



Upcoming Events

12 Oct Monday	Term 4 begins
12 Oct Monday	Springs Challenge due Scripture Memory due
21-22 Wed-Thurs	Duke of Edinburgh Cape Brett
23 October Friday	Level 2 & 3 Visual Art portfolios due
26 Oct Monday	Labour Day (school closed)
6 Nov Friday	Leavers assembly School gym 11:30am Year 11-13 finish
10 Nov Tuesday	NCEA Exams start at RENEW School
9 Dec Wednesday	Senior College Prizegiving PM at Arise Church
10 Dec Thursday	Junior College Prizegiving AM Middle College Prizegiving PM at Arise Church
11 Dec Friday	Last day of Term 4

Book Character Day



Some of the standout book characters who came to school on Friday: From top left: Little Bo Peep, Pipi Long Stocking, Mrs Frizzle from the Magic School Bus, Mary Poppins, Bear Grylls, Flit the Fantail, Sam I Am, Toad from The Wind in the Willows, Treebeard from The Lord of the Rings, and Willy Wonka.

Week 9 was Book Week at Excellere College and our tamariki celebrated with a fun week of library competitions and games, finishing up with our Book Character dress up day on Friday. Daily book quiz questions, library scavenger hunts and lots of creative book mark designs kept everyone busy. It was great to see such great participation across our Junior, Middle and Senior Colleges, with some amazing costumes spotted in Senior College on Friday! A special shoutout to our amazing kaiako who embraced dress up day with enthusiasm and style. See you next year!

From the Tumuaki

Kia ora Excellere Kaupapa Whānau,

There have been so many highlights this term. Book Character Day last Friday was so much fun. Students and staff looked amazing! Senior students worked hard on their derived grades examinations and have learnt where their gaps are for their formal assessments at the end of the year. Our netballers competed so well throughout the season and held a wonderful prizegiving on Tuesday evening. Thank you so much to everyone who made this happen. Mrs Anneke Duinkerke, Mrs Cherith McLennan, Mariesa Duinkerke and Jacob Duinkerke have worked tirelessly throughout the season.

Mrs Meagan Kelly (Middle College Deputy Principal and wonderful Year 9 teacher) has started a well-deserved ten week sabbatical. We will miss her but look forward to hearing her stories when she is back at Excellere College for the start of 2027. Mr Tim Osborne is stepping into her shoes and bringing his professional experience to the Senior Leadership team. It is such a privilege to work alongside such faith filled Christians. Ms Sian Roscoe will be taking Mr Osborne and Mrs Kelly's teaching responsibilities for the duration. She already knows the students well, having been a regular reliever throughout this year. We are blessed to have Mrs Riana De La Harpe joining our wonderful office team. Mrs Timara Freitas dos Santos (current School Board Secretary) has joined our army of Learning Support Assistants. Our team at Excellere College now numbers approximately 54 staff, including our part time employees. It is a joy to be part of this prayerful team.

2027 and Beyond, My Thoughts

As parents, one of the most significant decisions you make is guiding your children through their secondary education and preparing them for life beyond the school gates. At times, families wonder if a larger secular school might offer a broader range of subjects to open specific career pathways. It is completely natural to want every opportunity for your child's future.

However, we often encourage parents to weigh that choice against what matters most. Academic subjects equip students for a career, but a Christ-centred education equips them for life. Moving away from a Christian learning environment can sometimes mean trading daily spiritual grounding and shared biblical values for a few extra subject options—a trade-off that can impact a young person's ongoing walk in the faith.

At Excellere College, we are actively working to bridge this gap so your child never has to choose between their faith and their future ambitions. Through initiatives like the Virtual Learning Network (VLN), Te Kura distance learning, and tailored Gateway and Trades Academy pathways, we are continually expanding our curriculum choices. These platforms allow our senior students to pursue specialised subjects, vocational training, and tertiary pathways right here within our supportive community.

We are deeply committed to partnering with you. If there is a specific subject or career pathway your child is aiming for, please come and talk to us. We welcome open communication and will do everything we can to flex, adapt, and build a personalised pathway for your student.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for another great term, despite the challenges.

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV) says:

“But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.”

Moving from school routines into the holidays offers us all a deliberate opportunity to slow down, reflect on God's faithfulness, and find true rest.

