



Excellere College

Whaia te Maramatanga o Te Karaiti

Excellence in Learning - Christianity in Living

Newsletter - Te Pānui

December 13 2023

Term 4 Week 10

Upcoming Events

- 13.12.2023 2024 Stationary list's are live @ Office Max and Northland Office Products Depot
- 15.12.2023 School Office closes
- 22.01.2024 School Office re-open
- 30.01.2024 School recommences for 2024

OfficeMax MySchool

Beat the rush and order back to school stationary now!

Class lists are ready at myschool.co.nz

[Shop Now](#)

2023 Yearbooks & Reports

There are a limited number of Yearbooks remaining. These can be purchased from the office this week for \$8.50 each.

Reports went out on Friday with your child/children. If your child was absent you can still collect from the office this week.

2024 School Roll

We are currently planning for 2024 classes and have a number of families who are on our waiting list. If your children will not be returning next year please let us know immediately. This will enable us to contact the families who are waiting.

From the Principal

Kia ora/Kamusta/haai/annyeonghaseyo Excellere College whānau/families,

The last few weeks have roared by at Excellere College with so much fun and faith-laughter and of course a great deal of hard work. It has been wonderful to see finer weather with beach trips, Duke of Edinburgh and other outdoor events taking place. We have several new families enrolling for 2024 and we will also welcome new teachers. Mrs Regina Gono and Mr Chris Jenkins will join us next year.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to some staff too. Mrs Shani Delpont and Mrs Marija Silec both move on at the end of the year. We are so grateful to them both for the joy they have brought into Excellere College. We pray for a smooth transition into their next adventure.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to Caleb Duinkerke and Aimee Whitehead who served the school as Head Boy and Head Girl this year. I have felt so blessed to have their support in leading the senior college. Aimee is back for Year 13 in 2024 but Caleb is heading off to university. We are excited to see what his future brings and know he will be the light in the room wherever he goes.

Over the next few weeks you will see various teams investigating the ground in front of the school. This week a geotech survey was begun and full site surveys will be undertaken. This will lead to the development of a new school driveway that will run down the tree line next to the vet clinic. Of course the benefit is that it is further away from SH1. Although the current driveway will be closed eventually we are likely to keep it operational to allow future construction traffic safer access to the school.

As we look ahead to the long summer break we also reflect on the year that has been. School closures due to cyclones and strikes were an ongoing issue but with God paving the way we have still had a very positive year. We opened new classrooms and many attended the early morning blessing. We had sports exchanges and success at interschool athletics. Senior students were awarded academic scholarships, won places at universities around the country and others took up places in various trades. Many new families arrived from overseas and others moved away. We have so much to be grateful for here at Excellere College. Be safe and have fun this summer and we'll see you back on Tuesday 30th January for 2024.

May Joy be your gift at Christmas and may Faith, Hope, and Love be your treasures in the New Year. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may His light illuminate your path and His peace fill your heart. Wishing you a Christmas filled with heavenly blessings.

Andy Mouat

Tumuaki,
Excellere College

Junior College Awards Ceremony



Junior College Special Awards

	Year 0-1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Compassion Award	Lazir Dunn	Liam Hugo	Sophie Dodd	Alexia Southey	Moriah-Jireh Drakakis	Chloe Jordaan
Honour Award	Lucas Duinkerke	Ryder Burton	Karlien Botha	Anton Duinkerke	Samuel Meyer	Ella Teariki
Integrity Award	Nathan Falloon	Elijah Schofield	Larissa Van Der Hulst	Joshua Restrepo	Sophie Blithe	Sophia Restrepo
The Arts Award	Da-Som Kim	Alexia Pokkiri Raja	Keziah Duinkerke	Te Arana Liddell	Addison Lee	Leané Botha
Sportsmanship Award	Luan du Plessis	Tu Kaea Liddell	Jay du Plessis	Field-Li Ngwa	Emma Posthumus	Josiah de Vetter
Speech Award				Zoe de Vetter	Sarvag Shankar	Lucy Webster
Academic Excellence		Nate Blithe	Jesse Ang	Joshua Restrepo	Emma Posthumus	Ella Teariki

