

### *Kia ora from the Principal*

Term three has ended and the senior students are approaching an important period in their school lives. Their NCEA examinations will set them up for the future and they need to strive to be the best that they can be. It is also important to be reasonably fresh when sitting examinations and so a good work/relaxation balance is essential. As a result of the conference day students should have a clear idea of what they need to do in preparation for the exams and so a sensible work plan for the two week holiday should be developed, allowing time for school work as well as rest and relaxation.

All students have recently completed the task of choosing options for next year and Mr Renau now has the difficult job of producing a time table which will meet the needs of as many as possible. Unfortunately, some students will have subject clashes which can only be resolved by the student changing their choice. I will be available to discuss issues arising from this if you would find it helpful.

Year 10 students will no doubt be looking forward to the Boyle River camp next term so a gentle reminder that full payment for this activity is due by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October in order for Mr McNish to confirm numbers. All year 10 students are encouraged to attend and any who choose not to will be expected to attend school as usual.

*Paul Towers*

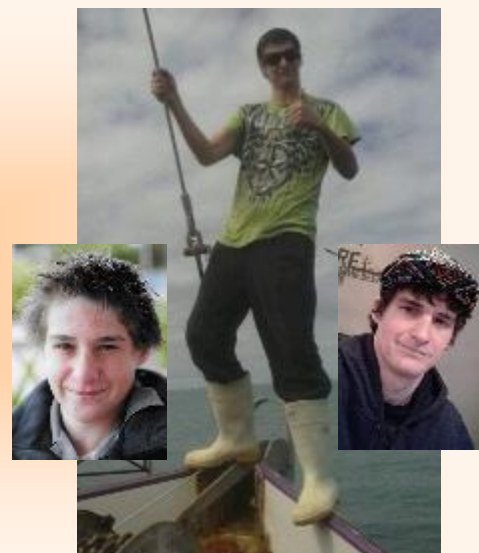


#### KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Sep 28         | Last Day Term 3              |
| Sep 28-30      | Japanese Class Trip          |
| Oct 15         | Day 1, Term 4                |
| Oct 22         | Labour Day                   |
| Oct 25-26      | William Pike Challenge Group |
| Oct 30         | Futsal                       |
| Oct 30 - Nov 2 | Year 10 Boyle River Camp     |
| Nov 1          | Trades Awards Night          |
| Nov 2          | Leavers Dinner               |
|                | Seniors Last Day             |
|                | All Souls Day                |
| Nov 5          | Late Start 9.15am            |
| Nov 6          | Junior Cricket               |
| Nov 7          | NCEA Exams Start             |
| Nov 19         | Late Start 9.15am            |
| Nov 20         | Junior Volleyball            |

### *Kieran Lynch Memorial*

*This time last year, the Wendy J fishing boat ran aground and sank off Jackson's Bay. Two crew members died, one of whom was Kieran Lynch an ex-student, and son of our previous school Bursar, Michelle Jackson. Sadly, his body was not found. On the anniversary of his loss, the school held a memorial where we blessed his picture to hang on our Memorial Wall. As a community we promised to always remember Kieran on Ash Wednesday, and All Souls Day, along with all those whose pictures hang in our school. Jayme Beynon led the Karanga which welcomed Michelle and brought Kieran's picture into the assembly. Nathan Wilson-Loach led Te Waka, drawing them into our community. Year 10 students had beautifully set up the hall and focus area. It was a sad occasion, but it also gave us an opportunity to reclaim Kieran and give him a place to be remembered.*



## *Special Character Report with Mrs Webster*

Mr Renau and Mrs Webster covered the Year 10 content of the Sexuality Programme. This included a review of their Year 9 knowledge and identifying positive lifestyle choices. The students learnt important information about keeping safe, as well as learning about what consent means. A new series of videos, produced by New Zealand on Air, were used as they provided local content with New Zealand presenters, whom the students could relate to. As always, both teachers were very aware of the Special Character of the school and ensured that students received this message strongly.

