for this prestigious award, cadets need to complete many compulsory badges, drills and ceremonies and a series of optional badges over a period of 3-5 years of commitment and hard work to the St John Youth Programme.

International Visitors

Last week we hosted a group of Japanese students from Mitaka High School in Tokyo. The students were greeted with a powhiri and workshops organised by the teachers and students from the Maaori Learning Area. Mrs Louise Keenan organised dance and drama workshops involving our students teaching Mitaka students. After a traditional dance performance from Mitaka they taught our students some of their moves. This was a wonderful cultural exchange and we look forward to a growing partnership between our schools.



Touch Rugby Success

Morrinsville College had four teams in the Waikato Secondary Schools Touch competition held in Hamilton. A massive effort from all of our players and great progress was made. Results were:
 Senior Mixed 1st Overall
 Senior Boys 2nd Overall
 Girls 3rd Overall
 Junior Boys 9th Overall



Mobile Dental Unit

Last chance for students to make an appointment with our mobile dentist and get a dental check. Cherie and her team will finish at the end of Term 1 and have been very busy seeing many new clients as well as those who regularly visit when the mobile dentist is onsite.

Thank You

We are very grateful to **Tuatahi First Fibre** who have provided us with 10 HP Laptops.

COMING EVENTS

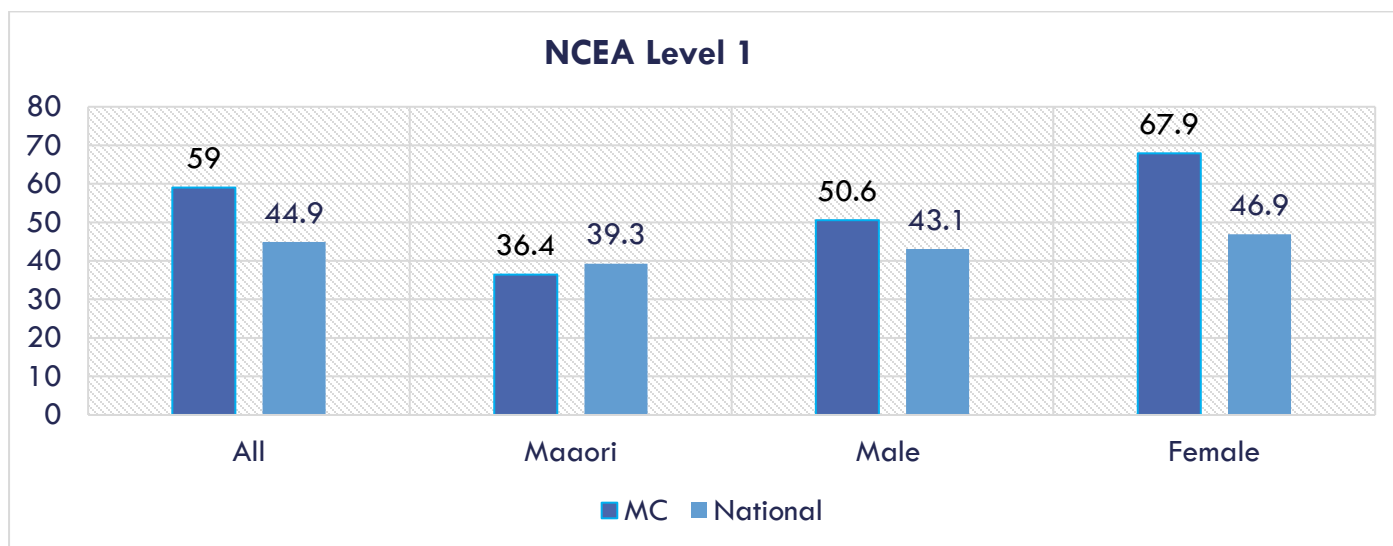
Thursday 3 April	No school YEAR 10 (Camp 2)
Tuesday 8 April	ANZAC poppy day - mufti
Wed 9 – Fri 11 April	Mana Wahine trip
Friday 11 April	End of Term 1
Monday 28 April	Start Term 2
Monday 28 April	ANZAC assembly – Period 2
Mon 5 – Thurs 8 May	Mana Tane trip
Friday 16 May	Pink Shirt Day
Friday 23 May	School Cross Country
Tuesday 3 June	Year 8 Enrolments
Thursday 5 June	Year 8 Enrolments

