



# Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti

**Excellence in Learning - Christianity in Living**

Newsletter - Te Pānui

September 3 2021

Term 3 Week 6

## From the Principal

### The Gift of Memory

Today we enter a season of Level 3 lockdown, for an unknown time. This means that our school remains closed and distance learning will continue, but we can provide supervision for Year 1-10 children of essential workers if they would be at home alone. As the interruption to our normal lives continues we need to remain as calm as possible for our own mental wellbeing, and the family dynamic. Being together in a confined space for a prolonged time will provide plenty of opportunities for frustration, fear, boredom, and anxiety. But it also provides time for success, calmness, entertainment, and hope. If we put the device aside we can korero, play charades, listen to music, read aloud, jigsaw, draw, bake, vacuum, weed and plant, build, and remember memories through photos. As part of our lifetime this will only be a small part, but one we will remember. Be sure to create memories of fun, laughter and joy that are worth the time, in lockdown.

How do you remember Jesus?

When you reflect on His story in the Gospels, the prophetic words in the Old testament pointing to Christ, or His legacy

traced through the New Testament, how do you see Christ?

I see Him as the embodiment of God, in the flesh. As the closest we will get to knowing what God is like, until we meet Him ourselves. If we want to create a memory of God, look at Jesus. Look at His words, His actions, His Way. with Christ as our lens, the world looks different, we are different, and our words and actions are different. During this lockdown be sure to create memories of God, through Jesus.

This Sunday is Father's Day. Don't forget to thank our Father in heaven for His love, forgiveness and Grace.

Blessings

Graeme Whitehead  
Principal

'I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.'  
Psalm 9: 1 (NASB)

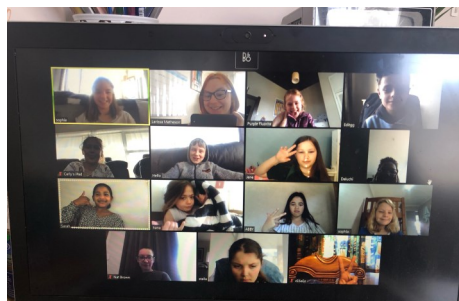
### Important for Senior School Students

#### Excellere College's changes to NCEA

We have shifted our Term 3 Derived-Grade Exams block to Week 9, likely the Monday 20th till Sept to Thursday 23rd Sept. Ben Keyte will be issuing a D-G Exam timetable in due course. These exams are our prime method for collecting valid data to support all students with potential Derived-Grade applications.

There will also be some 'catch-up' internal assessments scheduled for students. All students are expected to attend school during this time, whether they have exams or not.

### Keeping in Touch Over Zoom!



During Lockdown Room 6 has been staying in contact with each other by having a zoom meeting every morning. We spend this time catching up with everyone, checking to see how everyone is feeling. We also have a class prayer time together which is a great way to start our day.

- Larissa Matheson, Year 5 teacher.

Year 0-1 (Room 2) had a zoom session on Wednesday. Rabbits, kiwis, butterflies and dogs came, too.



It was so much fun and a wonderful time of connection.

The children shared projects they had been doing during lockdown.

Room 2, you are amazing!

- Denise Bucknell,  
Year 0-1 teacher

## School Yearbook Update



The 2021 school yearbook will be available in Week 4 Term 4 this year. Each family will receive one copy for free. Extra copies will cost \$7 each and will need to be ordered before the end of Term 3.

The Yearbook is reproduced as a hardcopy only. If your child does not have photo consent but you are OK for their photos to be put in the Yearbook,

please let their homeroom teacher know.

To order extra copies, contact our office manager Carole Wootten on: [office@excellerecollege.school.nz](mailto:office@excellerecollege.school.nz)

## Netball 2021 Update

I am disappointed to let you know that the Whangarei Netball Centre have decided to cancel the remainder of the netball season. The teams represented our school with honour. I am so very proud of each and every player!



I would like to thank our parent community for all their support. The transportation to training and games, standing and cheering the teams on rain, hail or shine. The support of our coaches with filling in cards, helping with training, washing of bibs etc. Thank you.

A netball season could not happen without amazing coaches. Thank you to each and every one of you for your leadership, organisation, willingness to learn, time and encouragement. We are so grateful for you.

Final Results as they stand from the Championship Round:  
Excellere Intermediate 1, Section 3, 2nd Place  
Excellere Intermediate 2, Section 6, 6th Place

Until next season, keep safe.

