

Upcoming Events

4 June— 19 July	Term 2 Holidays
20 July Monday	First Day of Term 3 Mihi Whakatau New entrant cohort entry
22 July Wednesday	Basketball Year 9-10 Girls Cup
29 July Wednesday	Excel Music Performance 9am School Gym
30 July Thursday	Kiwi Tag Boys Year 7-8
4 August Tuesday	Basketball Boys Cup & Festival Year 11—13
6 August Thursday	Parent Learning Conferences
7 August Friday	TEACHER ONLY DAY SCHOOL CLOSED

Excellere Senior College Ball



The day began bright and early at 8:00 am at Semenoff Stadium, where a group of parents, students, teachers, and family members came together to prepare for one of the most anticipated events of the year. There were a few complications along the way and plenty of stress, sweat, and different opinions, but by 1:00 pm everything had finally come together. Seeing the venue transformed into such a beautiful space made all the hard work worthwhile.

By 6:00 pm, the excitement was building as students began arriving, dressed to impress and stepping out of some incredible vehicles.

The atmosphere was filled with anticipation, and as guests walked through the doors to the iconic music of DJ SI, it was clear that the night was going to be something special.

The evening was packed with great food from Hello Pickle Catering, countless photos by Brendan from Langwood Photography, and plenty of laughs shared between friends. The photo booth from Epic Photobooths quickly became a crowd favourite, with groups lining up throughout the night practising poses and what props they were going to use to capture memories they will look back on for years to come.

Continued on Page 3



Year 13



Year 12



Year 11

From the Tumuaki/Principal

Kia ora Excellere Kaupapa Whānau,

Here we are at the end of Term 2 already! We continue to be so blessed here at Excellere College. This has been a time of prayer, praise, and hard work with lots of laughter and fun along the way. Our Monday morning whole school devotions continue to be a wonderful opportunity to praise Him and to share a variety of Christian messages with students and staff. Parents and carers are always welcome to join us from 8:55am until about 9:15am each Monday morning in the school gym.



Photo: Monday morning school devotions in the gym

Junior College Deputy Principal, Mrs Jess Shanks is beginning her 12 month maternity leave at the end of Term 2. We will miss Jess and her leadership within Junior College. We pray that Jess and Hanz are blessed by the beginnings of their parenthood journey. We are so grateful that Mrs Jeana Novaire has agreed to step up as acting Junior College Deputy Principal. We are looking forward to having her faith, energy and expertise in this space. Additionally, we welcome back Mrs Larissa Matheson after her maternity leave as she returns to her teaching role in Junior College. Many of you will know that she has continued to work two hours each week teaching drama and running Excellere's Showquest entry this year.

Traffic Update

It is wonderful to see the rapid progress NZTA are making on the SH1 roundabout. We hope that over time this will make it safer for vehicles to enter and exit Excellere College.

On that note, I wanted to thank the vast majority of drivers for their patience and attention to safety when driving in and around the school. This is a timely reminder to be extra-vigilant as there have been some vehicles travelling too quickly on the driveway or in the car park. Please give yourself plenty of time to allow for delays, especially in the afternoons.

The council has been in touch to let us know they intend to install electronic speed-limiting signage outside Excellere College. I understand this will act to lower the speed on Great North Road to 30kph for approximately 30 minutes each morning and afternoon.

Excellere College Bus Services

Over the next few weeks we will be getting in touch to share information about new and amended bus routes that travel to and from Excellere College. This is the result of a review of our roll growth conducted by the Ministry of Education. You are not required to do anything at this stage. We will share further information with you as soon as we receive confirmation and timings from the MOE. Please bear in mind this is outside our control and decisions are made by agencies external to Excellere College.

Whangārei Christian Education Trust (WCET)

For those of us that have been around for a while, you will be familiar with WCET and the wonderful work they do for Excellere College. They are a group of volunteers who are responsible for supporting the development of the school and also guiding us in matters relating to our Christian character. They work tirelessly behind the scenes planning

and praying to further His kingdom in this place. Mr Vaughan Darby has been a core member of the trust for over ten years and has decided to retire from the position of chairman and to focus on spending time with their grandchildren. We wish to acknowledge Vaughan for his unwavering faith and his focus on supporting the Excellere community in this exciting phase of growth. We will miss him. Mr Ryan Sims has agreed to step into the chairperson's role. We look forward to the next season as we see God at work on His plan. Please continue to pray for God's provision and protection over Excellere College.