Middle & Senior College Awards Ceremony



Senior College Special Awards

House Shield Winners	Parakiore	Leadership	Caleb Duinkerke
Victor Ludorum	Matthew Philander	Victrix Ludorum	Ella Yung
Integrity	Caleb Duinkerke	Senior Service	Caleb Duinkerke
Gough Family Overcomers Award	Bryn Hollis	Jenni Walsh Scripture Memory Award	Abinaya Pokkiri Raja
Compassion	Sienna Quenault	Spiritual Endeavour	Caleb Duinkerke
Diligence	Bryn Hollis	Chambers Cup of Worship	Aimee Whitehead
Respectfulness	Morgan Swanepoel	Service to Sport	Keanu Aprea
School Prefect 2024	Olive Wojnowski	School Prefect 2024	Rebecca Almeida
School Prefect 2024	Sienna Quenault	School Prefect 2024	Ulricke Schreuder
Head Prefect 2024	Miguel Shortland	Head Prefect 2024	Aimee Whitehead
Overall Academic Excellence	Caleb Duinkerke		

Year 10 Special Awards

Compassion Award	Annalisa Gabler	Sports Award	Malan Volschenk
Honour Award	Rosie de Vetter	Speech Award	Kabali Oudshoorn-Davis
Integrity Award	Caylin Watkins		

Middle College Awards

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Compassion Award	Daluchi Ezeokafor	Olivia Cullum	Aiden Marais
Honour Award	Emilee-Jae Bristowe	Ellie Chambers	Lydia Jongkind
Integrity Award	Liam Dodd	Mariesa Duinkerke	Abinaya Pokkiri Raja
The Arts Award	Eli Hartwell	Kelly De Beer	Abinaya Pokkiri Raja
Sports Award	Emilee-Jae Bristowe	Kelly De Beer	Aiden Marais
Speech Award	Lydia Alison	Tylah Van Der Hulst	Abinaya Pokkiri Raja
Academic Excellence	Emilee-Jae Bristowe	Ellie Chambers	Abinaya Pokkiri Raja

Year 10 Hā Wananga

From the 13-15 November the Year 10's attended a course called HA (Histories of Aotearoa). The course was held at school and lead by Justice, Rhoen, Maddie and Gabe. This course studied the histories of Aotearoa through art forms.

Day 1 was called kakano, we studied the histories of the Māori world and how it was created. Through the information we gained we created pieces of artwork using this clay type material called ko. We used it in its natural form (dry) but we also mixed it with oil to create a paste that we could paint with. We created artworks using nature patterns and the ko, and how the Māori reacted in the time that they lived in.

Day 2 was lots more fun, we created our own species. We presented those to the class then we got paired with another group to create skits about how those two worlds collided. So many laughs and fun times were made! After we created those skits we learned about how the Māori survived through the wars and land loss. Through us learning those things we created pieces of poetry that described how it would feel in that time and how we can heal through the struggles that they faced.

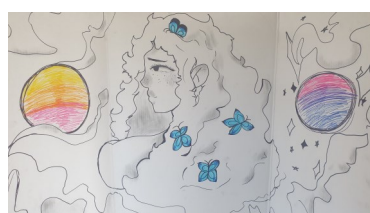
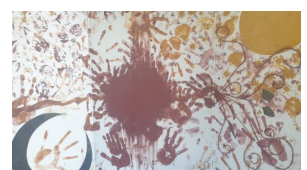
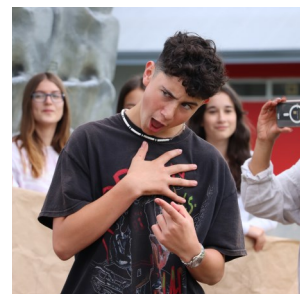
Day 3 was all about making our final art piece, we created a piece of artwork using the resources that the leaders provided that was supposed to reflect what the past felt like and what the future could look like. Everyone created amazing works of art and everyone's works were so original and creative.

"My experience at Hā was definitely an eye opener. I was able to catch a glimpse of what our ancestors had gone through, just trying to fight for what they originally owned. The whole experience brought up a lot of mixed emotions like anger, sadness, and awe, but also questions came up like...why? Why didn't they listen to our cries? Why did they think it was fine to just take over and say they own our country and culture? I guess that is an answer to be left in the past. Overall I had a great time and enjoyed being able to use natural resources to create amazing pieces of art. Thank you Justice and Rhoen for taking us through that amazing journey!!" - Caylin Watkins

To celebrate all of our hard work and artwork, Hā put on an exhibition to display our art pieces, poems and skits. It was held on the 15th of November and it was a great success.