2024 MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE NCEA REPORT

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) is a key measure of academic success at Morrinsville College, reflecting the dedication and perseverance of both students and staff. Analysing the NCEA report for Levels 1, 2, and 3 provides valuable insights into achievement trends, subject performance, and areas for further growth. A significant focus is also placed on the analysis of literacy and numeracy, which are essential skills for student success both within school and beyond. The results highlight the effort put in by students striving for excellence and the unwavering support from teachers and staff who guide them toward their goals. This analysis will highlight key achievements, compare performance across all three levels, and recognize the collective effort that contributes to the strong academic foundation at Morrinsville College.

The official NCEA data is supplied to us directly by NZQA and includes every student who was enrolled with us for at least a term. It is also important to note that this official data includes results from other providers, such as, Te Kura, Northern Health School, and other secondary schools.

NCEA Level 1



Our NCEA Level One results have been well above the national average for all schools over the last four years. As the Level One data across NZ has decreased during that period, ours has continued to improve and for 2023 and 2024, we were approximately 15% above the national average. This is significant achievement under the new NCEA model. Any shift over 2% is considered statistically significant by NZQA.

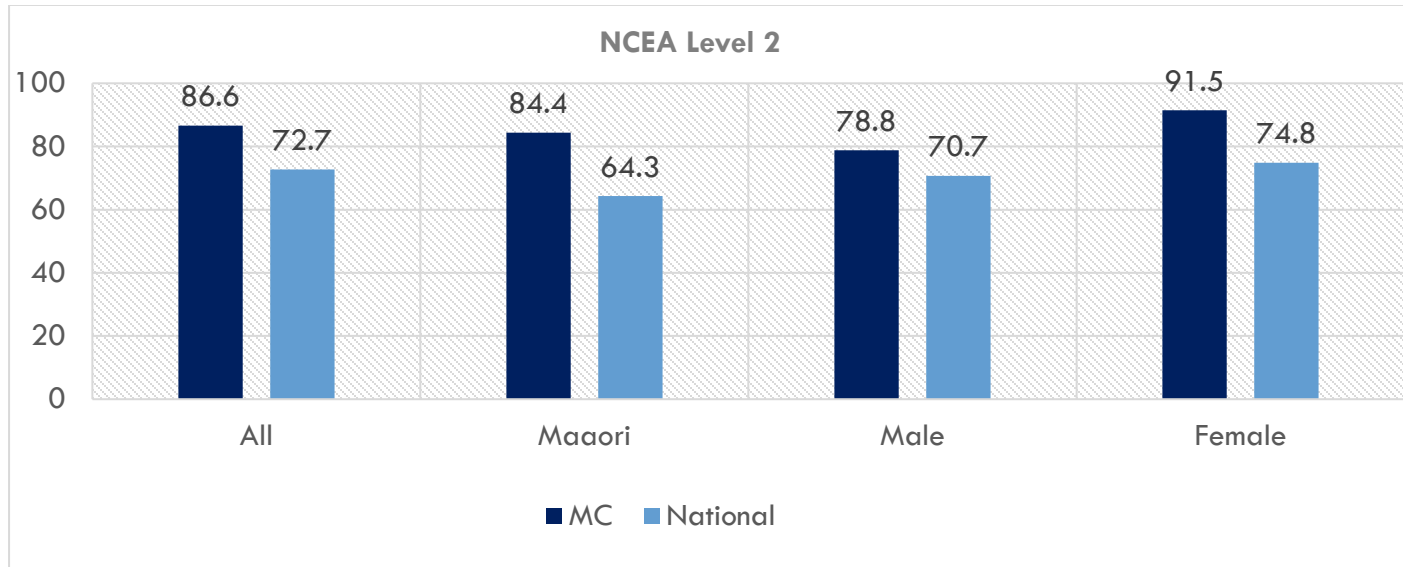
This result clearly reflects, firstly, the efforts of all our students in ensuring that they are attending all their classes and driving their learning and, secondly, the efforts of all our teachers for providing the support and guidance to the students.

