

# NEWSLETTER

NELSON COLLEGE

Te Kura Tamatāne o Whakatū



13 Feb 2025



*Kia ora koutou,*

## Dear Parents, Whānau, and Community,

A warm welcome to all our new families and a welcome back to our returning families as we begin the new academic year.

It has been fantastic to meet many of our new students and to see the energy and enthusiasm that has filled the campus. There is a real sense of momentum as we settle into routines, and I am greatly encouraged by the positive attitude of our students and staff.

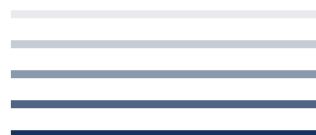
In our first assembly, I spoke about the theme of 'belonging', a core value that underpins everything we do as a school. Nelson College has a long and proud history, with many young men passing through our halls, all wearing the same crest. This crest unites us, reminding us that we are part of something greater than ourselves. As we move through 2025, I encourage every student to embrace this sense of belonging and to support one another regardless of interests, hobbies, or background.

This year, I will be placing a strong emphasis on manaaki (care)—one of our key values. My focus is to ensure that every student at Nelson College feels valued, supported, and included. No matter where your passions lie, academics, sports, the arts, or other pursuits, you have a place here. We must all play our part in fostering an environment where every student is encouraged to thrive.

In the coming weeks, we will take time to acknowledge and celebrate our students' academic successes and officially badge our student leaders in assembly. Leadership is not just about holding a title; it is about setting the standard, supporting your peers, and embracing the responsibility that comes with being a role model. Leadership is for everyone, not just those with official roles—every student has the power to influence and inspire others through their actions and attitudes. I urge every student to take pride in their achievements and to seize every opportunity that comes their way this year.



Manaaki/Care



Pono/Integrity



Kairangi/Success

A significant national and local focus for 2025 is attendance. Being present and engaged in learning. For students to reach their full potential and make the most of their education, they need to be in school. Regular attendance is crucial to accessing the curriculum, developing strong learning habits, and building connections within the school community.

We ask for the support of whānau in ensuring that our young men are in class and fully participating in their education. If your son is struggling with attendance or facing challenges, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help and support every student in their journey with no judgment. Sometimes it takes a village to raise a child.

Our Inter-House Competition is already underway, bringing great spirit and camaraderie to the school. It has been wonderful to see a new six-a-side version of cricket being played on the front field, and we look forward to the upcoming Athletics and Swimming Sports events. These opportunities allow students to challenge themselves, support their peers, contribute to their house's success and develop a sense of belonging.

As we enter our 169th year, we continue to build on the incredible legacy of Nelson College. This school has provided a foundation for greatness, and that tradition is carried forward by our students, supported by dedicated teachers, a strong community, and dedicated Old Boys.

We also welcome our new staff:

**Chrismari Dickinson -English**  
**Matt Lowe- Learning Support Assistant**  
**Te Puoho Stephens- Kaiārahi Te Reo Māori**  
**Vikashni Lata-Maths**

**Cristian Huenqueo-Music and Esol**  
**And welcome back**  
**Rob Anderson –PE**  
**Mark Chamberlain-Science**

I look forward to seeing many of you at our school events throughout the year. We are fortunate to be part of this exceptional college, and together, we will continue to grow, achieve, and uphold the values that define us.

**Ngā mihi nui,**  
**Richard Washington**  
**Tumuaki/Principal**

## let's talk about it



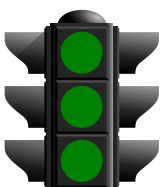
### JUST GO! Getting Behind School Attendance in 2025!

School attendance is key to your child's success, yet in Nelson and Richmond, less than 45% of high school students attend at least 90% of the year. Every missed day is a missed opportunity—to learn, build friendships, and shape the future.

That's why local principals are launching a regional campaign in 2025 alongside our councils and the Ministry of Education to lift attendance and engagement.



