



9th February 2023

Kia Ora Koutou,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Welcome back to boarding life at Nelson College; it is fantastic to see rested, refreshed, and enthusiastic boys returning to both houses and to experience the warm welcome made to all of our new students. As we start a new school year, I wanted to take a moment to extend my best wishes for a successful 2023.

Firstly, I would like to thank the staff and parents who I met at the first week barbecue, for making me feel at home. To those parents who I haven't had the opportunity to meet yet, here is a little of my background:

I have been in teaching and school leadership in NZ for 22 years (having been brought home from the UK by my Kiwi wife, Sarah.) Most of those years have been spent in Auckland, teaching at Westlake Boys' High School, Macleans College, St Kentigern College and One Tree Hill College, where I was Deputy Principal for 8 years. In 2020, we joined the Covid exodus and relocated to Whangamatā, in the beautiful Coromandel where we have spent the past 2 years as part of a close-knit community and I worked at Whangamatā Area School as Associate Principal. We have 2 children, Paz, 7 who has recently enrolled at Hampden Street School and Freddie, 3 who has no idea what is going on with the move to Nelson but is happy so long as he has a matchbox car. 2 Labradors round out the family. I have a background in boarding through both my own schooling and one of my roles when at St Kentigern College. I also have a passion for boys' education, and, as an English teacher by trade, boys' literacy in particular. Coupled with a love of sport, I always encourage young men to have balance in their lives. When I learn that Pat Cummins, the Australian test cricket captain is an avid reader and always takes books in his kit bag when on tour, or that Richie McCaw still remembers the one question he got wrong on his Scholarship Statistics exam, I am encouraged by what young men can aspire to.

Secondly, it is important that I acknowledge the work of all the supervisors, matrons, catering staff and in particular, our Housemasters, Tracy McLaren and Simon Mardon in ensuring a smooth start to the year. Simon's institutional knowledge and care for the young men in his charge is impressive and Tracy has made the role her own with her attention to detail and full wrap-around of the Rutherford boys. You can be reassured that the care for your son is first class from these two housemasters.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hydro-Slide trip

Thursday 9th February. Boys will be bused out at 6:30pm, returning after a pizza dinner at around 8:30pm.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Tuesday 14th February. The start of year conferences will be in a different format for 2023. You should have received an email from Leonor White (tumuaki tuarua) with full instructions. Here is the executive summary:

Boarding students will be studying in their boarding house. They are expected to join you online for the appointment. You will be able to invite them as a guest once you have made your interview. Use your son's school email address, first name.surname@nc.school.nz to send him the invitation to join.

BOOKING INSTRUCTIONS

We will be hosting interviews for the boarding community online. Please follow the instructions below.

1. Click on this link: <https://nelsoncollege.schoolcloud.co.uk>
2. Enter this Parent Login Code: and your child's date of birth
3. Click on the interview date, Tuesday 14th February
4. Follow the instructions. You will be able to make appointments for all your children at Nelson College within the same login page.
5. You will be emailed confirmation of your interview times

You will access the same website when it is time to meet with your child's Homeroom teachers.

*Click the link for detailed instructions on how to book interviews,
<https://bit.ly/NCParentTeacher22>*

Appointments will close at 4pm on 13th February, with no bookings being able to be made after this time. If you have any issues with the booking system please contact Sandra Cahill (sc@nelson.school.nz)

Flip-Out Trampoline Park

Thursday 23rd February. Boys will be bused out, returning after a pizza dinner at around 8:30pm.

Kaiteriteri Beach Day. Date and time still to be finalised. The boys are bused out. The cost is usually \$15-\$20.

Ten Pin Bowling

Thursday 9th March. Boys will be bused out, returning after a pizza dinner at around 8:30pm.

Mountain biking – every Wednesday during the first term at Codger’s Mountain Bike Park. Leaving from here at 6.00 pm, bike trailered to the bottom of the hill. No cost. All levels of ability welcome

NCEA MATTERS

Our senior boarders’ results for 2022 were very good. We congratulate all boys for their efforts and results. Below is a summary of pass and endorsement rates at each level. These are preliminary results and there may be some balance day adjustments when the Principal’s Report from NZQA is finalised.

The results also take into account students who either left during the year or enrolled at NC partway through 2022, so were not always viable to gain certification for their respective NCEA level.

2023 NCEA RESULTS (PASS)					
Level 1 Boarders	Level 1 Day Boys	Level 2 Boarders	Level 2 Day Boys	Level 3 Boarders	Level 3 Day Boys
88%	74%	77%	82%	88%	74%

2023 NCEA WITH ENDORSEMENT (merit or excellence)					
Level 1 Boarders	Level 1 Day Boys	Level 2 Boarders	Level 2 Day Boys	Level 3 Boarders	Level 3 Day Boys
14%	31%	38%	28%	21%	20%

This week we were proud to watch the following boarders going across the stage to collect their Academic Colours at Full School Assembly: Deon Green, Copter Patikansakul, Manaia Roberts, Caleb Minson and Yuto Ono.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

All Year 13 leaders play a key role in boarding, working with staff to organise events as well as mentoring younger boys in a 'big brother/tuakana – little brother' relationship. The following boys were recognised at Full School Assembly last week and named to House Tuākana positions for 2023:

Congratulations to these boys -

Barnicoat House	Rutherford House
Devon Clarke Lachlan Hall Garrick Wong	Manaia Roberts Copter Patikansakul Caleb Minson

REMINDERS FOR YOUR SONS

As the term progresses and assessments begin, we will be reminding the boys of the following:

Organisation = Knowing when deadlines are, when pinch points will occur, and what challenges may be presented by extra-curricular commitments.

Communication = Keeping teachers, coaches and supervisors informed of any pinch points well in advance so that they can be managed. There is always a solution to challenges that arise but the onus is on students to keep the people working with them informed.

Consistency = Working away at things all of the time so that workload pressure does not pile up. "Little and often" is a wise approach to take when faced with exam preparation, or long-term assessment tasks.

Attendance System

The school emails out attendance concerns to day parents directly to make parents more immediately aware of any patterns of concern as they develop. In boarding, these emails will go to Housemasters in the first instance, who will continue to follow up concerns directly with students as has previously happened. Parents will be informed about attendance concerns by Housemasters if a pattern develops.

Useful Contact Details:

Below is an updated list of key school contacts:

Name	Position	Email
Richard Dykes	Headmaster	hm@nelson.school.nz
Tim Middleton	Director of Boarding	ml@nelson.school.nz
Simon Mardon	Housemaster Barnicoat	mn@nelson.school.nz
Tracy McLaren	Housemaster Rutherford	tmn@nelson.school.nz
Kathy McKonnon	Finance Officer <i>[Kathie takes account queries]</i>	mc@nelson.school.nz
Sandra Cahill	Boarding Administrator	sc@nelson.school.nz
Lucy Burns	Matron Barnicoat	lucy.burns@nelson.school.nz
Helen White	Matron Rutherford	helen.white@nelson.school.nz
Vikki Heays	HoD Careers/Guidance	vh@nelson.school.nz
Chris Hart	International Director	ch@nelson.school.nz
Daniel Moon	Year 9 Dean	td@nelson.school.nz
Helen Allan	Year 10 Dean	ha@nelson.school.nz
Richard Townsend	Year 11 Dean	td@nelson.school.nz
Joe Haddon	Year 12 Dean	hn@nelson.school.nz
Simon Powrie	Year 13 Dean	pe@nelson.school.nz

Ngā mihi,

Tim Middleton
Director of Boarding