

NEWSLETTER

NELSON COLLEGE

Te Kura Tamatāne o Whakatū



18 Oct 2024

Kia ora tātou,

Kia ora whānau,

I hope you all had a restful holiday break. It has been a pleasure to reconnect with the boys and hear about their adventures and goals for these final weeks at the College, whether as Seniors preparing for exams or Juniors gearing up for next year.

This week marks 12 years since much-loved Nelson College student Matt Gunther sadly passed away from surgical complications. Each year, boys from our school and Greymouth High (the school Matt would have attended had he not chosen the boarding life) come together to honour Matt's memory with the Matt Gunther Sports Exchange. This will be my first time attending the exchange, and my thoughts and thanks go to the Gunther family, who have retained close ties with the College and work extremely hard to make the event a fun and rewarding experience every year.

We've had some outstanding success at the recent NZ Schools National Mountain Biking Championships, where I had the privilege of cheering on our boys in Christchurch. Results are included later in the newsletter.

There are even more achievements to celebrate. Earlier this year, two teams from Nelson College participated in the 2024 Engineering NZ Science Competition. The Year 13 team of Jamie Ben, Kael Matthew, Oliver Morton, and Leon James earned a "Highly Commended" award, placing them in the top 11 out of 275 teams—a remarkable accomplishment.

We also congratulate Bihandu Nanayakkara, who secured a bronze medal in the National Junior Squash Championships in Auckland, competing against 400 participants.

Rock band The Shedheads created a buzz at the recent opening of JB Hi-Fi in Nelson, playing a 40-minute set alongside three other bands and being chosen to support NZ artist Tiki Taane at the upcoming Appleby Vibes concert. We are excited to see these exceptional young musicians recognised and rewarded for their hard work and talent.

As always, Term 4 at a large school like ours is full of activity. We are preparing to say goodbye to our Year 13 students, who have been remarkable representatives of the crest and the College. We look forward to celebrating their accomplishments in the weeks ahead.

I would like to acknowledge our Head Boy, Oliver Morton, who recently dedicated his time to coaching visually impaired swimmers at a three-day camp in Christchurch. Ollie truly exemplifies the qualities we value in a Nelson College Head Boy, embodying our core values of manaaki (care), pono (integrity), and kairangi (excellence).

Summer sports are now in full swing, and our cricket and touch teams have begun their competitions. It's been great to visit many classrooms this week and see the boys re-engaging with their studies, ready for the final stretch of the term. The school is alive with energy as our young men refocus on their work and reconnect with their peers.

I look forward to connecting with many of you at the upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support and partnership—together, as families, whānau, school, and community, we are helping our boys become the very best they can be.

"Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini."
"My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective."

Ngā mihi nui,

Richard Washington

Tumuaki/Principal

Manaaki/Care

Pono/Integrity

Kairangi/Success

attendance



As always, if your son is going to be absent, please notify the College by one of the following procedures:

Completing the [Online absence form](#)

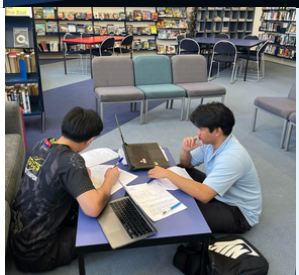
Email: attendance@nelson.school.nz

Phone: 03 548 3099 Ext 851

Last term saw a lot of early illness. Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be difficult at times. Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora have changed their guidance for schools and parents. It is no longer necessary to keep your son at home with mild symptoms. If you are unsure please get in touch with us or follow this link [Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school - guidance for parents and caregivers \(info.health.nz\)](#)

We will be in touch with more information regarding our attendance procedures and how you can continue to help your son achieve success with this during the term.

library

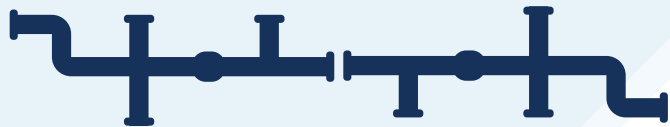


Reminder – our school Library is open each school day till 3:55pm. Come along to study, read or just to chill. ESA study subject guides are also available in our Library.



