



Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti

Excellence in Learning - Christianity in Living

Newsletter - Te Pānui

June 17 2022

Term 2

Week 7

Upcoming Events

18 June Saturday	Senior College Ball McKay Stadium
20&21 June Mon, Tues	Music Mentor Mazbou Q
21 June Tuesday	Rippa Year 5& 6
24 June Fri	Matariki Holiday
28 June Tuesday	Year 7-13 Interschool Cross-Country, Barge Park
30 June Thursday	Careers Expo—Year 10
1 July Friday	School Assembly
July 8 Friday	End of Term 2 Mufti Day School reports home

Sick Children at School

We have a number of children coming to school unwell that need to be sent home.

If your child is unwell **PLEASE DO NOT** send them to school.

From the Principal

Integrity

As we finish week seven I am, again, impressed with the resilience of our students. Despite years of Covid disruption they are maintaining their focus on learning. We daily see the Fruit of patience, kindness and self-control in our classrooms and playground. It continues to be a season of pressing into the Lord, walking with Jesus, and listening to the Holy Spirit for us all. I thank our parent community for their loving support through this time.

Our Year 12 & 13 snorkellers were out at sea yesterday, to finally continue their underwater training. They have had to be very patient with our weather, however they finally hit the depths and were able to explore the wonder of God's creation. We have our senior Ball this weekend, as we partner with Renew School for an evening of fun and celebration. This event has become an annual opportunity for our students to 'party' in a safe environment. We thank Mrs Minnaar and her team of helpers for their mahi in making the night possible.

Next week Mazbou Q makes a musical touchdown at school. Following last year's successful visit we are looking forward to this opportunity for our talented students to be mentored by a professional artist.

1 Corinthians 13:13 says, "Three things will last forever - faith, hope and love - and the greatest of these is love". (Na, tenei te mau nei te Whakapono, te Tumanako, te Aroha, enei e toru; ko te mea nui rawa ia o enei ko te Aroha.) At Excellere College we show this love by living out our Core Values (Ngā Uara): compassion, integrity and honour. Integrity (Mana) means we are honest, respectful, and peacemakers. Integrity is the outworking of our inner truth. Jesus said, "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you." This is the light we look to reflect at Excellere College and encourage our students to shine. Next week we will consider the value of honour.

Blessings
Graeme Whitehead, Principal

"May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, LORD, is in you"
Psalm 25: 21 (NASB)

Excellere College 'A Night in Paris' Ball Preparations



This week Mrs. Minnaar, Mrs. Smith and a group of students started with the Senior Ball decorations and it's starting to come together really well. We can't wait to put it all together to see what the final pieces will look like. We will be sharing lots more photos with you over the next few weeks to show you some of the beautiful dress the students wore.

Ratatouille's Week 8 Menu

This week at Ratatouille's our flavour of soup was ham and vegetable. The flavour sold out and we had another good turn out.

Next week's flavour is Pea soup with bread for \$2. We will be opening soup from Year 6 up and Staff as well .

Order next week Monday and be ready to pay on either Tuesday or Wednesday.



School Library Update

OVERDUE BOOKS: Over the next few weeks I will be sending out letters for payment of lost books. Please have a good look around your house for books which may be overdue, and return them to school ASAP.

AFRIKAANS SECTION: Check out our new Afrikaans section in the school library! Thanks so much to the families who have helped by donating these books to the library.



Language Development Support

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional wellbeing, or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

This is a free service and each site will be identified by a Te Manawa Tahī flag. Drop into a hub or make an appointment by calling 0800 524 842 or emailing TT.Support@education.govt.nz

If you have any questions or comments, please phone 0800 524 842 or email TT.Support@education.govt.nz

Wednesday 22 June **Mangakahia Community Room**
1480 Maungakahia Road, Titoki

Thursday 23 June **Manaia View school**
64 Murdoch Crescent, Raumanga

Thursday 30 June **Te Rito**
Cnr William Jones Drive and Rata Place, Otangarei

Clark Road Chapel
4-6 Clark Road, Kamo

Hora Hora School
22 Te Mai Road, Woodhill

Whānau Competition: Colouring

The annual Excellere College Whānau Colouring Competition has finished, and the results are in. Almost 70 year 1-6s participated, with some outstanding pictures.

Overall Hikurangi won, beating everyone with 37 points! Second place was Parihaka with 20 points, third was Hurupaki with 17 points and close behind was Parakiore with 16 points.

Well Done to all the Year 1-6's who participated.

