



# Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti

**Excellence in Learning - Christianity in Living**

Newsletter - Te Pānui

February 11 2022

Term 1 Week 2

## Upcoming Events

14 Feb School Board Meeting

14-15 Years 12-13

March First Aid Course

## From the Principal

### Jesus is our calm waters

In our second week back all students were getting used to their timetables and meeting our new staff. We have had a peaceful, calm start to our term, and for this I thank our students and their families. We want to maintain this environment to enable learning to be our focus.

I was called for Jury service at the beginning of this week. Although I did not make a final 12, it reminded me of the important part we all play in our local communities. Whether in a formal role, or as one of many unseen helpers, Jesus gave us the responsibility to 'love our neighbour', and this means being a valuable part of community. Although it can often be an interruption to our usual routines the opportunity to shine His light upon others through simply being there should not be downplayed. Walking the talk is a powerful model for others to see.

As we head into another disrupted year we need to constantly look to Jesus for our calm waters, our safe harbour. His promise for us is to remove fear from our lives if we put our trust and faith in him. Although we still have mahi (work) to do ourselves, with Jesus as our foundation rock we can be assured that we can find that calm place amidst the storms that may surround us. Here we will find the stillness we need to reflect, and refresh ourselves.

Blessings

Graeme Whitehead  
Principal

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14: 27 (NASB)

## Mask Use Reminder

Reminder that students in Year 4-13 are to wear masks inside. This is to help reduce the spread of Covid19 or becoming a close contact and having to isolate.

During this time please think of our staff. If they need to isolate due to being a close contact or Covid19 positive this would create much disruption to the school environment.

## Music in Room 6

This term the Year 5 students have the privilege of learning cello and violin through Sistema Music.

The wonderful tutors Sam and Michal are visiting our class every week to teach us how to care for and play these instruments.

Hopefully at the end of the term we can put a concert on for the school. If you want to know more about Sistema Music, email Mrs Matheson.



## 2022 Sports Update

I was hoping for a smoother year but it turns out that we will be seeing much of the same challenges when looking at the impact that covid is having on our sports for 2022.

Most sporting codes that are at the NSSSA (Northland Secondary Schools Sports Association) level require students who are aged from 12 years 3 months and up to be fully vaccinated to participate in sport. At this stage, if the students are under 12 years and 3 months - they are not required to be vaccinated.

Under a red light setting, most events will still go ahead, however, the participation numbers are capped at 100 students in total, only 1 team can be entered from each school and there will be no spectators. Under an orange or green light setting these restrictions can ease slightly but there are variations between the different sporting bodies as to what they require.

So looking ahead to this year, I will be doing my best to bring sports and activities into our school, as well as trying to get numbers for external sporting events.

If your child would like to compete in a sporting event or be part of an Excellere College representative team, they are required to be fully vaccinated (if they are over 12 years and 3 months of age) and they will need to show our Principal, Graeme Whitehead proof of this.

**TERM 1:** During Term 1 we are looking forward to the following: the Bike Ready program (Years 5-6), the TRY challenge (Years 6,7,8 and 9) and hopefully Whangarei Orienteering (Years 7-10). We will also be gathering together our netball teams.

**NETBALL:** I will also be coordinating the netball program here at Excellere College along with Larissa Matheson. Notices have already gone home this week. The same rules apply with netball regarding the vaccination status of the students, the tricky part is that ALL spectators/parents need to be vaccinated and show their vaccine pass on a Saturday morning if they would like to watch their child play.

This is going to be the same rule regardless of the traffic light setting, for example, whether we are in red, orange or green, all spectators will need to be fully vaccinated and show their pass to get onto the grounds. So please consider this when you give permission for your child to play this year.

We are also be looking for netball coaches for this season. Whangarei Netball Centre's requirements are that all coaches and managers will need to be fully vaccinated. If you would like to coach, or you know of someone suitable, please let me know or email me: [zola.mcdonald@excellerecollege.school.nz](mailto:zola.mcdonald@excellerecollege.school.nz)

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we are all trying to figure out how to do our jobs at this time.