We want to say a big thanks to our amazing leaders, Justice, Rhoen, Gabe and Maddie who taught us a lot and helped have a heap of fun and to the teachers for giving us this amazing experience!

- Rosie De Vetter, Year 10



Junior College Athletics Day

This term our PE focus has been a mixture of increasing pace and refining our techniques for Athletics. We trained in High Jump, Long Jump, Sprints, Discus and Shotput. A huge thank you to Peter for ensuring our field was marked out, and Zola for sharing her expertise! Our kids gave each event their best effort and we are so proud of their progress. Ka pai!

- Jess Shanks, Junior College Leader



Advertise Here for 2024

Advertise your event or business HERE in the school newsletter. \$100 a Year. 12 Newsletters a Year.
For more information contact: julie.hale@excellerecollege.school.nz

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Year 8 Art

This year the Year 8 explored their family history through their art. The students studied the work of John Bevan Ford, a New Zealand artist who explores cultures and migration through his artworks. The students created artworks inspired by their own history using symbols and images around a central animal. They learnt how to write about their artworks and have attached the meanings to their artworks.



My art work is about my family, Jesus and where I am from and where I have been. The main picture is a tui, I chose this because it's a traditional animal in New Zealand and the tui is my favourite NZ bird, because of its beautiful colours. The hibiscus represents, my mums favourite flower and is my favourite, because of the way it grows and the colours the flower has. The cross represents, my Christianity and my baptism this year and my faith in Jesus. The Māori patterns represents, where I am from and my culture.
- By June Underwood, Year 8



My Artwork is about my Dutch culture and my connection between the Netherlands and New Zealand. The main picture is a peregrine falcon. I chose it because it is common in the Netherlands and it is one of my favourite birds. It has got NZ patterns on it because I was born in NZ. The top picture represents my old house in Auckland and then we moved to Whangarei. In the box with NZ is lots of plants because NZ has lots of wildlife and my family likes gardening. The cross represents my faith in Jesus Christ.
- By Jacob Duinkerke, Year 8



My artwork is about my connection with the Netherlands. The main picture is a kingfisher because I love kingfishers. On the top of the page are tulips. They represent the fields of tulip in Holland. The windmill at the top of the page represents The Netherlands as there are heaps of windmills over there. All of the fish at the bottom represent my faith and Christianity.

Year 6's at Sandy Bay with Tutukaka Surf

It was a great day spending time with everyone. The Surf Instructors were kind and supportive and they taught us heaps about surfing and being safe.

It was awesome to see our class standing up on the boards and having fun. Thanks to everyone that helped us get there! - Addiena and Leané



FAST 5 Netball Tournament

The Year 7-8s and 9-10s had a great day at the FAST5 netball festival this week. After a mix up with the entries that I was completely responsible for and 100% deserve to earn the 'chicken'. We made the best of a rather 'less than ideal' situation. I would like to thank the Year 9-10s for enduring the 15 aside team to play in a five aside sport, they did well to maintain their 'cool' being subbed off continually to allow their pairs time on the court.

Overall it was a fun and rather manic day. Again I would like to thank my parent helpers, without you, I would not be able to do these events. Tamara Chambers, Anneke Duinkerke, Petrus Nel and also to Rebecca Smith - thank you all so much for your umpiring and people management skills.

- Zola McDonald, Sports Coordinator



WPSSA Athletics

Well done to June Underwood who qualified to compete at the Whangarei Primary Schools Interschool Athletics day. She qualified for 3 events, the 200m sprints, 800m event and the long jump. On the day, June made the 200m final and finished 7th overall in Whangarei. She then went on to compete in the 800m final, finishing up 6th overall and finished mid field in the long jump.

Well done June, I am so proud of your efforts at this event, you showed great determination and perseverance.

- Zola McDonald, Sports Coordinator



Uniform Hub—Girls Skirts

Uniform Hub are discounting senior girls skirts (beige) to \$26.30 until old stock are sold out.