The sports tournament week saw two of our teams head away, the senior boys basketball and the U15 boys rugby, and a few of our students joined with Grey High to form a West Coast Hockey team. Very positive feedback was received from organisers as well as those parents who accompanied the teams. Thanks to Mr Haigh and Mrs Cook, who went with the Junior Rugby Team, and to Terena Molloy and Michael Brownlee who accompanied the boys.

Maori Language Week saw students and staff encouraged to learn and use new Te Reo words as well as participating in a knowledge quiz. The most amazing Monday Karakia was performed by the Kapahaka students - in flash mob style.

Social Justice Week's focus was *Engaging Communities – everyone has a part to play*. Every day had a specific prayer on the notices. Classes also spent time working through the wonderful resource developed by CARITAS educators. The Friday assembly reflected on the theme for the week and then handed over the food collection, to Captains Sharryn and Michael McAuliffe from the Salvation Army Foodbank. Over 400 cans and dry goods were donated by our staff students and their families to the Foodbank. Marist 161 goods, Mawhera 84, Anahere 54, Columba 40, Saints 36.

On the first Friday of September, both Year 10 classes walked up to St Patrick's Parish to participate in Adoration, Benediction and Mass. This is the second time that the Year 10 have joined St Patrick's community for the First Friday prayer and Mass. Father Peter has been in the school to say Masses for Year 12 and 13 classes. Mr Bergin's Year 9 class joined in the Parish Thursday Mass at the end of August.

The Methcon organisation spent a morning in the school, working with both senior and junior classes. The presenter covered the effects of Meth, how addictive it is – the fact that the first time the drug is tried, the addiction begins.

Each year, the Attitude organisation works with students at each level. The one-hour presentation is specifically tailored for each age group, so that the information presented is relevant. This year, Phil the presenter had a great way of engaging students through his stories and anecdotes, supported by PowerPoint information. Students thoroughly enjoyed the way the information was presented. This year, all the sessions were paid for by sponsors which was most appreciated.

A Mufti Day to raise funds for disaster relief for the Philippines was held on Friday 21 Sept. Several of our Filipino students have family members who have been affected by the Typhoon. Two of the students spoke at Assembly, making the school aware that we have close links to the disaster. Just over \$500 was raised and will be sent on to CARITAS.

Mercy Day was on 24<sup>th</sup> September, so the school notices for the fortnight have contained reflections and prayers that teach students more about Catherine McAuley and her Sisters of Mercy. The Sisters arrived in Greymouth in 1882 and their legacy remains in our school. Father Peter came to say Mass for Mercy Day and Sister Mary Ellen is presenting to staff Mercy for the day.

Year 9 and 10 students are busy preparing for Community Service Day. This is an opportunity to show support to the community, help those in need and teach students about being active members of society.

Our Kapahaka students have been spending hours in preparing for the Festival to be held in Hokitika on 27 September. They performed recently at Assembly, as well as at Sunday 23 September Mass. Our senior leaders were in charge of Manaakitanga – morning tea, at this Mass as it was the closest day to our major Feast Day.

# Champagnat in the Pacific

One of the privileges of working at John Paul II is having opportunities to get to know our rich history. Particularly, learning about the Religious Orders our school was founded on, and how they came about.

Ms Lindsay and I were so blessed to spend 4 days in a beautiful location just north of Auckland, with fantastic weather. We learned more about the Marist Order: the beginnings of it, the pillars it stands upon, what that looks like today and what it means for us now as 'lay Marists.'

Marist has a rich history, both in France and most importantly for us, in the Pacific. There are other Marist orders, e.g. St Bede's in Christchurch is a 'Marist Fathers' school, and they are collectively still partitioning the Pope/Vatican to be declared one united Marist family; but significantly for us, Marcellin Champagnat dared for the 'Brothers of Mary' to journey over to the other side of the world, and here at John Paul II we continue in "The Way of Mary".