With the start of the school holidays we pray that this is a time of rest, time with family and an opportunity to lean into Him. We look forward to the start of Term 3 with a spring in our steps.

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Yours in Christ,
Andy Mouat
Tumuaki/Principal



Excellere College Senior Ball Continued



The dance floor stayed full for most of the evening. Friends sang along to favourite songs, groups gathered in circles to dance, and there was always something happening somewhere in the room. Every time you looked around, there were smiles, laughter, and people simply enjoying being together. Even those who needed a break from the dancing could be found outside chatting with friends and enjoying the fresh air by the stadium chairs before heading back in.



What made the night so memorable wasn't just the decorations, the food, or the music. It was the feeling of seeing everyone together. For one evening, the focus wasn't on schoolwork, assessments, or deadlines. It was about celebrating friendships, making

memories, and enjoying a special occasion with people who have shared so much of the journey together.

As the evening came to a close, couples, friends, and teachers shared a few final slow dances before everyone gathered to give thanks and end the night in prayer. While many headed home, others stayed behind to help clean up, bringing the event to a close in the same spirit of teamwork that had started it that morning.



A special thank you goes to Mrs Chantel Minnaar for the countless hours of planning, organising, and problem-solving that went into making the Senior Ball such a success. Her dedication and commitment helped turn an idea into an unforgettable evening. A big thank you also goes to the Ball Committee and everyone who helped out behind the scenes; your time, effort, and teamwork played a huge part in making the night run so smoothly.

On behalf of everyone who attended, thank you to all those who contributed their time,



effort, and support. The 2026 Senior Ball was more than just a school event, it was a celebration of friendships, memories, and moments that will be remembered for years to come. If this year's ball is anything to go by, future Senior Balls are going to be just as special. It was, without a doubt, A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!!!

– Head of Ball Committee: Luané and Ziany



TikTok Celebrity Visit by Louis Davis

We were incredibly fortunate to have Louis Davis visit our school. Louis shared his inspiring journey of storytelling, modern fatherhood, and his passion for challenging negative stereotypes. He challenged our tamariki to dream big, embrace their identity, and stay grounded.

Louis' accomplishments include being a Celebrity Treasure Island finalist and winning the 2025 Australia/ New Zealand TikTok creator of the year. Still, his proudest achievement is being a proud husband and caring father.

" Be delusionally courageous for your aspirations for as long as possible", Louis Davis.

- Hanz Shanks



Whānau Academic Competition: Battle of the Brains!

Last week, our Year 4 - 6 students battled it out in our termly Academic Competition. It was an awesome showcase of teamwork, quick thinking, and general knowledge, with our four proud whānau groups going head-to-head.

After a hard-fought battle across a wide range of challenging questions and categories, the final standings were locked in:

1st Place: Parakiore (Champions!)

2nd Place: Parihaka

3rd Place: Hurupaki

4th Place: Hikurangi

A massive congratulations to Parakiore for taking out the top spot this time around! To all the participants, thank you for representing your whānau with such honour and determination.

A quick note for our students - the indigenous people of Australia are not "Aussies mate". They are aboriginal peoples.



Excellere's World Vision Market Day

This year, Excellere was incredibly well-organized for our World Vision fundraiser, supporting children in the Solomon Islands to access vital food and education. Currently, many of these children face the heartbreaking choice between having a meal or attending school. Driven by this need, our school community rallied together to raise as much support as possible.

To date, we have raised just over \$4,000! A special mention goes to Room 8, who raised an outstanding \$1,462 on their own, and to Jay and Luan du Plessis, who contributed an incredible \$1,045.

Thank you all for your amazing support during Market Day—whether you donated, purchased from the "Shop" or food court, or visited our wonderful face painters. Your generosity makes a real difference!

