



NELSON COLLEGE

TE KURA TAMATĀNE O WHAKATŪ

Friday 17th February 2023

Kia ora tātou,

Our thoughts are with the North Island communities affected by flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle. Having been through something similar in 2022, we all appreciate the impact and disruption on families and communities.

I'm appreciative that Nelson has been spared the worst of this weather and that we've been able to continue with normal routines through the past week.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

It was great to see so many whānau and students in at school on Tuesday to meet with their son's homeroom teacher. This was an important opportunity for families to meet at the start of the year, and discuss the year ahead, hopes for their son and/or any concerns that they may have. Feedback from parents and teachers was very positive.

We now hold parent-teacher conferences (PTC's) at the start of each term. The dates for 2023 are:

- **Wednesday 3rd May** **PTC's for years 9-13 students**
Thursday 4th May **(online)**
- **Tuesday 25th July** **PTC's for years 11-13 students**
 (online)
- **Tuesday 28th November** **PTC's for years 9-10 students**
 (online or face-face)

These changes are designed to improve information going home and help you talk with your son about his work at school.

The other recent innovation has been the weekly feedback reports which are a simple report to indicate your son's overall engagement in each of his classes and his attendance. This report is available on the school portal. If you haven't seen it yet, contact your son's Dean or Sandra Cahill (sc@nelson.school.nz) who can help get you into the portal.

If you want to contact the school about a subject your son is studying, please email your his teacher. His timetable states the teachers 'cypher' which is 2 letters (e.g. XX) that you attach to '@nelson.school.nz' (e.g. XX@nelson.school.nz).

Academic Colours

On Wednesday 8th February, we recognised students who had achieved highly in NCEA in 2022. Students who gained an endorsement in Level 1 or a merit endorsement at Level 2 received a 'Level 1 Colour' and students who gained an excellence endorsement received a 'Level 2 Colour' that allows them to attach the blue trim to their blazer.

It was great to see so many young men cross the stage and to have so many parents and whānau present to watch them receive their colours. We had the pleasure of former Old Boy, David Irving (former CEO of Heinz-Watties and founder of The Icehouse) attend the ceremony and talk to students.

Upcoming Events:

FEBRUARY

- 20 Parent Portal/NCEA
- University Evening event
- 23/24 Class photos

MARCH

- 7 School Athletics Day
- 15 Junior Dance (@NCG)
- 17 Year 12 RYDA Day

[Full Online Calendar](#)

Positive Behaviour

We've been impressed with the behaviour of our young men so far this year. Students are wearing their uniform well, attendance is positive and behaviour around the school is settled. If you have any questions or concerns about expectations or want support, please contact your son's Dean.

We're working through homerooms and with our student leaders to promote our 'pou' or values – Manaaki, Pono and Kairangi. As previously stated, these are an interpretation of our school motto – pietas, probitas, sapientia. In English, they mean that at Nelson College we care for others and our environment, we show integrity regardless of who is(n't) looking, and we strive for success.

I'm mindful that we work together to raise great young men. Thank you for your support.

Ngā mihi nui,

R Dykes

Tumuaki // Principal



International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

We have now begun implementing changes to the junior curriculum. We are piloting the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) for years 7-10 students. This also means that we will change the way that we report to you, by highlighting your son's progress towards specific skills. These changes will provide a clearer understanding of his current ability, and what skills he is aiming to acquire next.

We are excited by this opportunity for our school. By applying MYP principles to all subject areas, the students will gain a greater understanding of global challenges and responsibilities, and how these might impact our local communities. We will teach them to be more curious and develop better inquiry and research skills. The students will improve their critical and creative thinking skills and learn how to better communicate their ideas, whilst listening and being tolerant of other perspectives and points of view. We aim to teach students to appreciate their own culture and traditions whilst valuing those of others. By promoting these core values, improving skills and knowledge, and establishing better connections across subjects and fields of study, we aim to help our young men to be active learners who can empathise with others and contribute positively to our local, and global communities.

First All School Assembly and Academic Colours

Congratulations to all the students who earned their academic colours at our first all school assembly of 2023. The awards were presented by Old Boy and ONZM David Irving. David is known for his role as CEO of Heinz Watties Australia and as co-founder of The ICE Foundation.

David had some wonderful advice for our boys...

- Get your attitude in the right place
- Get to know who you are and what you're capable of
- Open your heart to love – from your family, your work and your friends
- Take responsibility for yourself
- Never lose your sense of humour

We couldn't agree more David. Ka pai and thank you!



Music

Preparatory students from year 7 were treated to an instrument orientation session from members of the Nelson College and Nelson College for Girls concert band. Our wonderful violin teacher, Christine Foote and former prep student, Ethan Fitzgibbon were also on hand to give some extra guidance. Students were given the opportunity to try out first-hand what it is like to play these instruments and find the sound that inspires them the most. We look forward to accompanying them on their musical journeys!



Maths Hack!

A digital clock shows time in the form HH:MM. On a certain day, what is the number of minutes between 7:59 a.m. and 2:59 p.m. that HH is greater than MM?