This price is 50% off the usual price of \$52.60.

577 Kamo Road

09 435 2576



Whangarei Primary Athletics Champs



We had a VERY successful Whangarei Area Primary School Athletics day this year and our students put Excellere on the map. Firstly our athletes had to compete at school and become a master in their event, then they were

selected to compete in our zone finals against Kaurihohore Primary school, Glenbervie Primary school and Ngunguru Primary. After that event the 2 top in each event/age/gender can qualify for the Whangarei area event. We were thrilled to have four Excellere students qualify and participate at this event. Our placings at this championship event were:

Alex Subritzky:

1st in Year 6 boys Discus.

Ella Teariki:

1st in Year 6 girls Discus. 1st in 80m Sprint final.

2nd in 100m sprint final.

Emma Posthumus:

2nd in 80m Sprint final, 2nd in 100m sprint final

De Wet Volschenk:

2nd in 80m Sprint final. 4th in 100m sprint final.



This event is a championship event and I am so proud to have been part of these athletes day. They all competed hard and encouraged each other.

Excellere also won the Year 6, 400m relay final which was a fun event to be part of. Well done to all of our athletes today, you made us all very proud.

- Zola McDonald,
Sports Coordinator



Year 5&6 Water Safety Programme

We are so grateful to Sport Northland for leading us through the Top Energy Water Safe programme. The aims of these partnerships is to improve the fundamental swimming skills, water safety awareness and associated survival skills for Northland children.

Our students practiced expected and unexpected water entry, learnt strategies for a capsized raft and how to help someone in distress. We are proud to share that members of the community commented on how incredibly respectful our students were.



Table Tennis Success

Congratulations to Handro Potgieter for participating in the table tennis tournament during Term 4. This event spanned over 4 consecutive weeks where different schools from around the Whangarei area battled it out in a round robin tournament. Handro took 1st place in Division 2.

- Zola McDonald, Sports Coordinator



Year 9 & 10 Camp

Year 9 and 10 Camp was full of excitement, adventure and exhausted students in just between three days and two nights at Manaia Campsite. Activities ranging from kayaking, raft building, building sandcastles in Ocean's beach and climbing Mount Manaia. All students and parents/teachers that participated were so proud that they were able to finish it in just under 1 hour and 30 mins. *"Mount Manaia was as steep as Mount Everest"* - Trisha Sta Cruz

Staying overnight was definitely an experience, delicious meals, breakfast, lunch and dinner were cooked for us by Mrs. Bradley. Enjoying the feasts outside, we watched the morning sunrise and the night sunset, and of course, when the sun goes down, night time games begin. Mafia, spotlight, or just relaxing in your dorms, each of them being fun in their own way. Especially reminiscing about seeing kids tripping down a hill in the dark.

Camp wasn't only just physical activities but mental ones as well. Mr. Holt preached to us every morning and gave us something to reflect on or motivate us for the day.

"At camp, we had an amazing time of worship. Mr Osborne, Ella, Clarissa and I sang and played a couple songs each morning. I could really see God moving through people and I could see a shift in the lives of the students and teachers. It was an incredible experience and I was so excited to have played a part in this" - Rosie.

Friendships being made or brought tighter in the teams we were in. As one of those students who witnessed it first hand I have to say I am missing many gory details, but we had an absolutely awesome time. But don't worry parents, you will hear the stories about the 2023 'Camp Fear Factor' and Mr. Keyte's notorious recreation of a smoothie. We would all like to thank the teachers and parents that helped plan and supervise the camp. Looking after Year 9's and 10's is no easy job, so thank you for helping us finish off 2023 with a bang.
- Alyssa Barnes, Year 10



Congratulations Sarah

We warmly celebrate and pray a blessing over the upcoming wedding and marriage of Sarah Jongkind and Connor Howells. Sarah is an incredible teacher who is well loved by her students and us all. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2024 as Mrs. Sarah Howells. Congratulations!



Hair Donation for Cancer

One of our Year 3 students Aliyah Jellick donated her hair for cancer earlier in the term. Two years ago, a friend of Aliyah's mum was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her hair fell out and 5 year old Aliyah learned about hair loss.

She decided right then that she wanted to grow and donate her own hair to be made into a real hair wig. The requirement for the company Aliyah went to was 20cm, but 7 year old Aliyah was able to donate four 28cm long plaits.

