

NEWSLETTER

NELSON COLLEGE

Te Kura Tamatāne O Whakatū



Kia ora koutou,

3 May 2024

Welcome back to the autumn term at Nelson College. I trust everybody has had a rejuvenating break. Our young men are ready to immerse themselves in the vibrant journey of learning and achieving - both in the classrooms and on the sports fields, as well as through cultural activities and around the campus at large. As we embark on this new term, I would ask that we all renew our commitment to excellence in all endeavours. Nelson College offers so much opportunity; take advantage of those opportunities and try something new. School days should be some of the best days of your life!

Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend the local ANZAC Day service in Nelson during the break as I was honouring my family's commitment to both World Wars in Christchurch; the final resting place for our much-loved relatives and servicemen. I understand the Nelson ANZAC commemoration was inspiring and our young men, alongside young women from our sister school, Nelson Girls' College, spoke extremely well and were a real credit to their schools. Thank you to all those who participated in the Service; as time passes, I get the sense that these services become more poignant and relevant.

We have so much to look forward to this term:

Our joint production with NGC, 'One Man – Two Guvnors', a show that I'm sure all the community will enjoy - there is nothing like a school production for pure entertainment, in my view! The show runs Mon 27 - Fri 31st May. You can read more about the play and access the link for tickets on our [Facebook](#) page.

Our Boarding Open Day on May 18th was hugely popular last year and we hope to see more families visiting this year.

The first round of our 1st XV's tough schedule on May 18th (11.00 am) at Nelson College, where they take on Christchurch Boys' High School, a team I once played for over 50 years ago. This time around, my loyalty lies firmly in the NC camp!

Our annual Rugby Quad Tournament, celebrating 100 years of existence in 2024, will be hosted on our magnificent front playing field in the penultimate week of the term. I would like to acknowledge and thank Old Boy, Iain Graham, and his team of volunteers for the countless hours they put into maintaining our playing surfaces.

This will also be my final term at Nelson College. Our new Tumuaki/Principal, Richard Washington, was appointed at the end of Term 1 and we will be welcoming him and his family into the community at the beginning of Term 3. You can read more about our new Principal below and on behalf of the entire Nelson College community, I would like to congratulate Richard on his appointment and wish him nothing but success and fulfilment in the years ahead.

I will certainly look back on my short tenure at Nelson College with much affection and satisfaction. More about that at the end of the term, but for now, thank you all for making my brief journey so fulfilling and enjoyable.

new tumuaki richard washington

During the break, we were delighted to announce the appointment of Richard Washington to the position of Tumuaki / Principal of Nelson College. Richard is a highly respected, caring, and trusted leader and boys' school educator. Originally from Canterbury, Richard has worked both in New Zealand and internationally, in both secondary and primary schools and is currently the Deputy Head of an international school in South Korea. We look forward to welcoming Richard to the whānau in Term 3.



A word from Richard...

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new incoming Principal of Nelson College. My name is Richard Washington, and I am excited to embark on this journey alongside you and your sons.

My wife, Claire, and our three primary school-aged children are originally from Christchurch, but we are currently teaching and living in South Korea. We have had an incredible experience, but it is time to return to our tūrangawaewae, New Zealand. As a family, we are eagerly anticipating our move to Nelson. The beauty of this area is not lost on us; we have spent many memorable holidays at Lake Rotoiti, with Claire's family originating from Nelson. Additionally, her father and grandfather are Nelson College Old Boys, so they will watch with interest from afar!

As a family, we cherish the values of community, education, and growth. These are values that resonate strongly with the ethos of Nelson College. I am particularly drawn to the rich tradition of boys' education that is deeply embedded within the fabric of this institution. There is something undeniably special and unique about fostering a strong boys' culture, one that celebrates diversity, fosters resilience, and encourages excellence in all endeavours.

At Nelson College, our mission is clear: to bring out the best in our young men. This goes beyond academic achievement; it also encompasses their holistic and character development. As educators, we have the privilege and responsibility to guide our students on this journey of self-discovery and growth.