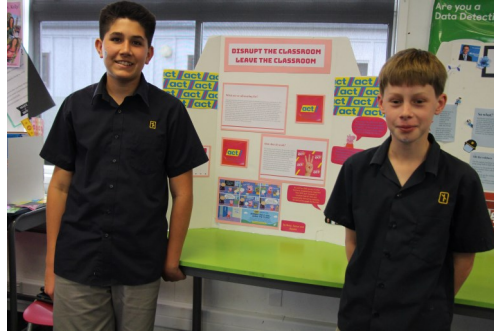
Andy Mouat,
Excellere College Principal

Calendar Dates for 2027

26-28th Jan Tues-Thurs	Teacher Only Days
1st February Monday	Northland Anniversary Day
TERM ONE	
February 2 Tuesday	First day of Term One All year levels begin the school year
April 9 Friday	End of Term One
April 26 Monday	ANZAC DAY
TERM TWO	
April 27 Tuesday	Term Two starts
June 30 Wednesday	Term Two ends
July 1 & 2 Thurs & Friday	Teacher Only Days NZACS Teacher's Conference
TERM THREE	
July 19 Monday	Term Three begins
September 24 Friday	Term Three ends
TERM FOUR	
October 11 Monday	Term Four begins
December 16 Thursday	Term Four ends

Middle College Exhibitions

The Year 9 students have been exploring how our government and election system work, how laws are made, and the different policies proposed by political parties. To bring their learning together, each student chose a policy that interested them and became an expert on the issue, researching what the policy was, why it had been proposed, and how it could affect people.



Year 7 & 8 with Mrs Hill: Room 2 came away from the exhibitions buzzing with new knowledge about governments. We got to learn about the French revolution, kings, and also wars. The presentations were beautiful and informative, and all our questions were kindly answered. It was such a pleasure getting to visit Room 7, 8, and 13 this week.



Neve: "I learned that the French revolution started in 1789 and finished in 1799."

Haim: "While visiting Room 8's exhibitions, I learned about King John. I learned that he died at the age of 49 in the year 1794."

Nate: I loved how we got fidgets for answering questions!"

Lehae: "I liked how Room 8 gave out prizes."

Brooke: "The students in Room 8 were nice and answered all our questions."



Middle College Speech Competition

Week 7 of Term 3 rolled around quickly. It was time for the Speech Finals. A few specially picked candidates from different middle college classes delivered their speeches and wow, they were shockingly good. Ranging from hotdogs to flies, the way God sees us to the Cambodian genocide, William Tyndale to Pastor Barry Dunn. Overall, they were all quite awesome and unique.

I don't doubt the judges had a hard time deciding the winners! So a big thanks to the judges, and especially to the students, who poured out their imagination and skill to craft us some laughs, stories and pieces of encouragement. Can't wait for next year :)

- Benji Browne, Year 9

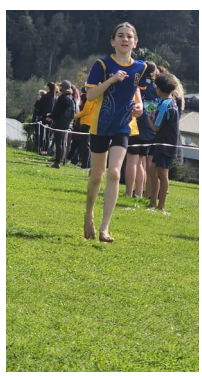


WPSSA Cross Country - Year 4 - 6

The Year 4–6 students took on the challenge at the Cross Country Champs, showing fantastic determination, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout the day. Students gave their best effort as they tackled the course, encouraging and supporting one another along the way.

It was fantastic to see our students pushing themselves, stepping outside their comfort zones, and proudly representing Excellere College. A huge congratulations to everyone who participated and gave it their all!

Well done, Year 4–6 — you should be very proud of your efforts!



Senior Graphic Design

Level 2 & 3 design is about creating a brand for a company or event. The work produced should consistently communicate an aesthetic which is created through colour, images, and typography. Senior students should produce all images themselves through photography, drawing and digital illustration. At Excellere College we have had consistently high grades in this subject at both Level 2 & 3 over the past 10 years. Here is some of the great work being produced by Level 3 design students this year.

Annalisa Gabler, Level 3 design

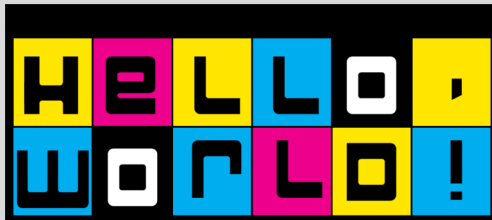
What do you like most about design as a subject?

I think design is the most versatile art subject, you can really make anything in design. You want to make posters? Design. Want to make shirts? Design. Car wraps? Websites? Album covers? It's all in design!