While the Māori student achievement was below the national achievement rate for all Māori students nationally, it is still a significant achievement for us considering the changes at NCEA Level 1 at beginning of 2024. Of those students who classify as Māori and did not achieve NCEA Level 1 in 2024, a few have enough credits to gain a qualification but need to gain their co-requisite requirements (literacy and numeracy). A few students have their co-requisite requirements but are just short of some credits to get to the sixty credits threshold. Our aim is to get these students through with their NCEA Level 1 qualification in the first half of this year while they continue working towards their NCEA Level 2.

The changes to NCEA Level 1 made it challenging for many students to accumulate enough credits to gain a qualification. The number of standards offered in each subject was reduced to only four, with two offered internally and the other two standards offered externally. Each standard involved at least double the content required in the old model. While fewer standards and higher number of credits sound good, the work required to achieve those standards was and still is intimidating for many students. The risk is higher due to far more credits attached to standards and far more investment involved to pass. This had put an enormous pressure and stress on our Year 11 students in 2024.

The year 11 boys have found the new standard extremely challenging due to the elevated level of literacy involved. I am happy to report that the NCEA Level 2 changes are on hold till 2028, and the students are extremely pleased to continue with the existing standards at NCEA Level 2. These standards assess lesser content with less credits attached to them and there is a wide range of standards available in each subject to catch up if a student did not pass one.

NCEA Level 2



At Level 2 we have been consistently well above the national average for the last five years while the rest of the country have dropped by approximately 8% during that period. Last year, our students produced our best Level 2 pass rate at 86.6% while the national result was 72.7% and similar schools in our socio-economic band were at 73.6%. Our boys achieved well above their national peers and our girls achieved at a 91.5%. This was a remarkable achievement by our Year 12 students in 2024.

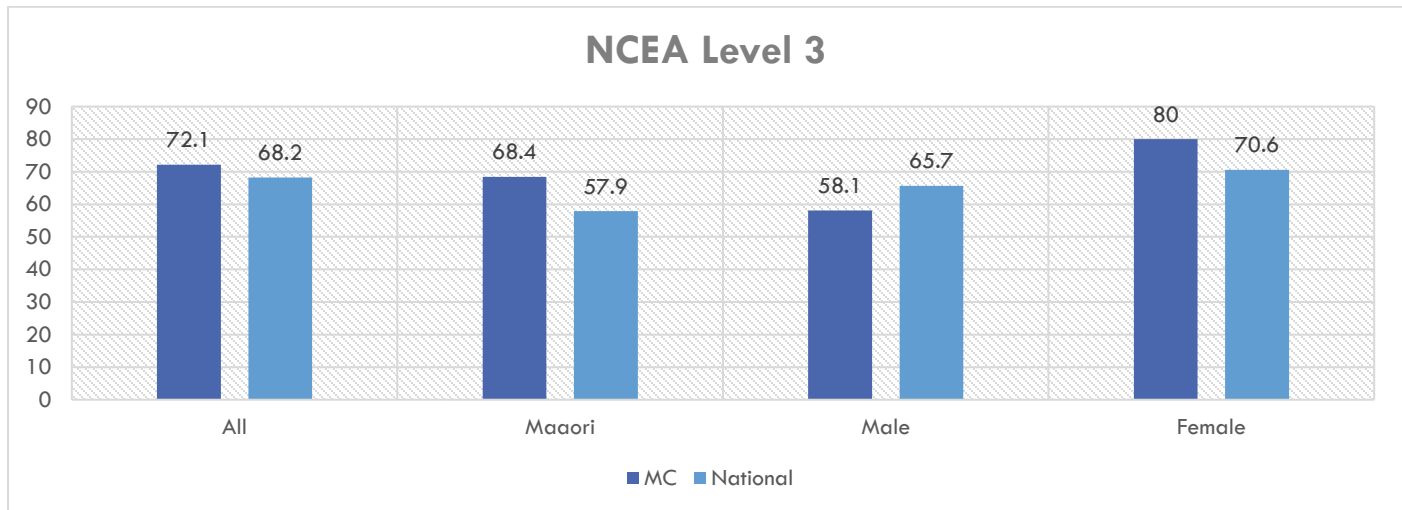
In 2024, the Māori student achievement at NCEA Level 2 increased by 31.3% compared to our 2023 achievement (53.1% in 2023). In addition, their achievement rate being at least 20% above the national achievement rate was icing on the cake.

The overall endorsement rate has also increased in comparison to 2023. Ten students at Year 12 received an overall excellence endorsement and twenty-one had their qualification endorsed with merit. This once again is the best we have seen from a Year 12 cohort in at least the last five years.