But we cannot do it alone. The importance of community cannot be overstated. It is the collective effort of parents, teachers, staff, and the wider community that truly makes Nelson College a thriving hub of learning and development. Together, we create an environment where our boys feel supported, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.

I look forward to working with the Nelson College team from the beginning of Term 3. I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for what lies ahead. I look forward to getting to know each of you and working closely with you to ensure the success and well-being of your young men.

let's talk about it



Truancy rates in Aotearoa are of notable concern, with specific statistics reflecting the seriousness of the issue. According to the latest data available for 2023, a significant portion of students did not meet the criteria for regular attendance, which is defined as attending more than 90% of the school term. This reflects broader attendance challenges within the schooling system in New Zealand ([Education Counts](#)).

truancy

Truancy, or chronic absenteeism, has wide-ranging consequences for students, schools, and communities. It undermines academic performance as absent students miss crucial learning opportunities, leading to diminished academic skills, particularly in reading and maths.

Socially, truant students lose out on vital interactions needed to develop proper social skills, increasing their risk of disengagement and eventually dropping out. This not only impacts their future employment and earnings potential but also places them at higher risk of legal issues and dependency on social welfare.

Additionally, truancy can exacerbate mental health problems like anxiety and depression and reflects broader societal issues, potentially escalating youthful offending and other community challenges.

tackling truancy together

Like any other school, Nelson College is affected by truancy. We want our young men to be engaged learners, to feel like school is a place of value, and somewhere they want to be. Working together with parents and guardians, we can create such an environment for students at risk for truancy.

communicate openly

Talk about the reasons for absenteeism openly and without judgement. Reasons could include academic challenges, social issues, or bullying.

We don't judge the child - or the parent. Talk to us, gain insights into your child's school life and let us help.

lean on your dean

address underlying issues

If issues around mental health or bullying exist, we can connect you and your son with the relevant professionals.

Communicate the importance of attending school, establish routines and set fair consequences for unexpected absences.

set clear expectations

use positive reinforcement

Use rewards to acknowledge and encourage improved attendance.

Regularly monitor your child's attendance and academic progress to demonstrate your ongoing commitment to their education.

stay engaged

understand legal and school requirements

Be aware of the legal consequences of truancy and the specific attendance [policies](#) of your child's school.

If you are concerned about your child's truancy, please be assured that we are here to help. Reach out to your Dean for support.

sports office snippets



Welcome to another busy term. We have two sports exchanges and we are hosting the 98th Quadrangular Tournament for 1st XV at the end of June. Your son should be registered for hockey, basketball and rugby by now. If he is not, please contact Alethea se@nelson.school.nz

Hockey – Division 2 and Division 4 start this weekend. Division 5 will start in three weeks.

Basketball – Sr A & B starts on Tuesday and then the College Competition starts May 15.

Rugby – U17 grade starts this weekend. U14 & U15 trials are happening next week.

MTB – if your son has not registered for NZSS Nationals, please do this now. The event is in Christchurch Oct 7-10 (holidays). Spaces are limited. If he attended TSS or SISS events you would have received an email about NZSS.

sailing



The sailing team competed in the Secondary Schools Team Racing Nationals in New Plymouth during the last week of the holidays. The weather was challenging and couldn't have been any more changeable throughout the week, from no wind to 45 knot gusts and sleeting rain to burning sun!



The team was initially seeded into the Silver Fleet and managed to hold their position throughout the five days of the regatta, finishing 6th in Silver fleet, 14th of 30 overall and retaining their title of best Nelson team.

The boys even had time to proudly represent Nelson College at the New Plymouth Anzac Service.

Well done boys on a great week.