Explain the brand you created this year: "Hello, World!" is a (made up) coding class and website for pre-teens made to introduce them to deeper computer skills. The name "Hello, World!" comes from the command "print ("hello, world")", a common command used to teach beginners coding syntax.

What aesthetic are you trying to communicate?

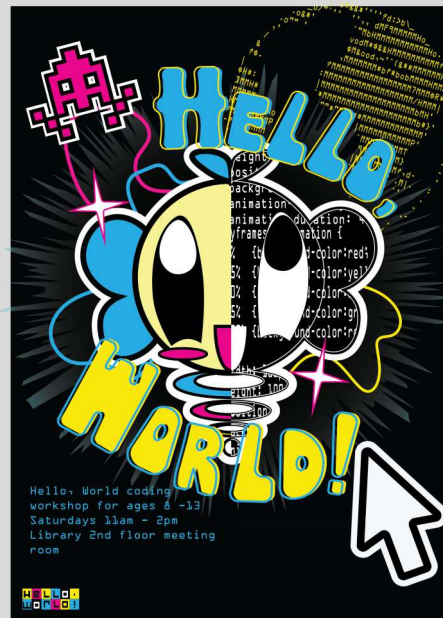
My design for "Hello, World!" takes a lot of inspiration from Superflat Pop and CN Dimensional. I'm trying to create a fun, colourful and sort of retro futuristic look. I think my most successful design is my "code bee" poster, I think it communicates the fun side of my brand well.



Logo



Magazine Spread



Poster

Ella Yung, Level 3 design

What has been the most difficult thing about design:

This year I had to learn how to use three new Adobe programs. I didn't take design at Level 2 so it has been more difficult to create art quickly.

Explain the brand you have created:

Solaire is a beach-inspired jewellery brand that uses photography and cut out designs to create a vibrant beachy aesthetic with a summery, relaxed feel. The name Solaire comes from the French word relating to sun and warmth.

What do you feel is the most successful thing that you have designed this year and why?

I completely changed my whole colour scheme and aesthetic mid year, which definitely improved my overall designs. I think the most successful things I have made this year are some of the posters and double page spreads which include all my photography of the jewellery.



Logo



Poster



Magazine Spread

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.



Futsal Mix Festival — Year 7 - 8

On Monday, 17th August our Year 7–8 Boys and Girls had a fantastic day at the Mixed Futsal Festival, showcasing great teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship throughout the competition. It was great to see our students working together, supporting one another, and giving their best in every game.

The festival provided a great opportunity for our students to develop their futsal skills, build confidence, and enjoy some friendly competition with other schools. Well done to all our players for representing Excellere College with such enthusiasm and a positive attitude!



Badminton Boys Teams Championship —Year 9 - 13

Boys' Badminton teams enjoyed a fantastic day of competition in August, showcasing excellent teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship on the court. The students represented our school proudly and competed with great enthusiasm throughout the tournament.

A special congratulations to EXC Yellow (Kaiden Bell, De Wet Volschenk and Fletcher Dow), who achieved an impressive 3rd equal finish in the Plate grade.

Well done to all players for their effort, commitment, and positive attitude throughout the day!



Week 9 Assembly



The Week 9 school assembly was all about the book character dress up day. In the Junior College almost every student was dressed up and it was quite the highlight of the week. There were Term 3 sports certificates handed out, and we were able to hear the top speech competition speeches by Kaiden Lee (Year 8), Samuel Garton (Year 6), and Kimmy Boddy (Year 5). The dress up parade at the end was organized chaos and 'golden ticket' awards were given out by our Librarian Mrs Sims.



Netball Cup — Year 7 - 8

On Tuesday, 25th August, the Year 7–8 Netball team enjoyed a fantastic day, showing great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship on the court. It has been fantastic to see their confidence and teamwork on the courts. Well done to all Netball players for representing Excellere College with pride and giving their best!



Inclusive Games

We were so proud to have six of our students represent Excellere College at the recent Northland Inclusive Games and special Olympics Basketball!

It was two action-packed days filled with energy and teamwork. At the Inclusive Games students tried out a variety of adapted sports, including Wheelchair Basketball and Boccia. While at the Special Olympics Basketball students competed against other schools, winning three games and losing only two. Throughout the two event, our students were extremely supportive and encouraging toward one another and their peers. They wore the Excellere College badge with pride, serving as outstanding role models and representing our kura with heart and character.