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

careers events in the pipeline



17 Oct	Studylink and Real Me application support session	
17 Oct	Find your Fit – Accounting Careers Event with CAANZ	
22 Oct	Maritime Discovery Day	Registrations closed
22 Oct	Employability Workshop 9.30am – 1.30pm @Nelson College	Register here

university preparation

University Halls Applications

Congratulations to all of our students who have been offered a place in a university hall. Especially so if you were offered a place at UC – that is a bit like winning the lottery this year with the increased enrolments!

If you are still waiting on a place – there will be movement each couple of weeks. In the meantime email your halls of choice and let them know you are keen to still be considered for their hall.

- ▶ Urgent AND important!!
- ▶ If you have been offered a place in a hall, make sure that you complete your agreement and do all of the admin/paperwork required to accept your place by the deadline date! (approx. Oct 29th – but check!!). If you do not complete this, then your offer will be revoked and your place offered to someone else, and that would be Bad! Bad! Bad!

University Scholarships

Congratulations if you received a scholarship! Awesome effort on your applications, and well done on being a stand out candidate! We will be celebrating you at next week's assembly, and your names will also be included in the Prizegiving booklet, so please do let me know if you received a University Scholarship so I can make sure you walk across the stage.

University Course Planning

This is an important part of being fully enrolled at university.

You need to complete this by adding in the papers you are studying at university. This task is important BUT NOT urgent. Get it done before 13 December. I encourage you to get this completed BEFORE you leave for exams so you can park all of your university things and focus on sitting your exams, and getting UE.

Registering with Study Link

This is important as there are no Fees Free for 2025 in first year. You need to have completed your registration BEFORE Dec 16th in order to get your fees paid and receive your first payment in the first two weeks of university.

This task is important BUT NOT urgent. Get it done before 16 December.

Again, I encourage you to get this completed BEFORE you start your exams so you can park all of your university things and focus on exams and UE.

careers spotlight: recreation coordinator

If you love the outdoors, sports, working with kids, then a Recreation Coordinator could be of interest to you. Enjoying having fun, planning, designing and organising events for the community are also part of this role. Find out more about being a Recreation Coordinator in this video.



leaving school magazine

The latest issue features short profiles on young people making successful careers for themselves in these areas: Accounting Technician, Agronomist, Auditor, Automotive Refinisher, Builder, Collision Repair Technician, Environmental Scientist, Hydrographic Surveyor, Marine Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Merchandise Manager and Rugby Game Developer. Also included in this issue are tips on applying for a Student Loan in 2025, preparing a great CV, Interview Tips, a Job Seeker Support feature and tips on KiwiSaver for students.



gateway success: jack campbell

Last year, Jack spent Fridays at NMIT, completing a Mechanical Engineering course through The Top of the South Trades Academy and enhancing his skills with a welding night class. This year, the Gateway programme supported him in securing work experience at Heslop's, a local engineering firm, where he works one day a week in their Mechanical Engineering workshop.

Heslop's has been a strong supporter of the Gateway programme at Nelson College, employing several former students who completed apprenticeships. Now ready to leave Nelson College, Jack has made the most of the opportunities to develop his skills, confidence, and work readiness. We are proud of his achievements – go Jack! Special thanks to Heslop's for their ongoing support.

The Gateway programme, a government-funded initiative, helps Year 12 and Year 13 students gain valuable work experience. We are always seeking businesses like Heslop's to host students in their workplaces. Work experience ranges from a few hours to regular weekly sessions, with no obligation to hire afterward. It helps students understand employability, gain industry insights, and earn valuable references.



Recently, we've been taking small groups to visit workplaces, broadening their career exposure. If your business can host a visit or offer work experience, please email Chris Phillips or complete this FORM

As planned, our chop the mop event went off with a bang, or should that be without bangs?! Trainee barbers took to the stage to defuzz participants and offer cheap cuts to anyone looking to change up their look.

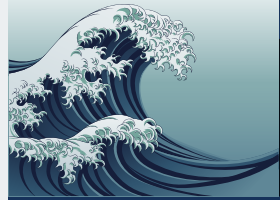
chop the mop

Our Principal, Richard Washington, bravely took to the chair, while Tristan Daly went from long locks to a fantastic new 'cropped' look. Tristen's regrowth is going well and we think his new look is awesome! Joe and Q also joined in, even though they didn't have to, showing great spirit as they lost their hair/beard for a good cause in this fundraising event for Cancer Society Nelson Tasman.