One thing I found truly surprising is the I AM Marist. This is probably due in part to my upbringing, after all, this is my old high school, but my approach to teaching follows the Marist way of doing things! I am by no means perfect, but I try to teach in line with those five pillars: Presence (there for each other); Simplicity (genuine & humble); Family Spirit (connected & affective); Love of Work (practical & diligent); and In the Way of Mary (service to others, pointing to Jesus). We as a staff hope the students "get it" – even if for some it takes them a little over a decade to realise it...

Nathan Bergin



## Year 11 Japanese get a 'taste' of Palmerston North

We wish the Year 11 Japanese the best as they head off to IPU New Zealand in Palmerston North today for their Japanese "Taster Weekend" that coincides with the Spring Festival, happening at the same time. The institute provides higher education in Japanese, Tourism and International Business, among other things, and hosts Senior High School students several times a year to showcase their programmes and provide an immersion experience. Photos will follow up in next months newsletter.



## John Paul II flash mobbed by Kapa Haka Group

On Monday at the morning Karakia the Kapa Haka group kickstarted the week with an excellent performance in the style of a flash mob. With Miss Morgan leading the charge, and students joining in through the first few lines, the group displayed some of their progress due to their efforts in last term's preparation for the West Coast competition that they performed in yesterday. It was a fantastic way to start the school week and the school community was extremely proud and impressed at what the group has managed to achieve through commitment and enthusiasm. A write up from the competition will be in the next newsletter but from all of us at school we'd like to say a big well done for those who took part in all the afterschool sessions and rehearsed diligently on top of that! By Holly Lindsay

## South Island Secondary Schools Basketball

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September myself and Mickey Brownlee took the senior boys basketball team to Blenheim for the South Island Secondary Schools basketball tournament.

The boys 1<sup>st</sup> game on the Wednesday was against Catholic Cathedral College which proved to be very tough, and they lost 85 - 23. The 2<sup>nd</sup> game of the day was against Rangiora New Life High School which was a hard-fought closer battle going down 73 - 50. On Thursday the boys came up against old foes Buller, and after a very close point for point nail biting game they were victorious 58 - 57. There wasn't much energy left in the tank for the afternoon clash, against the well drilled Dunstan High School, again going down convincingly 109 - 50, this was the hardest game that the boys played and it was great to see they never gave up. On Friday morning they had to face home rivals Grey High, watching this game was just like being at home and brought out their fight and intensity - it was a great battle but they eventually went down 72 - 63. The final game on Saturday morning was against Ellesmere High School, the boys put in a gallant effort, but ran out of legs against the stronger team losing 88 - 49.

It was a great tournament with a fantastic bunch of boys. They all played with heart, pride and good spirit, which both Mickey and I were extremely proud of.



## South Island Rural Rugby Under 15 Tournament

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September our U15 boys rugby team travelled to Queenstown to play in the South Island Rural Rugby Tournament. The tournament consisted of two games per day and 28 teams from around the South Island took part.

Our first game was against Aparima College and the boys lost in a narrow defeat. In this game they played some periods of good rugby but were unable to show what they were really capable of. In the afternoon we played Verdon College and the boys really turned on a quality performance. Some high-quality tries were scored and the team spirit was evident throughout. This win meant that we would play Rolleston College in the quarter finals of our division. The boys put every effort into this game against Rolleston and again represented our school with pride. Unfortunately after winning the first half, we narrowly lost the game. Our afternoon game was against James Hargest; the boys were shattered from the mornings effort and lost by a narrow margin in a game we could have won. However, they turned it around on the final day beating Darfield comfortably and scoring some great tries.

Each game we awarded a player of the game and these were the following players: Callum Donaldson, Kirk Magner, Derek Chizuni, Isaac McCallum, and Aston Wilson. Isaac McCallum also made the South Island Tournament team.

The boys were a pleasure to take away and the respect they showed throughout was exemplary. A special thanks goes to Marilyn Cook for coming with us and being a huge support.



