



28th June 2023

Kia ora koutou,

As we move towards the last week of term, we reflect on the resilience of your sons in the way that they have responded to the disruptions to learning. The PPTA industrial action has impacted everyone and, at times like these, the benefits of boarding really come to the fore. Boys are able to remain in school and easily access learning and resources in a remote setting when the rolling strikes impact their respective year levels. As we know, there is no replacement for face-to-face teaching and learning though and the news of arbitration to hopefully resolve the industrial action is welcome news indeed.

The reciprocal hosting of international students sees most of our boys make their way down to Nelson College for Girls for the up-coming holidays. Some students head off to sunnier climes and we wish them well in re-connecting with family and friends overseas.

The Boarding Open Day on 13th May was a huge success with several families in attendance. I have had the pleasure of interviewing some fine young men and making official offers to many families who are enrolling their sons for 2024. They all cite the Open Day as a significant factor in their decision making. Again, we extend our thanks to all the staff and students involved on the day and to Ed Chapman-Cohen (RUT 1988-1992) father of George (Y12), Will (Y11) and Monty (Y9) who spoke so openly about his and Kate's experience as boarding parents.

We are past halfway in the academic year and some boys will be well into their NCEA internal assessments. Term 3 will be the start of the 'big push' which coincides with the middle of winter. Whilst the shortest day is behind us, we continue to encourage boys to look after their health to ensure that they are fit and well for all that Nelson College has to offer, both within and beyond the classroom.

This term we farewell Luke Robinson, Barnicoat Supervisor. Luke has been an excellent supervisor, always looking to bring fun and camaraderie to his duties and the activities that he has been involved in. Luke and Natalie are heading off travelling and then relocating to Australia, and we farewelled them and Year 11 student, Hannes with a feast of venison last night in Barnicoat. With Luke leaving us, we have appointed Lucy Burns to a combined role of Supervisor and Matron. Barnicoat parents will all know Lucy and the outstanding holistic care she provides to their sons; she will be a valuable addition to the supervisor team.



Simon Mardon's initiative to resurrect old Barnicoat boarding photos that have been in storage and restore them to the walls has been well-received; please come and have a look when you are picking your son/sons up this week. I hope you have a fantastic break with the boys; again, thank you all for your support and kind words throughout the term.

Ngā mihi

Tim Middleton
Director of Boarding

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mid-Winter Christmas

Tuesday 25th July

College Open Day

Saturday 29th May