Seventeen Year 12 students did not gain NCEA Level 2 qualification in 2024. Four of these students were short of a few credits and they will hopefully achieve it this term. Further four students have their co-requisite requirements but need to get to their sixty credits threshold to gain a qualification. The remaining nine students are either missing one or both co-requisite requirements to gain a qualification. They will continue to work on their literacy and numeracy skills and will sit the first round of Common Assessment Activity in Term 2.

NCEA Level 3

2024 Level 3 result was 72.1% and above the national achievement rate of 68.2%. Our NCEA Level 3 data has seen a decreasing trend from 2020 until 2023. In 2024, the achievement rate increased by 20.1% in comparison to the 2023 achievement rate.



An increasing trend is also visible in our Māori achievement and the male and female category at NCEA Level 3. However, it is slightly disappointing to see the achievement rate of our Year 13 males tracking below the national achievement rate for males. In terms of overall endorsements, three students were awarded an excellence endorsement at NCEA Level 3 and thirteen had their qualification endorsed with merit.

Twenty-eight students counted in our statistics in 2024 did not gain a NCEA Level 3 qualification. Most of these students had no intention of achieving NCEA Level 3 and were enrolled with us until they found a job or were offered an apprenticeship by one of our local businesses. They were included in our statistics because they stayed on our roll for a significant part of the year.

Our strong Pathways and Careers programme in conjunction with local businesses have often provided amazing opportunities to our Years 12 and 13 students in the form of apprenticeship, part-time and full-time job opportunities. We are always grateful to these local businesses for their generosity.

The Year 13 students who successfully attained NCEA Level 3 qualifications last year were those who had made early commitments to achieving this milestone and remained focused and determined till the end. Many of these students had decided to join tertiary education and worked diligently to achieve this. This dedication is evident in the University Entrance data.

University Entrance

The UE result for 2024 was 46.5% which was 2.5% below the national average which in terms of number of students equates to about 2 students. It was however 6% above the pass rate for schools in a similar socio-economic band as us. Our University Entrance achievement had also been decreasing since 2020. However, last year, it increased by 13.2% in comparison to 2023.

We usually have 25-30% of students going to university in any given year. That is also the pattern across the country. As mentioned earlier, many students are looking for employment or apprenticeships - we are incredibly lucky to have these provided by our community; something our city counterparts don't get in comparison. Each pathway that our students want to pursue is just as equally valid. Each year we have a respectable number of students gaining entry to the restricted courses at universities around the country - both medical schools, law, engineering and vet school at Massey. Similar number of students will enter other university courses this year.

Literacy and Numeracy

Our literacy and numeracy achievement for NCEA Level 1 has decreased by 7.1% and 10.2% respectively in comparison to 2023. The major contributing factor was the introduction of the Common Assessment Activity by NZQA. The Year 11 students in 2024 were the first cohort at Morrinsville college to sit the CAA' in 2023. For all these students, it was their first NZQA assessment, hence, the result was not great. However, many of them achieved these Literacy and Numeracy credits last year either by attempting the CAA's again or through the tagged standards. Those who chose to follow the tagged standard pathway found more opportunities to get their literacy credits but far less opportunities to get their numeracy credits (there are more standards tagged for literacy but only a few are tagged for numeracy at NCEA Level 1).

	Year 11		Year 12		Year 13	
	MC	National	MC	National	MC	National
Literacy	81.4%	76.6%	98.5%	89.1%	100%	92.2%
Numeracy	75.8%	74.6%	94.8%	89.1%	100%	92.2%

At NCEA Level 2 we had five students who did not achieve their literacy requirements and six who did not achieve the numeracy requirements. The literacy and numeracy coordinators, together with the Year 13 academic dean will be working with these students in the first half of the year to put some strategies in place to support them achieve their co-requisites. The Year 13 literacy and numeracy achievement rate has always been very impressive.

Finally, I hope the analysis of the 2024 NCEA data will give parents and caregivers a good indication of where we are sitting at as a school in terms of academic achievements in comparison to the rest of the country. I also hope that this will help them to encourage their child/ren to be the best they can be and to achieve to the highest of their ability.

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Nilesh Prasad || Deputy Principal || Morrinsville College || 06/03/2025