The school would like to wish good luck to the following students who are heading away over the holidays to represent the West Coast and the South Island:

Callum Donaldson - U15 South Island Scorpions League.

Jordan Duggan & Jack Coleman - U17 South Island Scorpions League.

West Coast U14's League - Mac Gibson, Ben Giles, Riley Fairhall, Curtis Fisher, Netana Kanara, Isaac McCallum, Aston Wilson & Lofa Leleifua.

Secondary School's Mountain Biking Champs - Hayden Wilson, Emma Wilson & Kirk Magner.

West Coast U16 Boys Rugby - Zeb Thompson, Leo Whitcombe, Leo Smith, Ben Radics, Brett Rees, Cullen Blanchfield & Jack Eason.



**THE GAP CAFE**

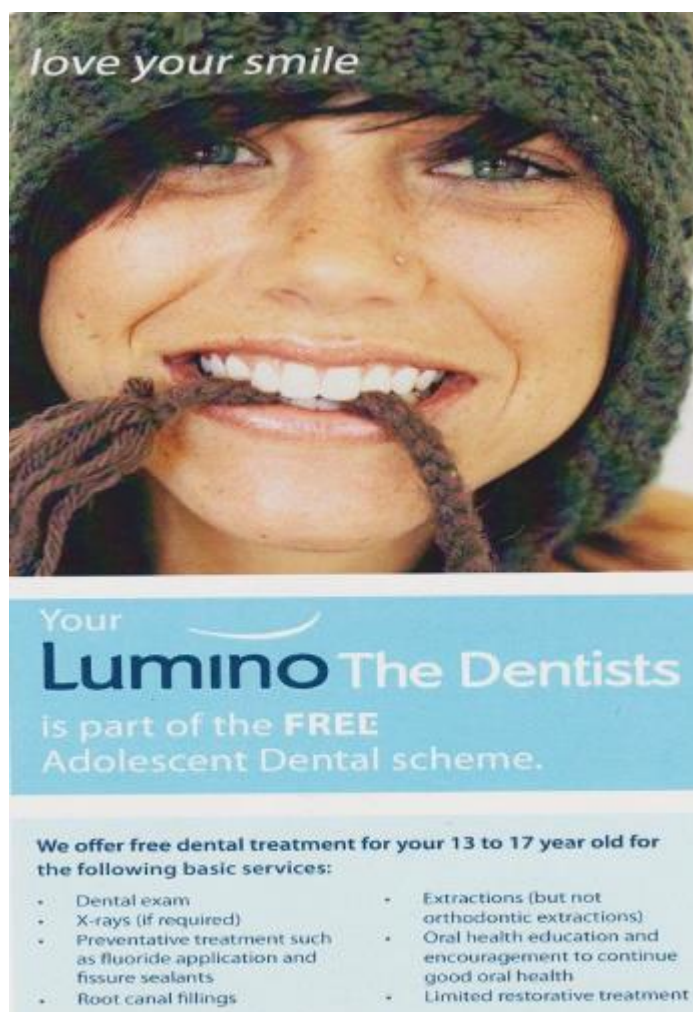
# LIVE MUSIC

28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER


6 - 9 PM  
@ GAP CAFE

Open Mic\_Youth Music & Art\_Jam Session

**FREE ENTRY, ALL AGES WELCOME**

love your smile



Your **Lumino The Dentists** is part of the **FREE** Adolescent Dental scheme.

We offer free dental treatment for your 13 to 17 year old for the following basic services:

- Dental exam
- X-rays (if required)
- Preventative treatment such as fluoride application and fissure sealants
- Root canal fillings
- Extractions (but not orthodontic extractions)
- Oral health education and encouragement to continue good oral health
- Limited restorative treatment

**Please note:** our end of year Mass and awards ceremony has changed from 13th December to Tuesday 11th December at 7.15pm.

Reminder the Orientation Day for 2019 Year 9's is Friday 14th December 2018.