**The statistics are clear, students who have higher attendance achieve more across EVERY year level**



**Set high expectations – Talk to your child about why showing up every day matters.**

**Stay connected – If your child is struggling with attendance, reach out—we're here to help**

**Celebrate milestones – Encourage and acknowledge their efforts to be present.**

\*We understand that justified absences are inevitable, so if your son needs to be absent, please notify the College using one of the following: [Online absence form](#) ✉ [attendance@nelson.school.nz](mailto:attendance@nelson.school.nz) ☎ 03 548 3099 Ext 851



## parent portal login

The Parent Portal is a secure location where students and caregivers can log in and view the following information for your son:

- Report Absence
- Calendar and daily notices
- Bus timetable
- Check contact details (request any updates if necessary)
- Timetable and attendance
- NCEA entries and results
- Reports, Weekly and Term reports
- Financial information

Login instructions are available on the [website](#), click on the portal tab.

## ncea results



2024 results are available for students to log in via their [NZQA accounts](#) and available to parents on the [Parent Portal](#).

Return of examination material is now submitted in a digital format or scanned. Details about the return of examination material can be found [here](#).

Information on viewing exam answers for students who completed an exam digitally can be found [here](#).

Reviews and reconsiderations.

If a student has a query about a result he should talk to his subject teacher.

Information on considering [review or reconsideration](#) of their results for NCEA and Scholarship external assessments. This includes exams, submitted subjects, and portfolios.

· The reviews and reconsiderations links are in the Learner login now.

· The last date a student can send the online application is:

-NCEA: Wednesday, 19 February 2025

- Scholarship: Thursday, 7 March 2025

Financial assistance to waive the fee for reconsideration is available for eligible students. They can download and print a copy from their student login, or you can distribute the copy attached. For scholarship papers, the address used must be the address on the form. Students can email the form to [reconsiderations@nzqa.govt.nz](mailto:reconsiderations@nzqa.govt.nz) or send to the address on the form if submitting physical material.

Queries regarding any of the above please contact either:

Principal's Nominee - Leonor White [lw@nelson.school.nz](mailto:lw@nelson.school.nz) Or

Student Office Manager - Sandra Cahill [sc@nelson.school.nz](mailto:sc@nelson.school.nz)



# library



It's been a great start to the year in the library.

We've enjoyed welcoming our students back and meeting some new ones too!

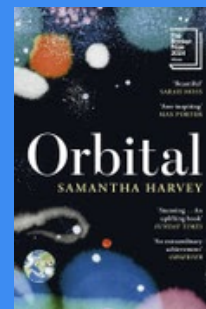
We have a range of books to encourage reading for enjoyment and to support curriculum topics. We provide board games, host several lunch time clubs, assist students with finding books, quality research resources, and provide a welcoming space for collaborating and socialising. Apart from interval, we are open from 8.30 until 3.55 on school days.

We also offer eBooks. Access these through the Wheelers ePlatform by following these simple steps:

To use on your phone/tablet - download the ePlatform by Wheelers app from Apple, Google Play or Windows App Store. To use on your computer/laptop - read via your browser (go directly to the next step) or you can download reader software.

Find Nelson College ePlatform Library and log in using your school email and school password.

## book tip



**Orbital** by Samantha Harvey. Beautifully written, it follows six fictional astronauts through a day on a space station, providing a unique insight into humanity and planet earth.