Zola McDonald,  
Sports Coordinator

## 2022 Teacher Aides

All children are unique and some require extra support due to learning and behavior needs.

Excellere College values the support Teacher Aides bring to our learning environment. Introducing our team of nine teacher aides for 2022.



Shani Delport



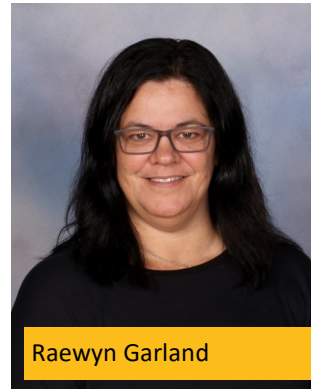
Nat Brown



Heloise Lotz



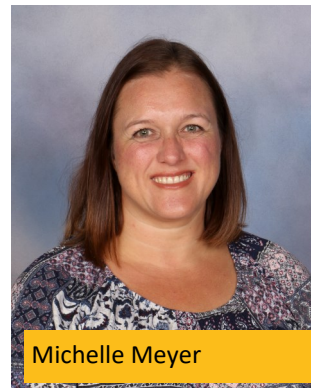
Jerodith Brookshaw



Raewyn Garland



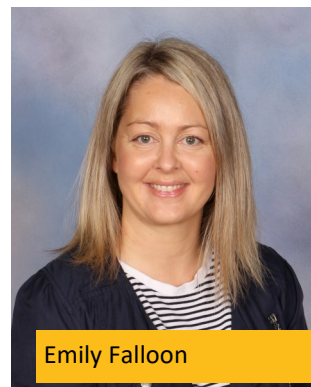
Anna Underwood



Michelle Meyer



Cheryl Ripia



Emily Falloon



## Bike Ready Programme—Years 5&6

The Year 5's and 6's had a great few days with Kevin and Gwen from the Bike Ready programme. Over 2x 3 hour sessions these students completed stage 1. They learnt how to care for their bikes, bike safety, road rules and they also played lots of games including musical bikes, bike limbo and last man standing (ask them who won).

We look forward to having the Bike Ready programme back in the future and having the Year 5 & 6's complete stage 2.





# Street Talk Defensive Driving Course

**There are limited Spaces—You Must Book!**

**Covid Restrictions — Vaccine pass and mask**

**CLASSROOM: March 15, 17, 22 & 24 5:30-7:30pm**

**ON ROAD PRACTICAL: Saturday March 26 or Sunday 27 8am-4pm  
(individual times to be advised)**

**Location: People potential campus 17 Keyte Street**

The course is designed to develop the skills and attitudes of young drivers and provide a six month reduction in the time spent on a restricted licence. Along with a practical coaching/assessment session as part of the course, passing the full licence test will be greatly enhanced.

This course consists of 8 hours of theory (in four 2 hour evenings sessions twice a week running from 5:30pm-7:30pm plus a 1 hour practical drive. The one on one coaching/assessment practical drive is by appointment between 9am and 4pm on a Saturday or Sunday. Your tutor is a full time driver trainer and an experienced NZTA approved driving instructor and Street talk defensive driving course approved facilitator.

Course Requirements: A minimum of a learner license must have been held for at least 4 months at the start of course. You must have your own vehicle for the practical drive which has both a current WOF and Registration.

**REGISTER :** You can register by filling out the Google form: <https://forms.gle/HJ9UBSUUoQB3ae8A>

Email or text for more details on WhangareiDTS@gmail.com or 0210233 0087

Cost: \$200 per person. Payment is accepted by direct debit or credit card via PayPal



## Level 3 Photography Excellence



We would like to congratulate Jack Milina for gaining an Excellence in his Level 3 photography portfolio. All Level 3 Portfolios are 3x A1 panels and are sent to Wellington to be marked by a panel of experts.

Jack's rural theme used photoshop manipulation techniques to reinterpret the everyday into geometric shapes and surreal futuristic landscapes.

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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