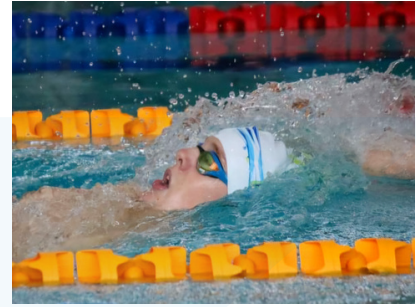
swimming



It's a wee while ago now, but we couldn't let a newsletter slip by without congratulating Oliver Morton and Lucas Bell on their wins at the 2024 Apollo Projects NZ Age Group Championships.

Lucas swam away with silver for the (14YR) 50 metre backstroke, 200 backstroke, 100 backstroke and bronze in the 200 breaststroke while our Head Boy Oliver Morton took away the silver in the 50 metre breaststroke (17/18YR). We don't have a picture of Oliver (probably because he was too fast), so who you're seeing here is Lucas!

Well done boys. This is an awesome achievement and we couldn't be more proud of you both!



drama

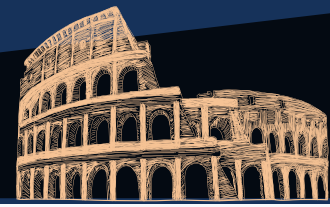


One Man - Two Guvnors

It won't be long now until the curtain raises for our joint NC and NCG production of 'One Man - Two Guvnors', by Richard Bean. Don't miss out on what's bound to a thigh-slappingly hilarious night out! Tickets are a steal at just \$15 for youth and \$20 for adults. Find out more and book your tickets [HERE](#)



nc vietnam/cambodia trip



It's a wrap on the 2024 Nelson College trip to Vietnam and Cambodia!

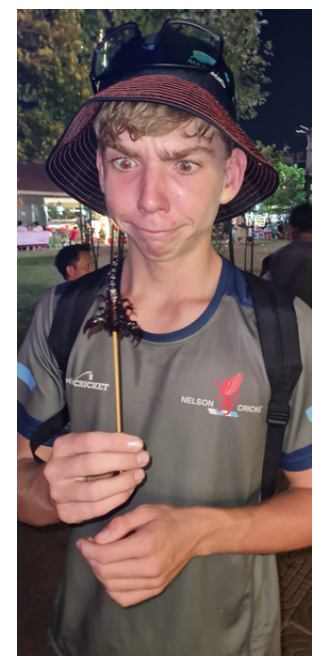
12 lucky young men embarked on the life-altering two-week trip at the end of Term 1. They covered a lot of ground in a short time, immersing themselves in the fascinating cultures of these two beautiful countries.

With the beauty comes great heartache however, and the boys learned all about the sometimes-tragic histories of these places. Meeting with Tuol Sleng survivors and land mine survivors, the boys did not shy away from the reality that many people still live with today.

No doubt they took heart in some of the ingenious innovations taking place today to improve conditions such as the rats that are trained to detect land mines!



Cooking classes, lessons in local agricultural practices and weaving helped to connect the boys to the way of life there on a deeper level and of course, no trip to Cambodia is complete without a visit to the awe-inspiring Angkor Wat temple complex. Thanks to Mr. Powrie and Mr. Van der Velden who headed the trip - their fourth to this region. This truly was, an education.





The deep understanding and the observance of ANZAC day among New Zealand's young people is perhaps an anomaly in the modern age where information comes thick and fast, and events of only yesterday are old news. This year, as always, our young people stepped up to pay their respects, reminding us of how intact the respect for the ANZAC servicemen remains, in Aotearoa.

Nelson College students were present at the New Plymouth Dawn Service and here in Nelson itself, our head boy Oliver Morton gave a rousing speech honouring the Old Boys who served. Those who came home, and those who did not.



Our own special assembly had to wait until school resumed after the holidays, and we were honoured to receive Major General Tim Gall of the New Zealand Defence Force who spoke to the boys about the tragedy of war, and its impact on returning servicemen and women.