A huge thank you to AJ from The Barbers on Nile Street for overseeing the hilarious haircuts! The fundraising totals are in: Q raised \$252, Mr Washington collected \$499, Tristan brought in \$526, and Joe added \$179. Well done, everyone!



japan trip



Our trip started in Kyoto with a week at Genki Jacs Language school and in homestays. It was a fantastic week of Japanese language classes and learning about Japanese home life. To end our time at Genki Jacs, we had a full day of cultural classes which had the students trying yūzen (dyeing by painting), a samurai sword experience with a master who travelled from Tokyo, and a trip to Fushimi Inari shrine.

Next we were off to Osaka for 3 days. We visited the kaiyūkan (aquarium), explored downtown Osaka and had a day at Universal Studios Japan.

Hiroshima was next on the list for a different side of Japanese history. We spent our first day at the Atomic bomb museum and in and around the peace park. On our second day we travelled to Miyajima island, a world cultural heritage site, to see the torii gates in the water and explore the island.

We finished our whirlwind tour of Japan in Tokyo. We stayed in Asakusa, right near Senso-ji temple (Tokyo's oldest temple). We visited central Tokyo; Harajuku, Akihabara and Shibuya as well as seeing Tokyo's night vista from 350 m up in the Sky Tree.





Head Boy Ollie Morton, recently took part in a successful visual impairment swimming camp held in Christchurch. Organised by Swimming NZ and Blind Sport NZ, the camp aimed to enhance water confidence and skills among visually impaired swimmers, as well as to connect young athletes with role models in the sport.

The three-day camp featured 12 swimmers and focused on stroke technique and turns, with the use of tappers. Notably, London 2012 Paralympic Gold Medallist Mary Fisher joined the camp, leading a question-and-answer session and participating in races with the swimmers. Her presence provided inspiration and motivation for all involved.

Paralympian Swimming NZ's Disability and Para Swimming Participation Manager Cameron Leslie was thrilled with the camp's success, noticing huge improvements in swimmers who benefitted from effective demonstration techniques.

Outside the pool, participants faced new challenges with a Clip and Climb rock climbing session, which helped boost confidence. The group stayed together for two nights, participating in team bonding activities that fostered camaraderie.



Ollie was instrumental in helping swimmers improve their technique. His coaching was praised by Gary Heaven, a parent of one of the participants. "In her first lesson with Ollie, my daughter Laura's stroke improved immediately," he said. His approach made a big difference, especially in helping her master tumble turns," said Heaven.

The camp was a resounding success, achieving its goal of empowering swimmers with a visual impairment to grow more comfortable in the water and develop their skills. The involvement of role models like Ollie and Mary Fisher highlighted the importance of balancing swimming with other aspects of life, inspiring the young athletes to pursue their goals with passion.

Congratulations to Ollie and all those who participated, as well as the organisers and instructors who made this camp an unforgettable experience.

sports office snippets



Sport never stops at Nelson College! Congratulations to our Mountain Bikers who travelled to Christchurch to compete in the NZ Secondary Schools Championship. A massive thanks to Mr Alex Crisp for looking after the team, and to all the parents who also helped. Congratulations to our rugby boys who were in the NZ Schools Team, NZ Schools Barbarian Team, NZ U18 Māori Team and the Junior Crusaders Team. You all had a busy holidays learning rugby at the next level.

Well done to our Senior A Basketball team who placed 9th at NZ Secondary Schools Nationals held in Palmerston North in the holidays.

Summer sport has begun. If your son has missed the registration for Cricket, Volleyball or Touch, please email Alethea.

cricket



Nelson College's cricket season has started with promising performances and some special opportunities for our players.

The Nelson College Invitational XI took on the STAC Year 10 XI in two 40-over matches, emerging victorious in both encounters. The first game was won by five wickets, while the second match saw a four-wicket victory. A big thank you to STAC for making the trip, and we look forward to continuing this tradition next year.



Training Session with Michael Parlane

A group of Nelson College cricketers had the privilege of attending a coaching session led by former first-class cricketer, Michael Parlane. Michael, who played as a right-handed batsman during the 1990s and early 2000s, represented Northern Districts and Wellington. Over his first-class career, he amassed more than 4,000 runs with an impressive average of 35.94, including seven centuries and 27 half-centuries. The session provided invaluable technical and tactical insights, and we thank Michael for sharing his expertise with our players.