# te ara māori

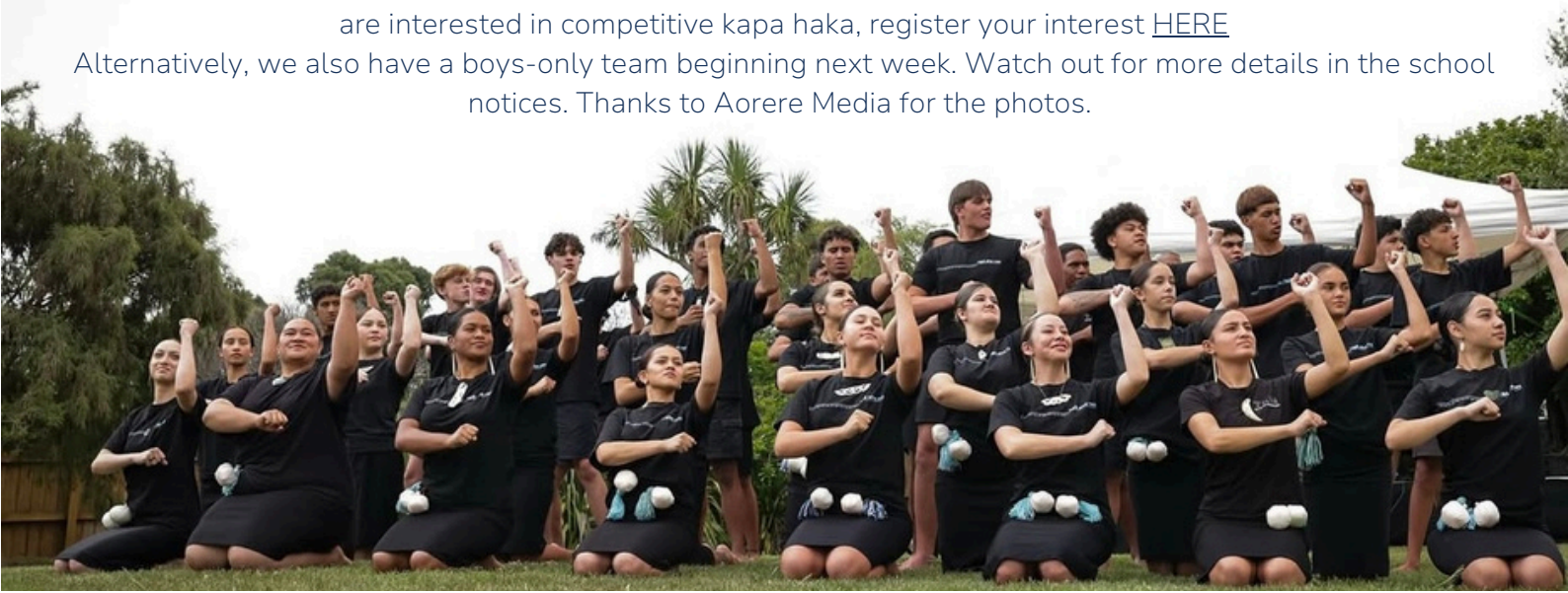


## ngā aho rau waitangi day performance



2025 is another big year for kapa haka at Nelson College. Ngā Aho Rau our combined NC/NCG kapa haka group performed at Whakatū marae on Waitangi day to shake off the cobwebs and begin preparations for the year ahead. Practices begin next month to enter two combined teams into the Regional qualifying competition. If you are interested in competitive kapa haka, register your interest [HERE](#)

Alternatively, we also have a boys-only team beginning next week. Watch out for more details in the school notices. Thanks to Aorere Media for the photos.





# sports office snippets



Welcome to 2025. We are off to a flying start with having already had three trips away – two cricket and one beach volleyball. There is a lot more to come this term! Read more about that below.

If your son is in Year 9 or new to Nelson College this year and wants to play sport, whether it be Volleyball, Cricket, Sailing, competitive MTB, and/or competitive Tennis, he should have already signed up. Please contact Alethea in the Sports Office if he needs to be added onto the lists [se@nelson.school.nz](mailto:se@nelson.school.nz)

Are you following Nelson College Sport on FB [\(2\) Facebook](#) and/or Instagram page

[https://www.instagram.com/nelsoncollege\\_sport?igsh=MTRkc3ZucmRsN3c1bg==](https://www.instagram.com/nelsoncollege_sport?igsh=MTRkc3ZucmRsN3c1bg==)

## clash of the codes



What should you do when you play multiple sports and training times clash?