Oliver again addressed the hall in his capacity as Head Boy after which we made our way to the Scriptorium, laying wreaths, singing the New Zealand National Anthem and lowering the flag as a lone bugler played the Last Post. If you would like to see the video of our service, it can be accessed [HERE](#)





Keep checking out our events on the Nelson College [Careerwise web page](#)

TERM 2 - THE CAREER EXPLORATION TERM!

It's going to be a busy one! With a range of Career Exploration Days, work experience, university info evenings, and open days, Term 2 brings lots of opportunities for our students to explore different employment, trades, and study options at polytechnics or universities. Find out what is available and sign up to make the most of these low-stakes exploration options!

Term 2 is also the term for two of our biggest annual career events:

- The [Careers Roadshow](#), which brings together industry training providers as well as universities and polytechnics from across the country.
- [Fantastic Futures](#), which showcases the key industries and employers in our region alongside the variety of study options at NMIT.

CAREERS SPOTLIGHT:

Love the outdoors? Enjoy climbing trees? Comfortable at heights? Click [here](#) to watch an Arborist's day in the life video.

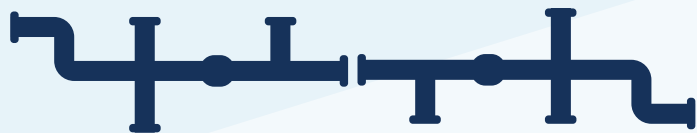


volunteering news

NC VOLUNTEERING CLUB

This term we will be supporting the kaupapa behind Pink Shirt Day. If you want to get involved please come along to our meetings:
Mondays, 11am, library

Remember to keep logging those volunteering and service hours!



3 May	Discover Forestry Big Day Out	Registration Closed
8 May	Conservation	Registration Closed
9 May	BECA – Planning, Urban Architecture Enviro Science	Registration Closed
13 May	Parent Information Evening University Scholarships	
15 May	Aquaculture Day	Registration Essential
21 May	Nelson College Roadshow (see booklet attached to event with information about each stall holder)	
22 May	Parent Evening for Roadshow @ Nayland College . Open to all	Registration Essential
23 May	Victoria Uni Information Evening	Registration Essential
26-27 May	Otago Uni Open Day	Registration Essential
27 May	Parent Information Evening: University Halls	
27-31 May	NMIT Taster Week	Registration Essential
28 May	UC Information Evening	Registration Essential
6 June	Tradie Day	Registration Essential
10 June	AI Hacks for Job Hunting	Registration Essential
12 June	Forestry Day (a different event to 3rd May) TBC re (info to come)	
25 June	Auckland University Online Information Evening	Registration Essential
25 June	Chiropractic Information Evening	Registration Essential
26 June	Fantastic Futures	Registration Essential
31 July	Hospitality Day (TBC)	Registration Essential
23 Aug	Victoria University Open Day	Registration Essential
23 Aug	Massey University Open Day (for COCA campus, Wgtn)	Registration Essential
30 Aug	UC Open Day	Registration Essential
7 Sept	Empower – esports and e-careers	Registration Essential

Remember to check your @nc email address regularly for events!

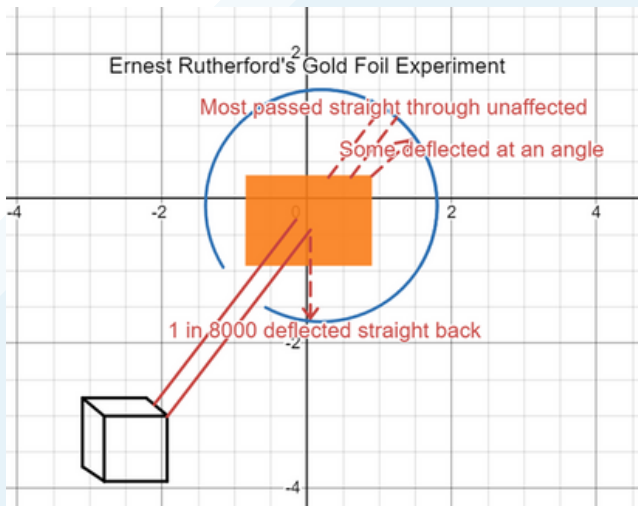


Mathematics never stops. Nelson College students have been hard at work with lots happening in the classroom and beyond. A couple of recent standouts include Year 12 graphing work with Desmos, the Otago University Junior Mathematics Competition, and Year 13 students participating in the University of Canterbury STAR programme.