Match Report – Saturday, 12th October

1st XI

The 1st XI began their season against WTTU CC Tigers after the first week of cricket was rained off. Nelson College posted 139 all out, with Harry Restieaux top-scoring with 44 runs. WTTU CC chased down the total with a score of 143/3, winning by seven wickets. Despite the loss, debutants and current teachers Mr Norris and Mr Brown enjoyed their first match for the 1st XI and were proudly presented with their baggy blue caps. We also look forward to welcoming overseas player James Clark, who arrives this week to strengthen the squad and assist with coaching the younger teams.

2nd XI

The 2nd XI faced a tough first match in the men's 2nd grade competition, suffering a loss against Motueka 1st XI. Motueka set a formidable target, scoring 283 all out in the 39th over. In reply, our team was bowled out for 129 in the 37th over. Adult Nathan Gestro top-scored with 40 runs, while his son Ryder Gestro claimed three wickets, with Yoshia Rodley and Jasper Smith each taking two. The team is set to welcome back some players who have been away, which will boost their line-up for the next game.



Special Coaching Session with Chris Cairns

Some of our all-rounders had a fantastic opportunity to train with one of New Zealand's greatest all-rounders, Chris Cairns. His valuable tips and words of wisdom provided our boys with excellent preparation as they head into the new season. We extend our gratitude to the Nelson Cricket Association for arranging this opportunity, and to Chris for generously giving his time.

Upcoming Fixtures – Saturday, 19th October

- 1st XI vs Stoke-Nayland at Māpua Domain
- 2nd XI vs ACOB 2nd XI at Upper Moutere
- Senior XI: Season starts on 28th October
- Junior Cricket: Season starts on 2nd November

rugby



Nelson College Rugby boys had a very active and successful October holiday break. Harrison Inch, Ollie Gibbons, and Saumaki Saumaki all represented the New Zealand Schools Rugby side against Samoa, Australia, and NZ U18 Māori in Auckland.

Fanua Fa'avae and Samu Takapu represented the NZ Barbarians team against Australia and Samoa. Samu managed to score three tries against Samoa, which is impressive.

Kobe Brownlee represented the NZ U18 Māori team, who played the NZ Heartland U20 team and, impressively, defeated the NZ Schools team 22-15! Congratulations to all six boys on your achievements.





Tom Perkins, Linton Laiseni, Jack Trott, Jimmy West, Samu Takapu, Teina Thompson, and our 1st XV Coach Jono Phillips represented the Junior Crusaders against Wellington on 11th October in Wellington. Jack Trott earned man of the match, and the teams played out a 41-all draw. Congratulations to these boys and Jono.

We have also had Apolosi Bolatuku, Alifereti Leweni, and Solo Gukirewa selected for the 2024 NZ Fiji Schools Sevens wider training group. If selected, these boys will represent Fiji at the Global Youth Sevens Tournament being held in December at Dilworth College, Auckland. All the best, boys.

Jack Potter and Hugo Sorenson-Brown have also been experiencing life playing Rugby in the UK, attending Whitchurch High School in Cardiff. They have been playing for their 1st XV and enjoying living with some great Welsh families. In exchange, two boys from Whitchurch will come to NZ at the beginning of 2025 for three months to attend Nelson College.





Our Senior A team have had a busy couple of months.

In August, they participated in the Whakatū Invitational Tournament here in Nelson, playing five games and winning three. In September, they travelled to Dunedin to compete against the top teams in the South Island. Despite several intense and close matches, we finished in sixth place, just qualifying for the Secondary Schools' National Tournament at the end of September in Palmerston North. However, with our low placing at the South Island qualifier, we entered the national tournament ranked last, 24th out of 24 teams. We knew this did not reflect our true strength as a team, so we approached the tournament determined to prove people wrong.

Our goal was to compete with the best teams in the country and achieve a high placing. The initial games in pool play saw us narrowly lose three close matches against Napier Boys', Wellington, and Westlake Boys' College. However, we closed out our pool play with two strong victories over St Kentigern and St Thomas of Canterbury College. This created a three-way tie for third place in our pool, but based on point differential, we advanced as the third seed.

As a result, we were set to face our formidable rivals, Waimea College. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure a victory, which meant we would play for positions 9th to 16th. Determined to showcase our abilities and achieve a top-ten finish in the country, we rebounded from this loss with a series of dominant wins over Hutt International Boys', Rangiora, and Mount Maunganui to conclude the tournament. Our efforts paid off, as we secured ninth place in the nation.

