



7<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Kia ora koutou,

We are now well into term 3 and thankfully, the worst of the nasty 'flu virus is over. I must acknowledge the work of our staff, in particular our housemasters and matrons, who have been looking after those boys in sick bay. As well as the daily organisation of our 2 hostels, they have ensured that your sons have been well cared for. Whilst a cold snap has been coating the front field in frost in the mornings, the days are getting longer, and we can sense the coming of spring in the air.

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 is going well, with the outstanding results in the regular season for the 1<sup>st</sup> XV meaning that they host Marlborough Boys' High School on Saturday for the semi-final. We have had packed houses for home games this year and the Quad Tournament was a wonderful occasion in the college's history; hopefully the boys will be well supported this weekend. All the best to Zyon (BAR), Samu (BAR) and Oliver (RUT) for the game. 3 other rugby teams that boarders play for have headed down to Culverden 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.

The Mid-Winter Christmas on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July was a huge success, and we thank those families who provided meat for the boys and staff to enjoy. Again, Tracy beautifully decorated the Barnicoat Prep Room, and, for some of our International Students, it was a lovely reminder of Christmas in the Northern Hemisphere. The reciprocal hosting of international students saw us host students from Nelson College for Girls for the holidays. We also welcomed 13 new International Students in the term 2 holidays, and they have settled in well to boarding life.

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 both 2024 and 2025. We are the school of choice for boys across all year levels and they are coming from far and wide to experience all that we offer here at Nelson College.



The College Open Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> August was a huge success with over 300 people coming to see the world of opportunities on offer at Nelson College. This follows on from the success of our Boarding Open Day, earlier in term 2. I would again like to extend our thanks to Ed Chapman-Cohen (RUT 1988-1993) who, for the second year running spoke about his experiences of boarding at Nelson College both as a student and now as a father to 3 current boarders.

I addressed all the boys at assembly last week and reminded them of their academic priorities this term. Now is the time to ensure that all assessments are up-to-date and that boys are communicating with their teachers about credits and external assessment preparation. Our school exams are in Week 8, and these serve as 'derived grade' assessments should boys not be able to attend the NZQA external assessments in term 4 for valid reasons. Assessment Week also presents an opportunity for those boys in years 10-13 to sit the Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite assessment if they have not already passed them. We wish all boarders the best of luck in these important assessments.

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  
Deputy Principal and Director of Boarding

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Winter Tournament Week

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Assessment Week

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September