In the latter half of Term Two, Year 12 students were learning about the relationship between non-linear equations and graphs. For this purpose, the students use Desmos, an online graphing tool. Some students produced some great Kiwi themed designs including the ensign of the RNZ Air Force (Caleb Veluppillai), an L & P can (Luca Hippolite), and a representation of Lord Rutherford's famous gold foil experiment (Ryan Thelin).



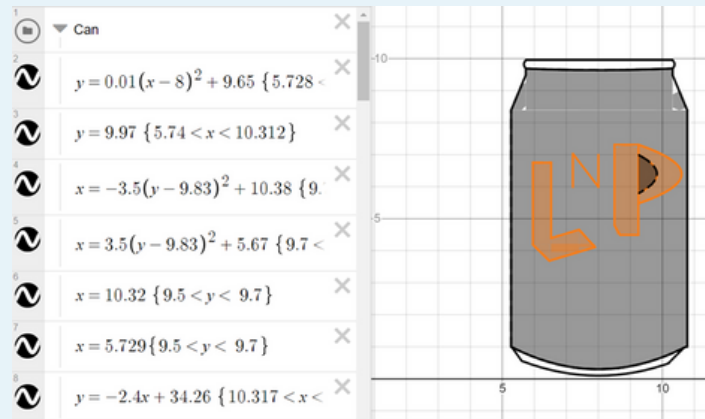
RYAN THELIN



CALEB VELUPPILLAI

In 2024 three students are participating in the STAR Maths programme run by the University of Canterbury. Kael Matthew, James Ben, and Leon James have been enjoying the challenge of extending their learning. All three students produced some awesome work in the first assessment of the year are making great progress.

The Otago University Junior Mathematics Competition occurred during April with 16 students from across Year 9 and Year 10 participating. This competition always provides a big challenge, so congratulations to everyone who participated. Six students managed to be in the top 15% of participants from across Aotearoa and have been invited to participate in the second round of the competition on the 15th of May.



LUCCA
HIPPOLITE

These students are Fabian Stewart, Dougal Merriman, David Nguyen and Troy Kelso from Year 9, and Tom Schaper, and Harry Playford from Year 10.



art

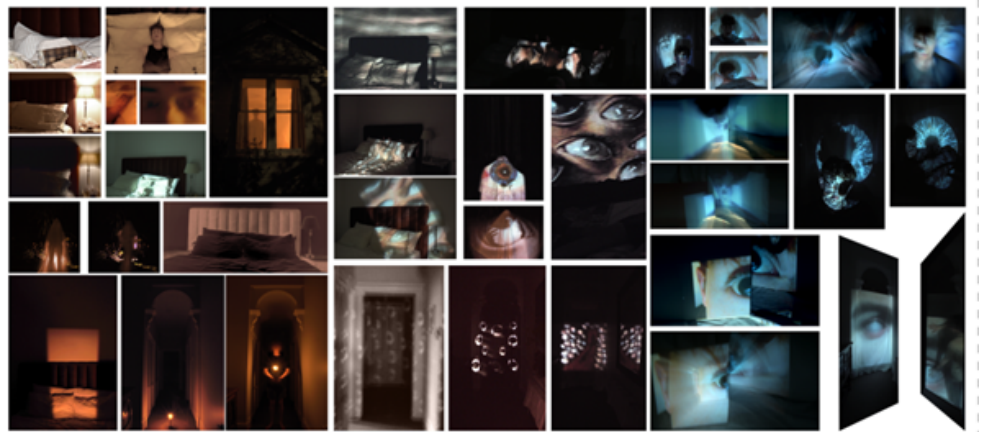


The Top Art Tour, organised by NZQA, showcases Level 3 Visual Arts boards, with displays in a range of galleries, museums, and schools throughout the country. The exhibition is open to the public at the Suter Art Gallery Nelson - June 6 - July 3. Two of last year's Year 13 photography students have been selected to exhibit their photography artboards as part of the tour - don't miss it!