Can you play 1st XI Cricket and 1st XV Rugby? YES. Can you play Senior A Volleyball and Senior A Basketball? YES

We are seeing more and more winter sports encroaching on summer sports. Summer sport should always take priority. If the summer sport has one training a week, you need to be at that training. If the summer sport has two trainings a week, talk to the coach about attending one of each sport trainings. You need to ensure there is open and honest communication with both coaches. The coach will then be able to tell you what they are working on at each training and which ones you need to be at. Again, summer sport takes priority! If you need assistance with your communication between codes, please contact Alethea in the Sports Office and she will assist you in making it work for both sports [se@nelson.school.nz](mailto:se@nelson.school.nz)

## beach volleyball



It is the first time since 2019 that Nelson College has had teams attend NZ Secondary Schools Beach Volleyball Nationals. This past weekend we had two teams competing.

An outstanding result for Maaka Hall (Yr 12) and Macabee McLean (Yr 11) placing 7th in NZ. They were in the Year 12/13 grade so as one of the youngest teams in the competition they did really well.

Our second pairing of Jonah Atoa and Ollie Rooney placed 17th in the Yr 11 grade. Well done to all the boys and a special thank you to the parents who were able to travel and make this happen for them.

Credit to Tony T for the photos.





# cricket



## 1st XI: Quadrangular Tournament:

The boys had a mixed week up in Wellington last week, beating Marlborough and losing to Rathkeale and Hutt International. Despite the results, we had a great few days away and it was very pleasing to see a good culture and the boys representing NC well. The young boys new to the team had successful matches often the players that stood out in the matches! The notable stand out was Jack Westwood who picked up a five-wicket bag against Rathkeale! Well done Jack!

## Willows Trip:

The 1st XI had a great trip for the annual Willows trip. They tied against Timaru Boys, both getting 245 runs despite Tommy Mclean getting four wickets and Kurt Ward scoring 98 runs! They lost against a very strong Willows XI that was put together despite a half-century by Jarryd Nicholls. The boys also lost to St Thomas's however Dallas Kelso picked up six wickets in the match.

## Nelson Saturday Cricket:

The team narrowly missed out on a semi-final with overall net run rate proving the difference between 4th place and 5th where we finished. We needed a win with a bonus point against ACOB on Saturday and we did defend 130, winning by 22 runs - However to get the bonus point we needed to get them out under 105 runs... So close...And a great never-give-up attitude against a good side. The team has now beaten every team in the competition once which is a milestone, and a huge improvement from last season.

The 1st XI also won the Congdon Shield and will hold it for the season, the 1st time in Nelson College history.

We now finish off the season with the T20 competition to which the 1st XI won their first match against ACOB in the last over.

Over the course of this season multiple boys have received their special baggy cap which represents 50+ games for the 1st XI - Well done gents.

Harry Restieaux  
Hogan Ward  
Kurt Ward  
Dallas Kelso  
Fynn Roberts  
Charlie Wilson



# beyond nelson college

Old Boy Finn Fisher-Black is off to a good start in the Pro Cycling world Tour for 2025.

In his new Red Bull - Bora - Hansgrohe team he was 3rd on the Willunga Hill stage and 3rd overall at the Tour Down Under, followed by winning the New Zealand Elite Time Trial at the National Championships last week.

An [interview](#) with Roleur Magazine profiled him at the start of this season, including his fight back from injury in recent years.



## music



meet the music teachers

feb 13 @ 3.15  
staffroom

**TODAY!**

Music lesson  
enrolment cut off  
date is Feb 16th and  
lessons will  
commence the week  
of Feb 17th



# international



The International Department welcomed 14 new students at the beginning of this term. They are from Austria, Germany, Thailand, Japan and Switzerland, bringing our total student number to approximately 40.

We hope these students have a great time at Nelson College and get to experience the amazing things that Nelson and New Zealand have to offer.