She was very excited and the last two years of carefully looking after her own hair in anticipation of the big chop. Now she's starting again for the next donation!



Beach Buses

Beach Buses are back! Running between Whangārei and Ocean Beach, and Whangārei and Ruakākā Beach, every Thursday from December 21st.

The **Ocean Beach** bus leaves Rose Street bus depot at 10am and returns 2.30pm.

The **Ruakākā Beach** bus leaves 11.15, and returns at 2pm.

Just \$5 each way. Get the bus to the beach! Ka eke ki runga i te pahi ki te takutai!

See Bus Link.co.nz, or join CityLink on Facebook.

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NORTHLAND TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE



Whangarei Community Hubs

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. All Hubs are open from 9-12pm unless stated otherwise

This is a free service and each site will be identified by a Te Manawa Tahī sign or flag. Drop into a hub or make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or



Te Manawa Tahī
Community Timetable



WHANGĀREI

Wed 1 November	He Puna Ruku Mātāuranga o Whangaruru *9am - 10.30am* 2916 Russell Road, Hikurangi
Thurs 2 November	Whānau Focus Centre, 61 Victoria Street, Dargaville
Tue 7 November	Mangakahia Community Room, 1480 Mangakahia Road, Titoki
Wed 8 November	Te Rito, 165 William Jones Drive, Otangarei
Wed 15 November	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside
Thurs 16 November	Te Horo School, 3239 Pipiwai Road, Pipiwai
Wed 22 November	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo
Thurs 23 November	Bream Bay Community Trust (10am to 12.30pm) 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā
Wed, 29 November	Children's Lighthouse Playgroup, 20 George Street, Hikurangi
Thurs 30 November	St John Ōtāmatea Ambulance Hall (10am to 1pm) 172 Hurndall Street East, Maungaturoto
Wed 6 December	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside
Thurs 7 December	Whānau Focus Centre, 61 Victoria Street, Dargaville
Thurs 14 December	Ngunguru School *9am - 10.30am* Te Maika Road
	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo

Drop into a hub or make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing TT.Support@education.govt.nz.

Thank-You Excellere!



I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the amazing support I received from the greater Excellere family.

With your help, walking Laps of the Hātea Loop for Arthritis NZ campaign was an enormous success. Nearly \$10,000 has been raised smashing my original goal of \$5,000. I also achieved my goal of taking at least one step for each of the 700,000 Kiwis with arthritis walking 161 laps totalling 703km in 7 days. Thank you for donating, praying, walking with me, coming down to support and backing me.

Donations are still open so if you haven't donated already and would like to help us hit \$11,000 then you are most welcome to donate here: tinyurl.com/justin-hill
Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas.

- Justin Hill.



I walked the Hatea Loop with Mr Hill three times in Week 7.

It was fun walking with him. We did lots of talking when we walked.

Mr Hill was walking the loop everyday to tell people about arthritis and to raise money for Arthritis NZ.

Mr Hill has arthritis and I have arthritis too.

By Lucas Duinkerke



Duke of Edinburgh

Last week our three Duke of Edinburgh students completed their final expedition to qualify for the award, a huge achievement for Caleb, Aimee and LJ.



This involved them suffering through intense wind and rain on the first day, whilst climbing up vast ridgelines on the flanks of Mount Ruapehu. Luckily all the skills they had learned on previous trips came into play, and while it was wet and miserable weather, spirits remained high, marvelling in the alien like landscapes on the side of an active volcano.



After drying out (somewhat) in the hut overnight, the team progressed around past Turoa, tackling a number of steep ascents, waterfalls, swing bridges and ancient beech forests. Thursday saw the group making its way to the final hut on the South side of Ruapehu, where the tired students finally got to see the snow on Mt Ngauruhoe, and Ruapehu.

A highlight of the trip was swimming in the alpine stream next to the hut. They had so much fun, they even did it another two times that day! Friendships were also made with other students at the hut from Elim Christian school. A great time was had by all, special thank you to Mrs Kelly for coming along so we could complete the trip and a massive well done to these students who did our school, and themselves, proud.

- Ben Keyte, HoD PE, Heath, EOTC Coordinator