photography



KEIAN
BROWN



IAN
HAYES

preparatory school news



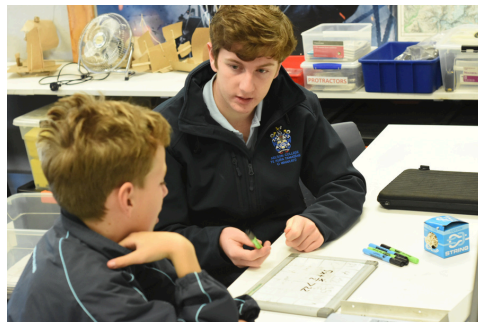
Prep students are benefitting from weekly maths mentoring from senior students. Many thanks to the college students for taking time out of their week to teach the boys and also demonstrating great leadership qualities.

This is what they had to say about the experience:

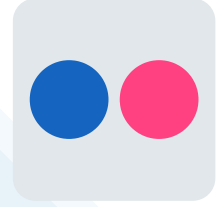
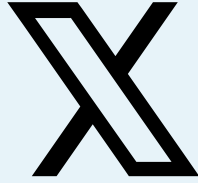
"The college student helped explain things that I found difficult before".

"It was a good chance to have one-on-one tutoring to help us with our maths"

"It was fun to learn from other students"



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notices



Nelson College Playhouses for Sale

Now that the weather's cooling down, keep outside play on the table with this beautifully made playhouse.

Handcrafted by our building students, hours of skill, attention and know how has gone into making these playhouses safe, strong, but most importantly - FUN!!!!

\$1400

Enquiries:
bh@nelson.school.nz

Nelson Colleges Senior Production

One Man- Two Guvnors

By Richard Bean

'He's got two jobs- Comedy Genius'

Featuring music by 'The Craze'

Mon 27th - Fri 31st May 7pm
Nelson College School Hall

Tickets - Student \$15 - Adult \$20
Available at Nelson College and Nelson College for Girls- Main Office
Ph 03- 5483099



It's almost time for our annual Boarding open day. If you know any families who might be interested in boarding with us, share this newsletter with them!

Nelson College Boarding Open Day May 18



Scan the code or
register your interest
at nelson.school.nz



Key Speakers
Tours

1st XV v ChCh Boys High School

NELSON COLLEGE 2ND XV



VS



VS



v. NPBHS 2nd XV

THURSDAY 18TH APRIL | 12:00pm | WRFC, HATAITAI PARK

v. St Pats Silverstream 2nd XV

SATURDAY 20TH APRIL | 10:00am | ST PATS SILVERSTREAM

QUAD 2024



NELSON - JUNE 25-27



NELSON COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION
Proudly hosts



THE 98TH QUADRANGULAR RUGBY TOURNAMENT
**CHARITY GALA DINNER
& AUCTION NIGHT**
WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE

ESOL VOLUNTEER READERS NEEDED!



DO YOU HAVE THE TIME TO COME AND
READ ONE ON ONE WITH ESOL STUDENTS?

Email ag@nelson.school.nz



C₀N
Highland Pipe Band

LIKE THE SOUND OF BAGPIPES & DRUMS?

Come and learn with the
City of Nelson Highland Pipe Band

- ✦ Bagpipe lessons offered here at Nelson College while you learn, then join the band
- ✦ Drum lessons held on Monday evenings

Contact the band to find out more:
cityofnelsonband@gmail.com or text 021 1799419