# talented teachers

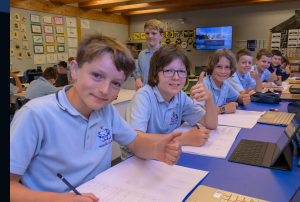


## tessa quayle sings at opera in the park

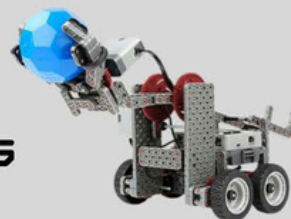
If you're attending Opera in the Park this year, keep your eyes (and ears) peeled for our very own Tessa Quayle. The dynamic diva will be taking to the stage to support soprano Emma Pearson and tenor Emmanuel Fonoti-Fuimaono.

When she's not rubbing shoulders with the stars, Tessa is our music coordinator and keeps our highly successful music programme running smoothly at Nelson College. Tessa is also an accomplished violinist and teaches violin and vocal classes. We'll be cheering you on Tessa. BRAVA!





## ROBOTICS CAMPS



### Introduction

If you enjoy building kits, Lego, getting robots to work, gaming or coding then this opportunity is for you!

You will get to experience and learn:

- mechanical principles by building a number of robotic vehicles
- programming in block and C++ languages needed to control a robotic vehicle,
- engineering designing while creating a purpose built robotic vehicle
- competitive strategizing in robotic quizzes and vehicle challenges.
- team project management, record keeping, time management and teamwork.

Please choose one of the following:

### FUNDAMENTAL ROBOTICS CAMPS



### Description and Cost

**Open to all ages.** The first camp(2 hours) is \$30 and is intended as a taster. Should it meet with your approval, further 3 hour camps, each second Saturday afternoon, will be a fee of \$60 each. This will cover the hiring of the Competition VEX Kits and coaching time.

### COMPETITION ROBOTICS CAMPS



### Description

This camp may be for you if you were **born after 1st May 2010** and **wish to form one of the teams** that will represent the school at National Vex IQ Robotics Competition (VIQRC) at the end of the year.

### Cost

To attend these camps, you need to **find 2 or 3 other students to share the cost of purchasing a Competition VEX Kit**, as shown, that costs approximately \$1000. As a team, you will immediately begin to design and build the robot that you believe will win the competition!



While your kit will be stored at school and used by you during a camp, **your team will also be able to take the kit home to work on.** Once the competition is over, you may sell your share to another student or enter again the next year.

These camps are normally **2 to 3 hour camps held on Saturday or Sunday fortnightly** throughout the term and year. Coaching will also further develop your mechanical and coding skills and cost \$15 per hour.

This [VIDEO](#) of UK robotics students will give you an idea of what can be learned.

Contact: Dr. Des Duthie (Physicist and Teacher)

desduthie@gmail.com

022 695 4835



Fundamental Robotic Camp Taster.

My son wishes to attend this 2 hour camp either at 1:00 pm (or 3:00 pm)  
on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Nelson College Preparatory School.

Son's Name: .....

Son's Surname: .....

Parent name: .....

Parent email: .....

Please use internet banking to transfer the camp fee of \$30 to Des Duthie account  
number 02 0704 0418544 083 with RobotCamp and your surname as particulars and  
code respectively.

Please return this form to the Nelson College Reception by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Competition Robotics Camps.

My son is interested in forming a team with the view of purchasing a share in a  
Competition VEX Kit.

(I am aware that I will be informed of other students that also express a similar  
interest)

Son's Name: .....

Son's Surname: .....

Parent name: .....

Parent email: .....

Please return this form to the Nelson College Reception by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

keep us in the loop

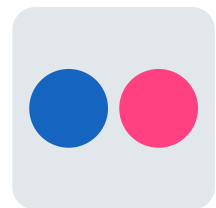
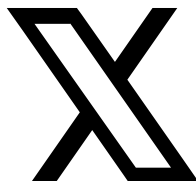


You know your son is  
awesome....but does everyone  
else????