Answer at the end of the newsletter...

Preparatory Boys Museum and Rabbit Island Trip

We had a fun, action-packed day at Rabbit Island. The boys enjoyed playing beach volleyball and football. The tug-of-war and a game of man hunt were big hits. Of course, it wouldn't be a day at the beach without lots of swimming and a bit of boogie boarding for good measure. What a great way to make new friends at the start of the year. 😊

In Week 2, the Prep boys walked to The Nelson Provincial Museum and were fascinated by the curious contraptions on display. Each sculpture was a mix of handmade cams, cranks and other simple mechanisms. The hands-on activities were also really popular.



Information Evening

Monday 20th February (6pm – 7pm)

We're holding a parent information evening in the staffroom and school library. Whānau are welcome to join us for part or all of this evening.

School Portal (6.00 - 6.30pm ... in Staffroom)

A lot of school information is shared across the School Portal. Would you like to know more about how to access it and what information you can find here? Then come along to this 30 minute session.

NCEA (6.30 – 7.00pm ... in Staffroom)

If you are new to the NCEA system, or would like a refresh, then come along to find out more.

Yr 13 Students heading to University (6.30pm-7pm ... in School Library)

If your son is in Year 13 and is thinking of attending university in 2024, come and meet our Careers counsellor, Vikki Heays, to find out more.

Student Absences or Late

Absence

If your son is going to be absent, please notify the College by either one of the following procedures:

Completing the [Online Absence Form](#)

Email: attendance@nelson.school.nz

Phone: 03 548 3099 Ext 851 (*Please leave a clear message with the student's full name, year level and the reason for absence*).

Late

Punctuality is important and the school day commences at 8.45am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and at 9.05am on Thursday.

Explained: If your son is late to school and it is explained due to a Doctor/Dental appointment or similar, a note or explanation call/email must be received. He will need to sign in at the attendance office on his arrival at school.

Unexplained: If your son is just running late and arrives late to a timetabled period he needs to go straight to that class, and his teacher will deal with the lateness as appropriate.

Unwell or injured during the school day

He must go to reception where we will assess him as to whether he needs to go home. Parent/caregiver will be contacted to come and collect him.

It is important the student does not leave the school without signing out at reception.

Leaving school during the day

If your son needs to leave school during the day, a note, email or phone call that explains the circumstances and is signed by the parent/caregiver is required. This is taken to the Attendance Office and a Pink Slip given to the student as proof of permission granted. (Parents/Caregivers are sometimes called to confirm notes).

Leave for non-School related Activities:

Request for leave that is non-school related, during the school year, **must be addressed to your son's year level dean at least two weeks prior to the start of leave**. Please give the dates of absence from school and the purpose of the leave.

Full details and contacts can be found on the college website:

[Attendance Guidelines](#) | [Nelson College](#)

Student Office

Online Access for Parents and Caregivers

Recently all new parents and caregivers were sent an email outlining how to access the [Parent Portal](#) on the College website. This email provided sign in instructions, usernames and passwords.

Any parent or caregiver can contact the [Student Office](#) if you require your login details.

Sign into the Parent Portal to check:

- Current contact details (update if necessary)
- Timetable
- Attendance
- NCEA entries and results
- Reports
- Fees Information
- Course Selection (Term 3)

Student Office Contact: Sandra Cahill sc@nelson.school.nz

Sports Office Snippets

It's been a busy start to the year. Cricket and volleyball are underway. If your son wants to play and forgot to sign up just email Alethea se@nelson.school.nz

- Congratulations to our Tennis boys (see below)
- House sport has started with Touch happening now. Those results will be out next week.
- Today we have teams in Blenheim playing in our annual Summer Sports Exchange with Marlborough Boys College
- Championship Swimming is happening soon. If your son is a competitive swimmer he should be signed up. Get in touch if he hasn't !

We can't stress how important it is for your son to read the daily notices and to listen at assembly for all the sports notices. There are lots of opportunities across a wide range of sports and we don't want anyone to miss out!



The 2023 Nelson College Athletics Day is going to be different this year! We will be holding this event on **Thursday** 7th March at the Saxton Athletics Track (due to the front field being out of action). We will also be combining the Championship Athletics & House Athletics into one event. This will mean all students entered will receive points for their house. Those placing will also gain points along with being able to be selected for the TSS Athletics Champs on Tuesday 14th March!

Entries:

All students will be required to register for the event. Each will be asked to compete in a minimum of two events and a maximum of five. If they choose five, these will need to be either three track and two field events, or three field and two track events.

Tasman Secondary Schools Tennis

This was played on Wednesday with 40 teams from all schools in our region taking part. We had three teams competing.

We had two junior teams playing: Valentin Korneev & Sol Beaglehole, along with Jack North & Louis Grossman.

Congratulations to Xavier Buckland and Linus Muennighoff for winning the Boys Division 2 competition.