Tamara Chambers, Netball Coordinator

## Springs Challenge Reminder



Friendly reminder that SPRINGs challenge booklets are due to Mr Keyte with all the required evidence by the last Friday of term (October 1). If students wish to create their own lockdown challenge, please email Mr Keyte to get confirmation. If you are doing amazing projects in lockdown, it should count for SPRINGs!

## School Sports Plans—Term 3

Due to all of the uncertainty around what the levels are going to be, the sporting organisers have decided to cancel **ALL** sporting events in Term 3.



Sadly that means that the Basketball and Girls Multisport (year 5-6) is also cancelled. Events can happen under Level 2 restrictions, but the sporting organisers have decided that they want schools to get back to their new normal, before we start competing at events again.

### **BUT.... I do have a plan.**

I know that the boys year 9-10 Basketball team have been practicing and are looking in top shape. So once we are back at school under Level 2, I will organise a Staff vs Year 9-10 boys basketball lunchtime game, winner takes all! The Staff will show no mercy, so it will be a championship event - so be ready to bring your A-Game boys!

The Rippa Rugby for the Year 5-6 girls. We have been working hard before lock down to improve our skills in this game. So I would like to run a lunch time event for those girls in Year 5-6 that would like to compete in a little tournament in Rippa Rugby.

I will look at arranging these events once we are back at school under Level 2 and once we are feeling a little more normal. So fingers crossed, we get to utilize these sporting skills that we have been working on this term.

So I hope you are keeping fit during lockdown! Let's go!

Zola McDonald  
Sports Coordinator

PS: refunds will be issued once we are back at school under level 2 for: Badminton, The BOI Beast and Basketball.

## Avocado Fundraiser

The Excellere College Support Group has been offered a really fantastic opportunity to partner with a local Avocado grower to sell export quality avocados at a bargain price and keep a portion of the profits to pour back into our School!



- Export quality - each Avocado is large—average w200g+
- Picked to our order
- Ripening period of approx. 10-12 days
- Supporting a local Northland grower

Further details on how to order will be confirmed once we know more about the covid levels.

Kind Regards,

Nat Brown, on behalf of the Excellere College Support Group

PS: If you would like to know more about our Support Group, please contact the Office and one of our team would love to get in touch with you.



## Blowy, The Naughty Little Cloud, by Arlo

One day, there was a little cloud called Blowy. He was a naughty little cloud. He got invited to a birthday. When it was time for the birthday boy to blow out the candles, mighty Blowy puffed a sneaky breath and it blew out the candles right before everyone's eyes.

When a boy discovered he had the winning ticket, he held it proudly in the air and yelled in celebration... but naughty Blowy puffed again and the ticket blew out of the boy's fingers and fluttered high in the air and out of sight. Maybe into a bird's nest, maybe into the river, maybe all the way to Australia! And when the kids had a paper plane competition, Blowy got up to his naughty old tricks, and puffed and puffed and blew the planes into the rubbish bin. Blowy was watching some big kids play basketball. As one boy went to score a basket, naughty Blowy puffed as hard as he could – the basketball changed direction and smacked another guy in the face! Also, when the kids were doing the 'Top of the Tree' race, Blowy used his puff to blow the winner off!

Blowy made everyone cross with his naughty tricks, so the people announced he now had a 100 point disqualification. Blowy understood he'd done wrong and wanted everyone to play once more, so he decided to use his Blowy-powers to save the day.

When Blowy saw a crook about to throw a punch at someone, Blowy puffed, and off the bad guy flew – into the swamp! When the flight was running late, Blowy puffed behind the plane so it arrived on time. And at the end of the day there was an important package to deliver on the package train. It was getting dark and becoming night. Blowy blew the train and it took to flight. It stopped right in front of the house and the package flew out and into the house.

## Whangarei Falls Adventure



We had a marvelous day yesterday, had a long walk to Whangarei falls. We went into the forest to have a picnic and the kids started building a shelter. Obviously, my husband had to intervene and we ended up with a huge forest hut! I hope you can see these photos. It was so much fun. - Sharples Family