Email your news to  
[ab@nelson.school.nz](mailto:ab@nelson.school.nz)



Follow our channels for more  
Nelson College News



[excellence@nelson.school.nz](mailto:excellence@nelson.school.nz)



[nelson.school.nz](http://nelson.school.nz)

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





# BECOME A HOMESTAY FAMILY



## Nelson College International ...

are seeking new Homestay  
Host families for 2025.

Being a host family to an international  
student is a great opportunity to bring  
culture and diversity into your home.  
Create lasting memories and lifelong  
friendships.

### For more information ...

Contact Homestay Coordinator:

Anna Sutherland

e: [su@nelson.school.nz](mailto:su@nelson.school.nz)

p: 03 548 3099 ext 857

m: 021 106 8891

We are looking for caring and supportive  
families to provide a home away from home  
for our international students.

If this sounds like you, please contact us to  
find out more.





# NGĀ AHO RAU

E ko au ko Ngā Aho Rau, ko Ngā Aho Rau ko ahau e!

## TAKU KARA TĪPUNA 2025

This year we endeavour to field two teams for the regional qualifiers in June. We welcome all returning and new rangatahi enrolled at Nelson College and Nelson College for girls

### MUSTER AND TRIAL DATES

Muster: Saturday 15th March, 10am to 4pm  
Trial week 1: Wednesday 19th March, 4pm to 9pm  
Trial week 2: Wednesday 26th March, 4pm to 9pm

# REGISTER NOW!

<https://bit.ly/NAR2025>

# ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT YOUR TEEN?



stress  
*fitting in*  
anxiety NCEA  
friendships  
THOUGHTS

get in touch  
with our  
counsellors  
to make a  
confidential  
referral

Heledd Davis  
BA(Hons), PGCE,  
Dip Couns. MNZAC  
rl@nelson.school.nz  
027 544 2573



Nicki Lawes  
B.Couns, PhD,  
MNZAC  
la@nelson.school.nz  
027 771 1173



NELSON  
COLLEGE  
TE KURA TAMATĀNE O WHAKATŪ





**NELSON WHALERS PRESENT**

**HAVE A GO DAY**



**INCLUDED**

- Use of all equipment **FREE**
- Expert Coaching
- Open to all Ages
- Fun for guys and girls

**SUNDAY FEB 16TH  
10AM - 12NOON**

**CONTACT**

Kay 021 1201142

Check out our Facebook page

Nelson Whalers Inline Hockey Club

**Nelson-Tasman  
Underwater Hockey  
CLUB**



**Have a Go!**

February 9th & 16th

4:30pm - 5:45pm

Richmond Aquatic Center

Everyone welcome - Only togs and a towel needed

Feel free to bring your own mask, snorkel, and flippers

# TALISMAN

NAVY CADETS

LIMITED SPACES

INFO NIGHTS  
TUES 18 & TUES 25 FEB  
24 HARLEY ST  
7PM-8:30PM  
13-15 YEAR OLDS

## TS TALISMAN NAVY CADETS

### INFO EVENINGS

TUES 18 FEB 7-8:30 PM

TUES 25 FEB 7-8:30 PM

24 HARLEY ST, NELSON

ALL YOUTH 13 – 15, LIMITED SPACES



### WHAT'S ON OFFER?

SAILING  
COMPETITION SHOOTING  
POWERBOATS  
COASTGUARD EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
NAVY BASED TEAMWORK  
MILITARY BASED LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
NATIONAL COURSES  
NATIONAL COMPETITIONS  
RNZN DAMAGE CONTROL EXPERIENCE



TSTALISMAN\_NAVY\_CADETS



TS TALISMAN – NAVY CADETS NELSON



TS.TALISMAN@CADETFORCES.ORG.NZ



WWW.CADETFORCES.ORG.NZ