Congratulations to **Samara Laurenson, Nicolas Giles, Harkirat Barring, Elijah Semenoff-Mayall, Nate Attwood, Skailyn Kupenga and Aidan Midhun.**



P: 0800 120 449 M: 022 393 7887
E: lee@balanceadvisors.co.nz
W: www.balanceadvisors.co.nz
A: 11A James Street, Whangarei



Lee Reo
Financial Advisor

Helping protect what matters

INSURANCE | KIWISAVER | INVESTMENTS | MORTGAGES

**Quality Early Learning
with Christian Values**

We'd love to hear from you

16 Porowini Ave, Morningside
Ph: 09 430 3050
E: manager@awhielc.co.nz
Web: <https://awhielc.co.nz/>

Awhi
Early Learning Centre



Advertise Here for 2026

Advertise your event or business
HERE in the school newsletter.

\$100 a Year for 12 Newsletters or
\$10 per single advertisement.

For more information contact:
julie.hale@excellerecollege.school.nz

School Board Student Representative Election Results



EXCELLERE COLLEGE SCHOOL BOARD

Student election results 2026:

Student representatives:	Votes:
Abinaya Pokkiri Raja (Y12)	28
Akisha Monding (Y10)	27
June Underwood (Y11)	9
Luané Nel (Y12)	20
Tammy Browne (Y11)	15
Mia van der Hulst (Y9)	13
Invalid Votes	3

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Abinaya Pokkiri Raja

Signed
Timara Freitas dos Santos
Returning Officer



EXCELLERE COLLEGE SCHOOL BOARD

2026 Student Election Declaration

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Abinaya Pokkiri Raja

Congratulations Abinaya and a huge thank you to the other candidates who put themselves forward for nomination:

Akisha Monding
June Underwood
Luané Nel
Tammy Browne
Mia van der Hulst

Signed

Timara Freitas dos Santos
Returning Officer

Abinaya Pokkiri-Raja, Year 12



Kia ora, I'm Abinaya Pokkiri-Raja, and I'm running for the position of Student Representative on the Excellere College School Board this year. Having attended Excellere College since Year 4, I've gained a broad perspective on the experiences and challenges faced by students throughout our school. This has given me a strong understanding of what students value, what they care about, and what they would like to see improved. As a Year 12 student, I am not only familiar with the opinions and perspectives of my fellow students, but I also deeply understand the values and faith that we, as a school, share. I am also currently a House Leader, which has given me the opportunity to take on responsibility, work with other students, organise events, and encourage people to get involved in school activities. Through this role, I have developed my communication, teamwork and leadership skills, which I believe are important qualities for a Student Representative.

As your Student Representative, I will work to ensure that student opinions are strongly represented at the Board level. I want to be someone students can approach with their ideas and concerns, and I will do my best to advocate passionately for our collective student voice. I believe I am well-suited for this role, and I hope to use this opportunity not only to represent you, but also to continue growing as a leader and making a positive contribution to our school community.

Badminton Girls Teams Championship - Year 9 - 13

On Wednesday, 19th August our Girls' Badminton teams enjoyed a fantastic day of competition, showcasing excellent teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship on the court. The students represented our school proudly and competed with great enthusiasm throughout the tournament. Well done to all players for their effort, commitment, and positive attitude



Netball Cup —Year 9 -10

On Tuesday, 18th August the Year 9–10 students had a fantastic day of netball, showing great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the competition. The students represented Excellere College proudly, competing strongly against some tough opposition and supporting one another on and off the court.

It was great to see our students giving their best, and enjoying the opportunity to compete. A big well done to all our players for their effort, positive attitude, and commitment throughout the day!

Excellere College Netball Teams 2026

Pearls Year 0 - 2

**Shelane Wassyng &
Azeneth Janse van Rensburg:**

The Pearls are our Year 0-2 team, most of the girls had never played netball before, but at every practice and every game they were full of enthusiasm, energy, big smiles and a willingness to learn. Their first game was certainly a learning experience with lots of running around with the ball and plenty of confusion about how to pass and who to pass to.

As the season went on their confidence, skills and teamwork grew. By the end of the season they had become a fantastic little team who encouraged, supported and celebrated each other. Thank you to all the players for their hard work, and the parents for their support, we will never forget this amazing opportunity!



Diamonds Year 5 - 6

Lienka van Niekerk & Kristin Ras

The Diamonds had such an amazing season! It has been so much fun watching the girls grow and improve throughout the season. They have worked hard at training, supported each other and shown so much determination in every game. There were plenty of laughs, exciting games and great moments along the way.