This placement is a testament to the consistent effort and dedication demonstrated by all players and staff throughout the Year. It was truly a season to remember for Nelson College Basketball.



2024 2ND SOUTH ISLAND JUNIOR SCHOOLS



3-0 Pool Play
90:77 Cashmere High - Quarter Final
93:54 Otago Boys High School - Semi Final
71:77 Hillmorton High School - Final

student achievement



squash championships

Over the break, Bihandu Nanayakkara travelled to Auckland to compete in the National Junior Squash Championships. Competing against 400 participants, including 40 in his U17 age group, Bihandu showcased his talent and determination, securing 3rd place nationally and earning a bronze medal.

A member of the local squash club, Bihandu has been playing for eight years, inspired by his brother, who introduced him to the sport. Congratulations, Bihandu, on this impressive achievement!

mountain biking

Overall Results:

U14

Josef Houghton – 2nd

Seraphim Gavrilov – 3rd

-Archer Bisdee – 10th

U15

-Alex Merrilees – 7th

-Phoenix Lasenby – 8th

-James Maurice – 10th (equal)

-Oscar Slack – 10th (equal)

U17

Will Lasenby – 4th

Rio Crisp – 9th

Fin Allen – 10th

Congratulations to the 26 Nelson College riders who recently competed in the 2024 National School MTB Champs at Christchurch Adventure Park. Taking on the challenging Enduro, Cross Country (XC), and Downhill (DH) disciplines, our students showcased their skills, stamina, and passion for mountain biking.

Josef Houghton led the way with a standout 2nd place in the U14 Enduro, while many of our riders took on all three disciplines, demonstrating their versatility as all-rounders. Competing in large, highly competitive fields of over 70 riders, Nelson College students delivered impressive results across the board.

The event also featured great camaraderie among local schools, with a Nelson tent village at the event base. Special mentions go to Nelson College for Girls, who placed 2nd overall in the secondary schools' competition, and Nelson Intermediate, who took the top spot in the intermediate schools' competition.

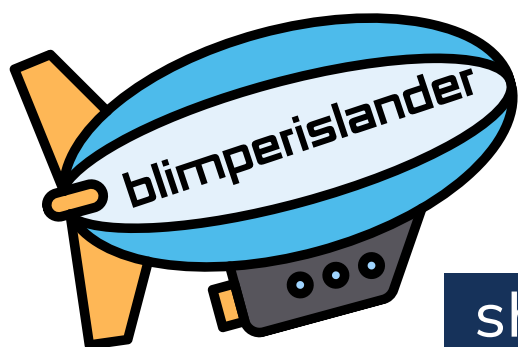
A huge thank you to all our bikers and supporters who made the event a memorable experience. Well done, everyone, on a fantastic effort at the MTB Nationals!



nz engineering competition

Earlier this year, two teams of Nelson College students took part in the 2024 NZ Engineering Science Competition, held on 10th August. The challenge posed to participants was: "How many airships would be required to replace the Cook Strait Ferries?"

We are delighted to announce that the Year 13 team of Jamie Ben, Kael Matthew, Oliver Morton, and Leon James received a "Highly Commended" award, placing them in the top 11 out of 275 teams nationwide. This is a fantastic achievement, and we congratulate the team on their outstanding effort and problem-solving skills.



shedheads to play appleby vibes



Well done to The Shedheads who were picked to support Drax Project and Tiki Taane at next month's Appleby Vibes!

Out of four bands that performed at the launch of Nelson's JB Hi-Fi NZ, The Shedheads were chosen to be the support act for the upcoming gig. The band delivered a powerful 40-minute set that impressed the judges and secured their place at The Vibes.

The performance was made even more special with a little extra help from Nelson College for Girls student Grace Palmer, who stepped in for guitarist Ryan after he broke his arm. Grace joined forces with Nelson College students Shoei Ito on drums and frontman/bassist JP Moynihan, forming a dynamic trio that brought the house down.

Congratulations to The Shedheads on this fantastic achievement. Best of luck for the Appleby Vibes – we're sure you'll do Nelson College proud!

neighbourly.co.nz

OCTOBER 10, 2024 THE LEADER NELSON TASMAN 3

Principal 'fresh face' of school

KATY JONES

Nelson College principal Richard Washington can't remember the last time he was without a beard - until now.