- Caleb Duinkerke,
Hurupaki Whānau Leader

Year Group Placegetters

Year 1&2:

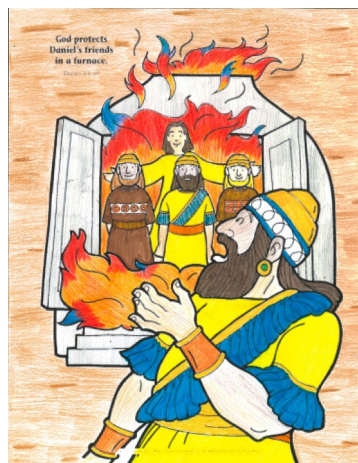
- 1st: Sacha (Hikurangi)
- 2nd: Josh (Hurupaki)
- 3rd: Larissa (Hikurangi)

Year 3&4:

- 1st: Ethan (Parihaka)
- 2nd: Joshua (Hikurangi)
- 3rd: Zoe (Parakiore)

Year 5&6:

- 1st: Ella (Hikurangi)
- 2nd: Noah & Eli (Parihaka)
- 3rd: Elin (Hurupaki)



Whānau Placings	Participation Points	Placing points	Total Points
1st Hikurangi	23	14	37
2nd Parihaka	12	8	20
3rd Hurupaki	13	4	17
4th Parakiore	15	1	16

Year 12 & 13 PE Poor Knights Trip (finally!)



The day dawned cool and crisp, with the joy of a child on Christmas morning, as if it knew the excitement to come of the five students from Excellere College. A day they feared never would eventuate.

It all started back on the 23rd of February, the day chosen for the Year 12 and 13 PE class to adventure out to the Poor Knights for adventures ranging from snorkelling with mooching snapper, to paddle boarding and kayaking in the largest sea cave in the world. But little did they know that this day would be out of reach, like a feather dancing in the breeze, for a further four months. Covid worked its way through the class, from one student to the next, even bringing down the teacher. Three months later all the participants had endured covid, so they thought they would make it this time.

But no. A tempest was building off the coast, driving rain and howling gales crashing into the bay where the snorkelling was to take place meant that once again, the Poor PE class had to watch it's dreams of fun in the sun get swept aside like a piece of wood in that very same storm. But they had hope, surely this would not happen a second time.

But no, once again, like the giant waves that were once again pounding into the Poor Knights, their dreams were smashed. For

the eighth time the trip was postponed. They had almost forgotten the risks they were being assessed on as they had to progress onto new tasks. Would they ever make it? The despair was palpable. But hope springs eternal. This resilient bunch would not be deterred. Prayers were offered up and it seemed like all the waiting was worth it. The sun was blazing down, the water seemed clearer than glass and the students had all brought yummy treats to share with each other.

Because the day dawned so spectacular, we were privileged to get to go to two dive sites that are rarely visited by snorkellers, the Tie-Dye Arch (the most sought after dive site at the Poor Knights) and Blue Maomao Arch (which Jacques Cousteau ranked number 7 in the world!).

There were fish everywhere, including some rare Lord Howe reef fish which had made their way down from Australia. Blue Maomao Arch was a highlight for the students as the Blue Maomao formed curtain after blue curtain in the water, showing us why Mr Cousteau rated it so highly.

Students also participated in paddle boarding, seal and dolphin watch, and a 'bomb' competition (won by Mr Keyte). A great day that was truly worth waiting for.



Senior College Devotion—Abby Fensham

I found a little devotion on labels and “clicks” and feeling worthless when you don’t fit in this is something a lot of people struggle with, especially as a teenager in high school.

At school and even outside of school, it always seems like there are groups. You know, there were the kids that were good at music, or the students that did well at sports, or even the students that did well academically. And it always seemed that there were groups and labels at school. Like you were an athlete, or you were part of this group or that group. Outside of school there is also the aim to be in with the right crowd and it seems to be so significant who you hang out with and what you attend. As a result, you were often judged and labelled based on our friends and what our interests are. When we are feeling judged or less important which can be most of the time it can have a very large impact on our mental health too which even affects our relationships and this just goes to show why we shouldn’t base our self worth on other people’s opinions which in reality don’t actually matter because people opinions doesn’t change God’s opinion on us or what His plan for our future is. In actual fact listening to the opinions of peers and feeling insecure could actually ruin our future. As with peer pressure we feel the need to do things or change ourselves for these people to be accepted. We open ourselves up to harmful things that could affect the rest of our lives. But knowing that God loves us and that is enough we should avoid this, as in the Bible in Proverbs 4:23 it says **“Above all else guard your heart or everything you do flows from it”. If we open ourselves to all these bad things and let people's opinions and expectations get to us**

our actions aren’t going to reflect our faith in God anymore.’