House Calendar 2023

Confirmed dates will be advised at the start of each term

Term	Start Dates	House Event
ONE	13 th February	Touch
	20 th February	Chess
	27 th February	Hockey
	7 th March	Athletics
	9 th March	Swimming
TWO	17 th May	Cross Country
	22 nd May	Volleyball
	8 th June	Spelling Bee
	12 th June	Basketball
	7 th August	Debating
THREE	23 rd August	Choir
	11 th September	Rugby Sevens
	12 th September	Football
FOUR	20 th October	Quiz & Haka
	Headmasters Cup	
	6 th November	Dodgeball
	13 th November	Ki-o-Rahi
	20 th November	Ultimate Frisbee
	27 th November	Softball

SEEING THINGS DIFFERENTLY

doing things differently



Disability or difference – is it just a matter of how you choose to look at things?

Brown fur, check. Tail, check. Four legswait what??!!!

Look closely and you will see one of these dogs has three legs. It's all a matter of seeing things from another angle.

Look closely at the typical high school classroom at Nelson College.....one of the boys is using a laptop for his writing due to his dysgraphia. One has an FM system for his auditory processing, so that he can focus better on his teacher's voice in a busy classroom. Another has a colour coded timetable to help him self-manage his day. There's a boy who receives discrete support from a Teacher Aide to break down the learning task. And there is a boy who has chosen to work in a quiet space because this makes having ASD in a busy high school environment that bit more manageable.

All of these small tweaks will help all of our students, but for some, they are the difference between accessing learning or not. They are the difference between failure or success, positive self-image or feeling dumb. And they are the difference between good behaviour or disruptive behaviour to mask a learning challenge....

So. Difference, disability, disorder...it's all matter of how we choose to see it. Will we see all the things our students have in common, or will we focus on their differences and worry that we can't possibly 'teach to the edges.'

At Nelson College we are getting better at understanding difference and knowing that we all learn differently. We now know that small tweaks to the environment or resources are achievable. We know about 'the myth of average', and we know that one size doesn't fit all. We understand that small things can make a huge difference and we know that all students have a right to access the curriculum.

We think outside the box at Nelson College and learning support, inclusion and our mindsets have come along in leaps and bounds in recent years. Understanding different learning needs, reducing barriers, and adding new strategies to our teaching will always be a work in progress but, we are making huge strides in the right direction.

Yours faithfully,

Echo and Scoob support dogs in training. (With some input from human Deb Doherty)

Lost Property

Reunite yourself with your lost property. Check at reception and in (new) Gym 1.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

*Please note, the flooding in Auckland will have an impact on our uniform supply.

Bucket hats and caps are available

NORMAL HOURS TERM TIME 2023

Tuesdays and Thursdays

1.30 -- 2.15pm

3.15pm - 4.00pm

Uniform Shop - NC Store (nelsoncollege.school.nz)



FULLY FUNDED OUTWARD BOUND COURSES

Outward Bound runs Adapted courses for secondary school students with physical disabilities. We are now taking enrolments for the following 2023 courses:

LEAPS & BOUNDS ACTIVATE

A course for physically disabled youth (13-16yrs) to attend with a parent or caregiver.

Fri 7 - Fri 14 April 2023

YOUTH ACTIVATE

An 8 day course for physically disabled youth aged 16-17 years.

Thur 20 - Thur 27 April 2023

Contact us for more information

Email: adapted@outwardbound.co.nz

Freephone: 0800 688 927

www.outwardbound.co.nz/adapted



Outward Bound Adapted Courses





Poipoia Te Pitomata Harnessing Potential



As poipoi means to nurture and grow, the kaupapa of this FREE programme is about harnessing the potential of rangatahi through nurturing them to grow as future first aiders and rangatira in their communities.

Hato Hone St John Community Education and Poipoia te Pitomata gifts rangatahi knowledge around:

- > Āwhina Tuatahi / Level 1 First Aid Training
- > Rangatiratanga / Leadership journeys
- > Hauora o te tinana / Physical Health around Advance First Aid
- > Whātuaia te waiora / Wellbeing Strategies
- > Ko wai koe? / Growth and understanding of self, to enhance confidence.

Be a part of the kōrero, that helps build who you are.

"Inā kei te mōhio koe ko wai koe. i anaa mai koe i hea.
kei te mōhio koe ke te anaa atu ki hea"

If you know who you are, and where you are from, then you will know where you are going

MOTUEKA RŌPŪ

Āhea/Dates:

Monday 13th March 2023 - Thursday 16th March 2023

Kei hea?/Where?:

Unit N, 530 Main Rd Stoke, Nelson 7011
PO Box 2004, Stoke Nelson 7041

Te wa? Times?

9am Start - 3pm Finish

Morning tea/snacks provided - Please bring your own lunch Only 20 Spaces -
registration closes Monday 7th March 2023
To register email Desire.morris@stjohn.org.nz

or
CLICK HERE

This programme is funded by



 **St John**

AGES 9 TO 18 CODING LESSONS



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- Learn coding languages to create technology.
- An expert tutor is online to help during lessons.
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Maths Hack Answer:

Answer: HH is greater than MM for a total of 53 minutes