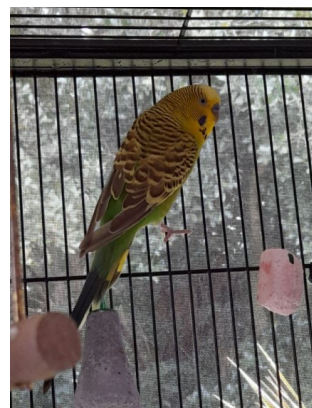
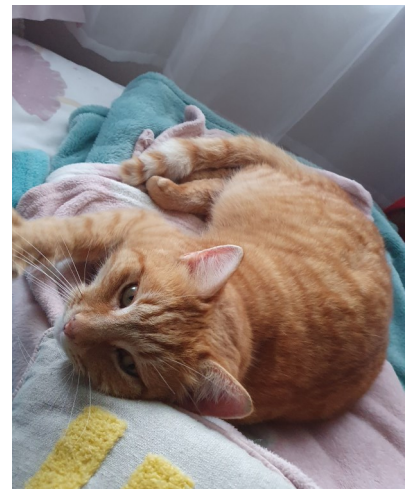
## Master Chef Dinner by Harper

Looking for interesting ideas for lockdown? How about doing a master chef dinner for your family? Harper Keogh in Year 3 did a Masterchef meal for her family that looks amazing. She even dressed the table up for the occasion too!



## My Pet Cat by Mieke

I have a pet cat his name is buddy. He is a ginger cat. Buddy is 4. He is very very fast cat because if we go on a walk he runs with us. He comes to greet us every morning before school. He likes to catch rat's and mice. He likes chasing me. He also likes jumping on our car. Buddy is scared of our dog Spike. I Love my cat Buddy!

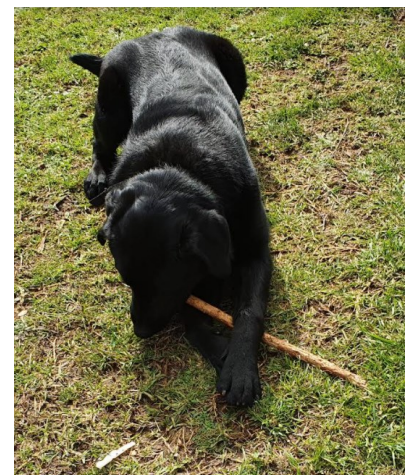


## My Pet by Samuel M.

My pet is a budgie. His colour is bright green and bright yellow with dark blue on his cheek. He also has black stripes on the back of his head. He shares a cage with his mate Elsa. I take him out the cage and play with him on the couch. I like playing with Strike, I sometimes call him Strikey.

## My Pet Dog by Liam

My pet is a black Lab called Spike. Spike is my pet dog. Spike likes playing fetch. My dog is so strong I can ride on his back. When we go on a walk he drags me around, that's why my dad has to walk him. He greets us in the morning before we go to school. He likes to eat rotten stuff. His favourite toy is his frisbee.





# Excellere College Staff 'Genius Hour' Projects

**Mr Keyte**



Do you recognize this view? Taken from the top of a very high local mountain. Mr Keyte ran from his home to Mt Manaia this week and back. 30km of running! He will be pretty fit by the time we get back to school!

**Mrs Kelly**



A bit of 'New Zealand sewing bee' going on at Mrs Kelly's place. So far she has finished a knitted shawl a dress and has hundreds of other projects on the go, dating back to the last lockdown.

**Miss Hale**



What started off as a bit of a practice artwork turned into a very brightly coloured landscape filled with gum trees, blue flowers with a central tree and cloud halo. The next painting will be a bit more sensible but it was pretty fun to paint.

**Mr & Mrs Smith**



Some lockdown art and craft by a talented family. Crochet by Mrs Smith & marlin painting by Mr Smith.

**Zola McDonald**



- The events:
- 👢 Gumboot throwing
  - 🏀 Netball hoops
  - 🏸 Badminton rallies
  - ✈️ Paper plane flights
  - 🪨 Painting rocks
  - 🥔 Potato & spoon race
  - 💅 Painting nails
  - 🍪 Decorating ginger bread men
  - 🎲 Mancala tournament
  - 🗣️ The least moaning

When you are the school sports coordinator and are locked down on your birthday with your family, what do you do? Turn the whole day into a competition called the Zola-Olympics! The events consisted of sporting and artistic events and of course the winner was Zola. She says it was not rigged.

## Thanks to our Business Sponsors:

Business advertising available \$5 per week, \$50 per term or \$200 per year. The money raised will go towards digitally printing the school year book. For details contact: [julie.hale@excellerecollege.school.nz](mailto:julie.hale@excellerecollege.school.nz)



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### Caleb Lawrence Orthodontics

Caleb Lawrence Orthodontics is a specialist orthodontic practice based in Whangarei. We pride ourselves on providing quality personalized treatment to patients in our care.

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