Jeanne Hill
- Student Leadership Facilitator



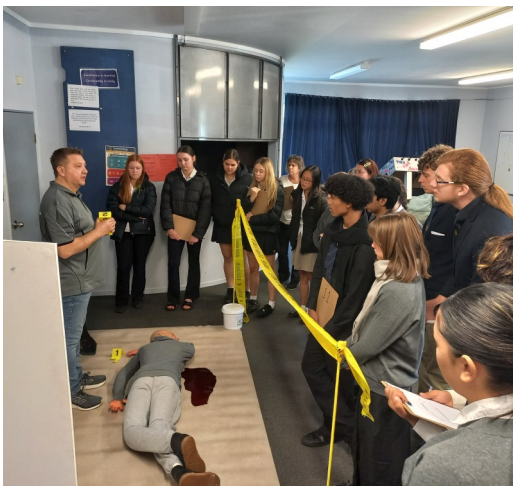
Forensic Insight Workshop

We had the opportunity to invite the "Forensic insight" Expert, fingerprint and forensic services, Thomas and Allie Coyl, to our school for a day of workshops for Year 11 Science and Year 12,13 Biology students on Wednesday, the 10th June. Thomas Coyl has had a 37-year career, including time with New Scotland Yard.

- The workshop included hands-on workstation, which was Fingerprints, Shoeprints or DNA (for Year 12,13)
- A mock crime scene (4m x 4m) was set up for analysis and observations.

The workshops were successful, inspiring many students and introducing them to a range of future career options that require a Science background. This was also a good opportunity to invite Science and Biology students from Renew Christian School, with whom we have shared many great learning experiences.

Mehrzad Zamanpour, HoD, Science

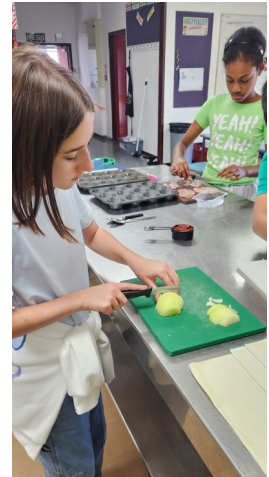
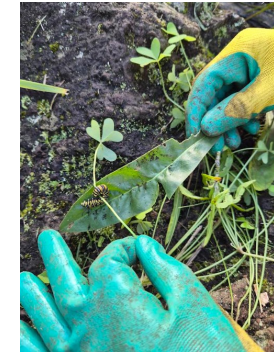


Garden to Table Update

Our students have been busy planting, harvesting, and expanding our school gardens. They have enjoyed experimenting with growing seeds, learning valuable gardening skills along the way, and have had great fun creating delicious recipes using fresh produce harvested from the garden.

We are also excited to share that our Garden to Table team has been awarded a Kai Ora Grant from the Whangārei District Council. This funding will contribute towards the installation of a secure storage shed and a greenhouse. These additions will allow us to grow a wider variety of crops and extend our growing season throughout the winter months.

We would love to welcome any whānau members who are able to lend a hand in the kitchen or garden between 9:30am and 11:30am. Whether you can help regularly or just occasionally, your support would be greatly appreciated—many hands make light work!



Excellere's ShowQuest Performance 2026



At ShowQuest this year, we placed 3rd overall and received Excellence in Music (Soundtrack), Recognition in Music (Live), and Recognition in Culture.

Most importantly, our story, faith and passion came through on stage, with audience members and other schools sharing how impacted they were by our message.

Isabella & Emily: Being part of ShowQuest was a really fun and interesting experience. I enjoyed working with others to create and perform our show. It was exciting to see all of our hard work come together on stage. I also learned new skills and gained confidence throughout the process. Overall, ShowQuest was a memorable experience that I am glad we took part in -

Zelda: ShowQuest was an amazing experience! Competing with other schools and seeing how they practise and create incredible stories in movement. It was so much fun to see all the other competitors and it was a great experience.

Isla: This year's ShowQuest journey was fun, challenging and exciting. From rehearsals at school and the silent disco to watching other teams perform and having to change our choreography just a few hours before going on stage, it was all worth it. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to have participated and incredibly thankful to everyone who helped make it possible.



Year 9-13 Table Tennis—Novice

Well done to all of our Year 9–13 table tennis players who competed in the Novice Tournament. With approximately 130 students from schools across Whangārei taking part, the competition was extremely strong. Our students represented the school with pride, determination, and excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. Some players progressed through to the semi-finals before being narrowly eliminated.

A special congratulations to **Mia Marias**, who achieved an outstanding 5th place finish.

We are incredibly proud of the efforts, achievements, and positive manner in which all of our students represented the school.



