

BOARDING NEWSLETTER

NELSON COLLEGE

Te Kura Tamatāne o Whakatū

Term 1 2025



Kia ora koutou,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and you are enjoying a much more settled summer.

Thank you all for your support over what has been a typically busy start to the term.

As always, life in boarding has been full on and eventful, with a lot of positives. To date, we have focussed on getting the boys into routines that will help support their life in boarding and in the classroom, on the sports field and in their relationships with other people; as well as lots of events that have kept the boys busy.

There has been lots of play as well...swimming, touch, rugby on the fields, mountain biking on the tracks behind boarding, badminton, mini golf, a trip to the Hydro-slide and Kaiteriteri Beach.



sport

In House Cricket, the juniors finished a close second in the final, the seniors are in the semifinal, Chess is underway, with the seniors progressing to the semi-final.

House Touch and House Swimming are coming up (March 5), with the biggest event in the House Event calendar, Athletics on Feb 27. All boys should enter events for this, with each able to enter up to 5. They have been emailed a link and most have already entered.

A lot of our boys are currently busy with pre-season Rugby, Hockey, Football and Basketball training and trials, Swimming, Mountain Biking, Moto X, Touch, Cricket, Martial Arts and Cricket, as well as many other social and organised activities around the school and through clubs.

Congratulation to Austin Dulieu-Parlane and Jack Westwood who at the end of their Year 9 year, represented the 1ST XI at Cricket.



kaiteriteri trip

Last weekend about 90 boarders and staff went to Kaiteriteri beach. The boys really enjoyed it, particularly those that managed to get on the biscuit towed behind the boat.

A massive thanks must go to Carrie and Paul Thomas for the boat and giving up their day to take our boys out.



- Wednesday 26 February, 6.00 pm - Ten Pin Bowling
- Wednesday 12 March, 6.00 pm - Trampoline Park

These two events are not compulsory but encouraged - with preference given to Year 9's and Juniors to attend as space is limited.

upcoming events

important contacts

With a lot currently happening, it can be hard to keep track of for the boys. Some useful contacts at the school are:

Director of sport, Alethea Stove: se@nelson.school.nz

• Contact about general sports, sports teams etc

Head of Music, Nathan Munn mu@nelson.school.nz

• Contact re music / leaning instruments / choir

Kapa Haka, Wayne Hippolite ht@nelson.school.nz

• If boys are interested in Kapa Haka

Careers, Vikki Heays vh@nelson.school.nz

• For careers and vocational information

Learning support co-ordinator, Robert McHardy ry@nelson.school.nz

• Contact Rob if you feel your son is entitled or should be getting extra learning support or should be getting special assessment conditions (extra time for assessment, reader-writer etc)

A reminder also to keep us updated with any change in contact details. Please contact Sandra Cahill, Boarding Administrator on sc@nelson.school.nz

At the recent Arahi-Parent Video Conferences, you son's classes would have been discussed. If you need more time to go through their goals, progress or course, please email their Arahi teacher or their class teacher. Feel free to contact me, and I will put you in touch with the right people. We have started to establish routines for Prep-Time. The seniors should have NCEA work to go through.

The juniors do not always have enough homework to fill the hour. To make prep more meaningful for the juniors, once a week I will go through the Common Assessment tasks needed for NCEA. These are numeracy and Literacy assessments. All students will need to pass these in order to get NCEA. Once sat and passed, they do not need to do them again.

Students start sitting these in May and then another attempt in September. These are for Year 10 and above and only for those that have not passed. Most boys get them throughout Year 10 and 11. In addition to this we are also going to look at setting up Maths Buddy for the students, which is an online maths programme where students answer questions which are instantly marked. Tutorials come with each set of questions.

ncea results

Academic success is fundamental at Nelson College, and I am pleased to share the NZ Domestic Boarders' NCEA results from Last year. A number of boys worked extremely hard for their results and should be proud of their achievement. Overall pass rates are much higher than the rest of the school and nationally. We will look to support Boarder's to achieve more Merit and Excellence endorsements.

2024 Domestic Nelson College Boarders NCEA Results			
Year 11 (NCEA Level One)	Boarders	Nelson College	Nationally
Attainment of Level One	84%	72%	70%
Merit Endorsement	0	14%	<i>Unable to get this information at this stage</i>
Excellent Endorsement	6%	6%	
Year 11 (NCEA Level Two)	Boarders	Nelson College	Nationally
Attainment of Level Two	100%	81%	73%
Merit Endorsement	33%	25%	<i>Unable to get this information at this stage</i>
Excellent Endorsement	0	8%	
Year 11 (NCEA Level Three)	Boarders	Nelson College	Nationally
Attainment of Level Three	86%	72%	68%
Merit Endorsement	0	16%	<i>Unable to get this information at this stage</i>
Excellent Endorsement	0	6%	

2025 boarding head students

Congratulations to the following boys who are Boarding Head Students for 2025:



(Left to right, Rutherford House Head Boy – Mikey McGibbon, Barnicoat House Head Boy – Eruera Madden, Deputy – Brodie Materoa, Head Boarder - Dylan Hennessy. Absent Levi Nielsen – Deputy, Rutherford House)

junior leaders



Left to right, Conrad Tompson, Kaiiva Feron, Ryder Solly and Jack Westwood

Finally, while I am not new to boarding, the Director of Boarding role is newish to me. I would appreciate any feedback on systems, communications, food, activities or generally any ideas you have to make boarding a better experience for your son.

I will go through a more formal process with surveys later in the term.

Please, when contacting me use the following email address, mn@nelson.school.nz. My phone number is 0274771947.

For general day to day house matters either contact me, for Barnicoat, or Tracy McLaren for Rutherford tmn@nelson.school.nz

Ngā mihi,

Simon Mardon

Director of Boarding