Washington marked the end of his first term as head of the college by having his beard shaved off in front of the school, to help raise money for cancer research and patient support.

The "Buzz the Fuzz" Daffodil Day fundraiser saw students vote via gold coins for the staff member they most wanted to see parted from their beard - a "chin-off" between their new principal, and food technology teacher Quinton Gately.

As for which student would end up getting his head shaved, the clear favourite was year 13 student Tristen Daly.

Daly's nearly waist-length blond hair would be donated for wig making, the school said.

The event raised nearly \$1500 for the Nelson Tasman Cancer Society.

Washington said it was fitting to mark the last day of his first term as principal of the all boys school by getting his beard shaved off in front of the school.

"It's a fantastic cause and it's really good to be involved in the community... and it's a bit of a laugh. It sort of humanises teachers, too, because sometimes we're just here but at the same time, boys are chopping their hair off; it's OK for us to drop our guard."



Barber-in-training Hunter Butler shaves Nelson College principal Richard Washington's beard in front of the students gathered in the hall for "Buzz the Fuzz" Daffodil Day fundraiser on the last day of school before the October school holidays.

BRANDI PATER / STUFFORWIREN PATER



From left: Nelson College student Seth Blunro shaves fellow student Tristen Daly's hair for the fundraiser; while Nelson College principal Richard Washington shaves student Joe Harrison's hair.

<https://www.neighbourly.co.nz/e-edition/the-nelson-leader/52823>

THE PRESS | TE MATATIKA

FE OPINION BUSINESS WORLD SPORT PUZZLES SUNDAY STAY

Schools and AI - how one teacher is using it in lessons



Schools and AI - how one teacher is using it in lessons

| The Press



Nelson footballer cracks big league | Nelson App

The youngest player on the Wellington Phoenix books can't wait to mix it with the club's big names i...

nelsonapp.co.nz

2024 Nelsonian Pre-orders!

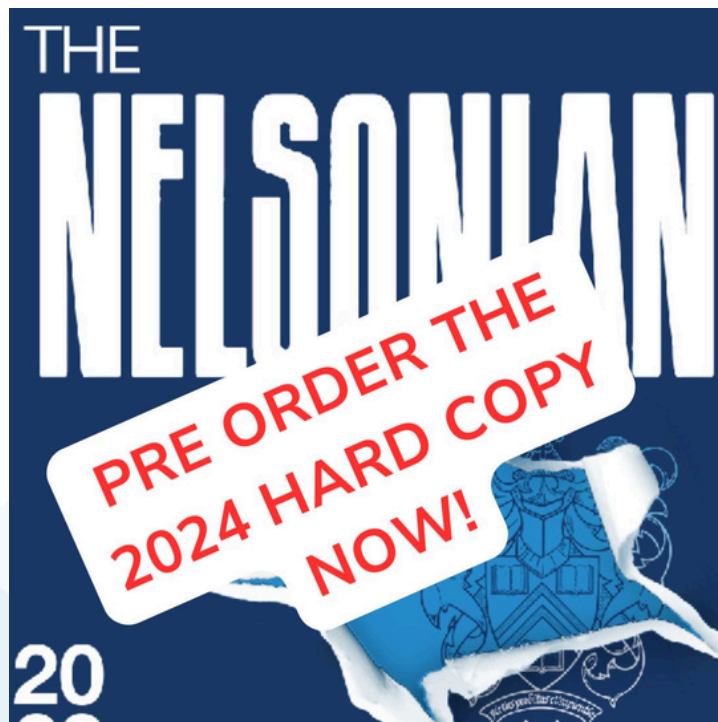
Order a hard copy of the 200 + page Nelsonian and Old Boys Bulletin, and get all the news of the year in one beautiful, full colour book.

Pre-orders close on October 25th, with orders posted out (or ready for collection) in December.

Order online:

<https://community.nelson.school.nz/#order2024nelsonian>

**Year 13's
automatically
receive a free copy!**



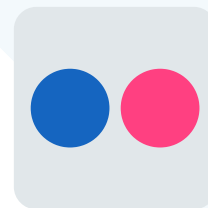
keep us in the loop

**You know your son is
awesome....but does everyone
else????**

**Email your news to
ab@nelson.school.nz**



Follow our channels for more Nelson College News



 excellence@nelson.school.nz

 nelson.school.nz

67 Waimea Road, Nelson 7010. Private Bag 16, Nelson 7010, NZ