We are so proud of how far each player has come and the confidence they have gained. Well done, girls!



Opals Year 3 - 4

Mariesa Duinkerke & Olivia Cullum

The Opals are a team of enthusiastic young netballers who never backed down from a challenge.

Over this season we have experienced many laughs, wins, and lessons. We are so proud of our team and the hard work they put in this year.

They've developed the skills of sticking to their players, communication on court and most of all teamwork.



Crystals Year 5 - 6

Tamsen Browne & Ellie Chambers

The Crystals are one of the Year 5-6 netball teams for 2026. The girls have shown great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the year. They have worked hard to improve their skills and have grown in confidence with every game. It has been awesome to see them encourage and support each other, celebrate their successes and, most importantly, have fun playing netball. We are so proud of how far they have come and everything they have achieved this season!



Excellere College Netball Teams 2026

Rubies Year 7 - 8

Mrs Anneke Duinkerke

The Rubies are a team of fun and passionate netballers. For many of the team this was the first time they had played 7-a-side netball. They started the season as individuals and ended the season as a well-oiled team, ready to support one another and enjoy their netball games. They learnt to execute all the basics of netball really well and impress their enthusiastic and supportive sideline each week.



Sapphires Year 7 - 8

Mrs Cherith McLennan

The Sapphires were truly the salt of the earth, a team full of fun, energy and positivity! They brought amazing vibes to every game, showed incredible skill and determination, and always encouraged each other along the way. No matter what was happening on court, they never gave up and always gave it their absolute best. They were kind, genuine and caring players who made the season so enjoyable to coach. It was so special watching this team grow, have fun and play with such heart!



Amethysts Year 9 - 11

Mrs Anneke Duinkerke

The Amethysts are a team of players with beautiful and fun personalities. Nearly all the players were new to College level netball. Their season can be summed up using the word: 'resilience'. They played in a grade against teams above their skill level. However, this did not deter them or dampen their spirits, rather it drove them to want to improve their own netball skills. They became a close knit team, keen to play and support one another each week.



Emeralds Year 9 - 12

Mrs Cherith McLennan

The Emeralds are an incredibly skillful team, and their growth throughout the season has been nothing short of outstanding. As a team made up of players from different ages and stages, it has been so special watching them come together, learn from one another and grow as a unit. Jumping up six grades from last year was a huge challenge, yet they rose to it and finished an amazing 3rd overall! Seeing this group of players compete with confidence and play such beautiful netball has been incredibly special. I couldn't be prouder of how far they have come and everything they have achieved this season.



Netball End of Season Parents vs Players Games

End of Season Parents v Players games. The highlight of the 2026 season has been our Parents vs Players games as part of the final fun training for Intermediate and College teams. This was an opportunity for parents to put aside their cheerleading hats and give netball a go.

Parents were put through their paces warming up and having a go at a fun ball handling drill followed by testing their netball skills against their children. The height of some Dads in the goal circles was a little daunting but managed with flair, dramatic falls and lots of laughs.

Finals results were:

Intermediate Players v Parents = Win to Players

College Players v Parents = Win to Players



Netball End of Season Results

Pearls - Yr1/2 modified beginners, Section A, 6th

Opals - Yr3/4 modified beginners, Section B, 1st

Crystals - Yr5/6, Section B, 7th

Diamonds - Yr5/6, Section B, 5th

Rubies - Intermediate Section 6, 5th

Sapphires - Intermediate Section 4, 6th

Amethysts - College Br1, 7th

Emeralds - College A2, 3rd



Excellere College Umpires

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 2027.

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. Whāea Barbie would love to hear from you and chat about how you can support our school with this mission.

Please email our International Director, Barbie Reynolds, if you are interested in this exciting opportunity please contact: barbie.reynolds@excellerecollege.school.nz



Structured Literacy Support

Does your child need a little extra practice with reading or spelling?

At Word Whizz, we offer an online platform full of engaging, self-paced workshops based on a Structured Literacy approach. We're a team led by a passionate New Zealand educator who's dedicated to helping kids thrive.

Children can learn at their own pace, and we provide you with practical tools to support their learning at home.

Visit www.wordwhizz.co.nz to find out more.



Parents, help your child read and write with confidence

Word Whizz makes it easy for Kiwi parents to boost their child's early literacy skills, helping them catch up or excel in reading and spelling.

Free Workshop - wordwhizz.co.nz

★ Structured Literacy Approach ★ Unlimited Sessions