Table Tennis Champs Year 9-13

Well done to all of our Year 9–13 Table Tennis Championship players who competed in the Championship Tournament on Thursday, 4 June.

The competition was strong, and our students demonstrated excellent skill, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the day.

Some players progressed to the semi-finals, where they narrowly missed out on advancing further. We are incredibly proud of the way all of our students represented the school.



Table Tennis Novice—Year 7-8

Well done to all of our Year 7-8 table tennis players who competed in the Novice Tournament. With approximately 90 students from schools across Whangārei taking part, the competition was strong.

Some of our students progressed through to the semi-finals and represented the school with great sportsmanship and determination before being narrowly eliminated. We are very proud of their efforts and achievements.



Boys

Name:	Place Champs	Place Cup 16-	Place Plate 27-
Huxley Dow	5th		
Owen Koch	9th		
Elijah Semenoff-Mayall			9th

Girls

Name:	Place Champs	Place Cup 16-	Place Plate 27-
Esther Browne	5th		
Grace Watkins	12th		
Sophia Buchanan	11th		

Books by Mike de Vetter for Sale

Large format books written by Mike de Vetter (former pastor of Whangarei Elim Church) are available for sale for \$5 each.

If you are interested in purchasing, please see the school office staff. These will make great gifts of classroom resources for junior aged students.



GRACE
- AFTER SCHOOL CARE -

Term Time Hours: 3-5:30pm
School Holiday Hours: 8:30 - 4:00
For more information contact:
graceafterschoolcare@gmail.com

Duke of Edinburgh—Pinnacles Hike

The new Duke of Edinburgh Bronze group had their practice tramp at the Pinnacles in the Kauaeranga National Park just out of Thames. This group was blessed with fine weather and an empty hut, a true rarity at New Zealand's busiest hut. The group did well climbing the steep terrain, even having to take the flood diversion swing bridge at one point, adding a bit of excitement to the journey. Upon reaching the hut the students dropped their packs and we went up the steep, mountainous summit. The weather was amazing and this helped the students scale the ladders bolted into the rock faces. We stayed on the summit for a long time as we had all worked so hard to get there to enjoy the view. Upon descending and getting back to the hut it was pots out and food on, with various dinners being created from pasta, butter chicken and rice, through to steak and mashed potato. The evening was spent playing cards, eating yummy snacks, and then having a well earned sleep. The students woke up before dawn as they wanted to summit again to watch the sunrise. However, there was a complete whiteout of mist, so we used the time instead to pack, cook breakfast and clean the hut, before walking back down the mountain. All of the students did a fantastic job and should be proud of their mahi. Massive thankyou to Mrs Kelly for joining us and making the trip what it was.

- Ben Keyte, DoE Facilitator



Te Tai Tokerau Book Battle

This term four teams of amazing Excellere College students took part in the annual Te Tai Tokerau Book Battle. Teams of Year 5-6 and Year 7-8 students battled hundreds of students from across Northland in a literacy quiz, hosted by Elim Church Whangārei.

Our students had worked hard in the months leading up to the competition, reading through a set book list as well as brushing up on wider literacy knowledge.

Competition on the day was fierce this year, with the top three place winners coming within only 2 marks of each other. Excellere College managed two Top 10 places this year, which is outstanding in such a tough competition. A special shout-out to all the students who put in the hard mahi – you are hardworking (and hilarious!), and you all represented your school incredibly well. We are excited for next year's competition already!

- Mrs Novaire and Whaea Sarah



Now all glory to God,
who is able, through
His mighty power at
work within us, to
accomplish infinitely
more than we could
ask or think.

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Awhi
Early Learning Centre



Advertise Here for 2026

Volunteers to Coach Basketball

You will be aware that we have a thriving netball culture at Excellere College. I have received enquires regarding the possibility of starting a school basketball squad. If coaching basketball is something you would consider please contact me at andy.mouat@excellerecollege.school.nz

Every blessing
Andy Mouat

Northland Secondary School Association Cross Country Champs

Congratulations to all of our Year 7–13 students who participated in the NSSSA Cross Country Championships at Barge Park, Whangārei. The event attracted runners from schools across Northland, providing a challenging and competitive course for all participants.

