



9<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Kia ora koutou,

We are now well into term 3 and, as I look out onto the front field with its coating of frost on a beautiful Nelson winter's morning, the hint of spring we had recently is a distant memory.

As ever, there is a great deal of activity at the college, in particular, the big push for boys as they work towards certification in their respective NCEA levels, await the results of the Year 10 literacy and numeracy assessments, or continue with junior common assessment tasks. Winter sport continues, with an excellent season for the 1<sup>st</sup> XV culminating in a close fought final, played in front of a large crowd on our home field against a Christchurch Boys' High School team that proved just too strong on the day. Well done to Zyon (BAR), Sione (BAR) and Oliver (RUT) for the season. 3 other rugby teams that boarders play for have headed across to Marlborough today to compete in their respective grades. Other sports, including hockey, football and basketball that our boarders are involved in also continue and we wish those boys all the best.

Last Thursday, we were delighted to return to the recently renovated Dining Hall after the fire of winter 2022 that put it out of commission for the best part of a year. We acknowledged the resilience and good spirits of the canteen staff who have endured trying working conditions through all weathers. We also recognised the grace and good humour with which Tracy McLaren, housemaster of Rutherford, has adapted the hostel to accommodate meal preparation and service. We will be finally going ahead with the Mid-Winter Christmas on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August, and we thank those families who have provided meat for the boys and staff to enjoy.

The reciprocal hosting of international students saw most of our boys make their way down to Nelson College for Girls for the term 2 holidays and we look forward to welcoming their girls at the end of this term. Thank you for your support of the parent-teacher conferences held in person and via teams last week. I have had the pleasure of catching up with a number of boarding parents through sibling enrolment interviews, or on the sidelines of sporting fixtures and the positive feedback you have given about your sons' various teachers has all been passed on. On the subject of enrolments, I have enjoyed meeting so many young men who are applying to enrol in boarding for 2024. Murchison Area School is leading the charge, and at last count, 7 young men will be joining us next year from that region. We are also excited by the number of International Students who are coming back after the disruption of the pandemic and the mix of cultures in both houses is great for our Kiwi boys to experience.



The College Open Day on 29<sup>th</sup> August was a huge success with over 300 people coming to see the world of opportunities on offer at Nelson College. I would like to mention 4 boarders, Rupert Hammond (Year 9 RUT), Leo Yianakis (Year 10 RUT), Harvey Newman (Year 10 RUT) and Angus Cotching (Year 10 RUT) who all responded to a last-minute call up to lead tour groups of parents and students. These boys had no preparation and supported their school by walking towards the pressure; we acknowledged their manaaki and pono at full school assembly in week 3.

I would like to remind all our senior students that now is the time to ensure that all assessments are up-to-date and that they are communicating with their teachers about credits and external assessment preparation. The clock is ticking, boys.

I hope this newsletter finds you all well; my next communication will coincide with the start of spring and, with it, the prospect of a great term 4 ahead; again, thank you all for your support of your sons and the Nelson College boarding community.

Ngā mihi

Tim Middleton  
Director of Boarding

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Mid-Winter Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August