I have struggled very much with insecurities and trying to get people to like me in order to feel better about myself. When in reality no matter what I did that emptiness didn’t go away. And it has taken me a very long time to not care what people think anymore and know that God’s opinion on me is the only one that matters.

And based on what I've heard when you get out of high school and move into college, you’re often given a label there too. You’re labelled based on what you study, or as an adult on your career or relationship status. But here’s the great thing about God, He doesn’t label us. And it is best to learn this as early as possible.

In *John 1:12* it says **“But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”** There are no groups or labels with God. If you believe in God, and accept Him into your heart, you’re a child of God. It doesn’t matter what you’ve been labelled in the past, with God, you’re simply His child.

And as **His child, you’re loved, you’re accepted, and you have value.** God sees beyond what people see and He looks at your heart, and He calls you His!

Reflection as shared by Abby Fensham (Head Girl) at Senior College Assembly last week.

Year 3 ‘Under the Sea’ Collage Art



The Year 3 students did shading, painting, colouring in and used different mediums such as crepe paper and pompoms to make a collage of under the sea layers with different fish and mammals. This is part of our Inquiry learning about sea creatures this term.

Amanda Annadale, Year 3 Teacher



New 'Good Reads' in the Excellere College Library

As the weather starts to get colder more time is spent inside and reading is a wonderful way to spend a few minutes or even a few hours inside. Come to the Library at lunchtime and maybe even take a few books home to read. Below are some of the new books now available /soon to arrive in the school library:



Sky High: Jean Batten's Incredible Flying Adventures, by David Hill (Junior College)
This is one of 9 new books about famous New Zealanders that we have recently purchased.

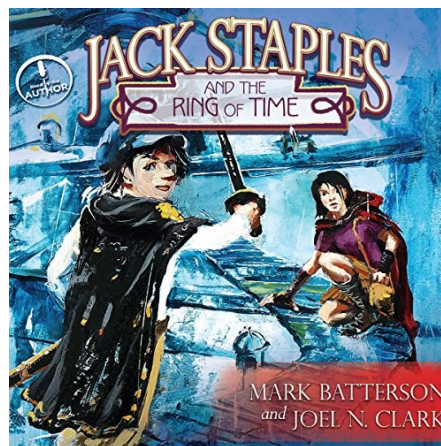
Meet Jean Batten, the brave, trail-blazing and glamorous aviator, who strove to set new records in death-defying solo

flights across the world. Brave, trail-blazing and glamorous, this stunning picture book tells the true story of how Jean Batten became an international superstar for her solo flights across the world.

Te Tiriti O Waitangi by Toby Morris (Middle College)

Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi is a reorua (bilingual) graphic novel that takes a fresh and innovative look at our founding treaty.

The book reflects current scholarship and has been reviewed by some of Aotearoa's foremost Te Tiriti o Waitangi experts.



Jack Staples and the Ring of Time, by Mark Batterson and Joel Clark (Middle College)

(This is the first book in the series and is available now, books 2 & 3 are on their way)

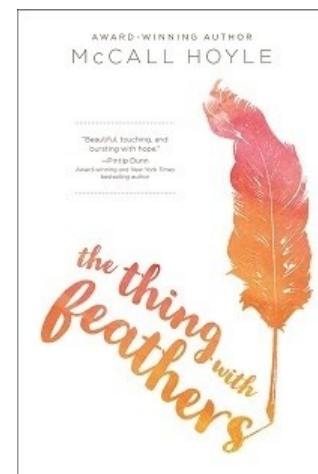
After a near-death experience, eleven-year-old Jack awakens to a

world where war has been raging since time before time. Battling fantastical creatures, Jack must face his fears if he is to fulfil his destiny. But is his destiny to save the world... or destroy it?

The Thing with Feathers, by McCall Hoyle (Senior College)

Emilie Day believes in playing it safe: she's home-schooled, her best friend is her seizure dog.

Then Emilie's mom enrolls her in public school, and Emilie goes from studying at home to halls full of strangers. To make matters worse, Emilie is paired with starting point guard Chatham York for a research project on Emily Dickinson. She should be ecstatic when Chatham shows interest, but she has a problem. She hasn't told anyone about her epilepsy.



Business advertising available \$5 per week, \$50 per term or \$200 per year. The money raised goes towards printing the school year book.

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