Our students demonstrated determination, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship as they tackled the course and represented our school with pride. We are incredibly proud of their efforts, achievements, and the positive attitude they displayed throughout the day. Well done to everyone who took part!

Boys (Top 10)			
Name:	Age:	Distance:	Placing:
Israel Yung	Senior Boys	6km	4
Girls (Top 10)			
Name:	Age:	Distance:	Placing:
Mikayla Falloon	Junior Girls (Y9-10)	4km	7
Carley Clarke	Junior Girls (Y9-10)	4km	10



Increasing our International Homestay Community

We are very proud of our Mission Statement where we are educating students to develop and excel in their God-given gifts and talents, according to His Word and purpose. We would like to extend God's Kingdom by opening our doors to hosting more international students in 2026.

Hosting international students is a wonderful way to share and gain a global perspective for the whole family. We are looking for host families for Year 7-13 students for both short stay (2-4 weeks) and/or long stay (up to 1 year+). A \$300 weekly allowance is paid to the host family to reflect the costs of hosting a young person in your home.

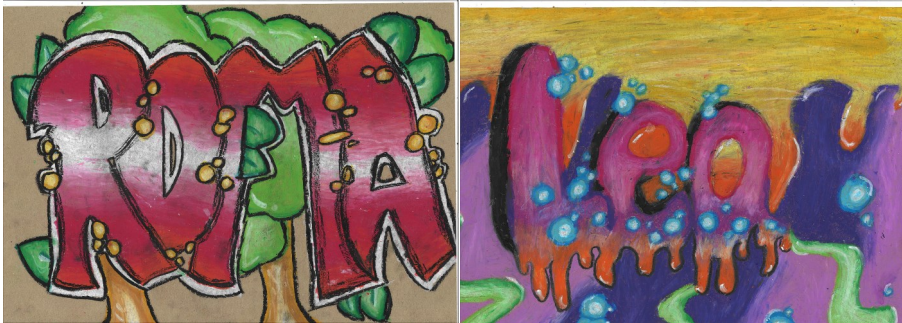
Please email our International Director, Barbie Reynolds, if you are interested in this exciting opportunity please contact:

barbie.reynolds@excellerecollege.school.nz

Whāea Barbie would love to hear from you and chat



Year 7 Oil Pastel Graffiti Art



Middle College Speech Competition

Jackie Chan, Lionel Messi, Batman, Mental Health, Queen Esther or Climate Change. These are just some of the topics the students in Middle College spoke about. These speeches left a roar of laughter in the room or thoughts on how sad others' lives can actually be.

No matter how it ended, everyone would cheer them on and say they did an amazing job (which was really true). Everyone spoke about something or someone. It was great fun and a real highlight of the term.

- Esther Browne, Year 7



Firewood For Sale!!!

Firewood for sale @ \$120 per cubic metre.
Please contact Richard on 0211181086 or the school office on 4352458 to order.

Proceeds will go to Whangarei Christian Education Trust for ongoing projects at school.

God bless, Richard Smith

A big THANK YOU to Peter Meyer, Jeff McLaren, Arthur McLellan, Cole Johnston and Dan Garton for assisting in splitting firewood.



Te Tai Tokerau Readers Cup

Last Monday, our Year 9 teams travelled to Kerikeri to compete in the Te Tai Tokerau round of the Readers' Cup Challenge. This is a reading competition designed specifically for Year 9 students across New Zealand. Teams of 3-4 students together read a set of six books during Term 2, and then compete with other school teams from around Northland to answer quiz questions from these books. The winning team goes on to represent our region at the National Finals in Term 3.

Carley, Mia, Sophia, Fletcher, Kayden, and Benji from Room 13 represented our school brilliantly. They were as prepared as they could be for the intense book-themed quiz and participated well. A huge well done to the team for their hard work and great performance!



Year 10-12 Business Studies Market

Last Friday the business studies students in Years 10-12 had a market day to sell the products they had been working on. There were mini pizzas, brownie, candy floss, games for students to participate in as well as home made products such as scrunchie hair ties and soap.

The Year 12 business studies students were pretty happy with the event, quickly selling out and then taking pre-orders for more of their products. As usual the food products were very popular and were much appreciated by the school community. The sushi pancake group made 80 pancakes prior to the event and had a very busy time fulfilling the orders of a very long line of customers.

