



A NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF MORRINSVILLE COLLEGE

Morrinsville College



12 September 2024 Issue No. 10

PRINCIPAL
MR S JENKINS, B.A (HONS), PGDIPEDLD, DIP.TCHG

FROM THE PRINCIPAL – SCOTT JENKINS



A number of our staff and students were involved as helpers or as spectators in the recent tangi for Kiingi Tuheitia. It was a massive undertaking for all those involved and a really unifying experience for our country as a whole. I was heartened by the huge media coverage and those who followed as the week unfolded, whereas the coverage was far more limited when Kiingi Tuheitia's

mother passed. I mentioned to our school assembly last week that I personally felt that the prominent themes of unity and Kotahitanga came at a much-needed time as some of those within our own country, and indeed globally, are more focused on what divides our people. It is my hope that these ideals that Kiingi Tuheitia worked hard to promote will continue in the near future. The enthusiasm from our students around the naming of his daughter Ngaa Wai hono i te po as the new Queen has been very noticeable and she was obviously a very popular choice within our region and well known to a number of our whaanau. I also wish to acknowledge the prominent role played by Ngaati Hauaa and Ngaati Wairere throughout the week.

Traditionally, Term 3 has been a slightly quieter period for schools. This year has been anything but that over the second half of Term 3. It signals a pattern that I believe will continue for the foreseeable future. The last few weeks has seen senior exams, CAA Literacy and Numeracy exams, Level 1 external standards that are now assessed within school, the school ball, the Arts Showcase, School Council Talent Quest, Winter Tournament Week and we are currently building up to school leader selection, Spirit Week and the cultural exchange with Matamata College. Five of these events we have held in the past. Some have come about from the changes to Level 1 NCEA and some events we have added ourselves through feedback from our students and are in fact student led. While making

school a busy place for everyone it does highlight the huge range of opportunities for our students to find their 'thing' - something to be involved with and connect people through. While everybody might need a rest at the end of the term, Morrinsville College has been an exciting place to be, and a lot of this has come from our students and student leaders and I would like to acknowledge everyone's efforts across the term.

This will be my last newsletter for this term. The Board has granted me leave for the next two weeks and I will be travelling with my family. In my absence Mr Nilesh Prasad will be Acting Principal in Week 9 and Miss Elizabeth Ross in Week 10. I will be back just in time for the prizegivings which kick off in the first week of next term.

Staffing

Welcome to Whaea Tuku Rangitaawa who will be filling the maternity leave position of Ms Jasmine Birch until her return next year.

Student Council Workday

Our annual Student Council Workday was held on **Monday 2 September**. The money raised to date is \$5,800. I want to thank all of those families and employers who assisted in this undertaking. Our Student Council has decided on a series of projects which they believe will add to student life here at the College. I realise that some students will only now be getting paid for their work on the day and I encourage them to keep sending their money in over the next week

Student Leadership Elections

We are currently beginning the next student leadership cycle for 2025. This week sees the Head Student process. Students were asked to put their name forward for the four head student positions, providing a written application and each student will be interviewed on Thursday this week by a panel of senior leaders, staff and the 2024 head students. This is a demanding process that is deliberately arranged in the format of a job application so that our students gain experience for when they leave school. This group will be short-listed to three

male and three female candidates who will speak to the school in assembly before our Year 12 and 13 students and staff vote in a democratic process. We also are in the process of electing a Student Representative for the Board of Trustees. This is a slightly different process whereby all students who have put their name forward will speak to the school at a full assembly on Monday 23 September. The following day, all students will vote in the hub class. This will be collated by the Returning Officer, Mrs Grace Martin, and be announced on Monday 14 October, the first day of Term 4.

Tournament Week

One of the best parts of being a Principal is being able to watch our sports teams in action. I was able to attend one day of the UNISS netball tournament in West Auckland last week. Our team was competing in the A grade against the heavyweights of New Zealand secondary school sport. Despite being the smallest school in the A grade, our team came away with three wins and performed admirably. I want to acknowledge the team of coaches and managers who went with them and worked really hard throughout the week. The team would like to thank their sponsors for the event: Wallace Proteins Ltd, Oak Café, Paul Steiner Contracting Ltd and ADM New Zealand and Inghams Waitoa. The results are included below.

While I was there, I was constantly sent photos of the boys' development rugby team competing in the Hawkes Bay 10s rugby tournament. They competed well throughout their three days, making the final and only just missing out to Makura College from Wairarapa. Again, this can only be possible with a huge logistical effort and contribution from parents, coaches and managers and I want to congratulate the team who made this possible for the rugby team. On Saturday and Sunday, our boys' lacrosse team was competing at the National Lacrosse Tournament in Te Awamutu. They finished in third place overall, defeating Te Awamutu College in a play-off. I managed to watch their 3-4 last minute loss to Cambridge High School in the semi-finals that could have gone either way. For those who have never seen a lacrosse game, it is one of the most physical and brutal sports. After two days of lacrosse, most players finished with bruised and battered bodies. Again, I am heartened by the core group of parent support that are always there to encourage our students.

FROM DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – MR NILESH PRASAD



Senior NCEA Examinations

With the close of our senior school exams two weeks' ago, and a very short turnaround when our seniors return to school in Term 4, our Year 11-13 students should now be planning their revision programme for the NCEA external exams. These begin on Tuesday 5 November and go through until Friday 29 November. This year, with all of the changes to NCEA Level 1, these external exams take on

a new level of importance. While students now are only required to achieve 60 credits to get Level 1 alongside the Numeracy and Literacy co-requisites, there are far fewer standards available, and they are much bigger in size. This means that most of our students will require their external standards to pass. This is a big change from 2023 and there has been significant commentary in the media around predictions of far lower pass rates nationwide. This will impact all secondary schools across the country. NCEA is a very credible and

robust system, however it is fair to say that the changes this year have been challenging for both students and staff across the country.

End-of-Year Prizegivings

Term 4 will be very busy with our annual prizegivings. Our first prizegiving will be the **Arts and Cultural Prizegiving** on Wednesday 16 October. Please book your seat using the link <https://events.humanitix.com/arts-and-cultural-awards/tickets> to book your seats for this awards evening. There is no charge.

The next prizegiving is our **Sports Prizegiving** on Wednesday 23 October and our **International Prizegiving** on Thursday 24 October. The **Senior Academic Prizegiving** will take place on Wednesday 30 October, the last day of school for our senior students. All prizegivings will be held in our Performing Arts Centre in the evenings.

HOMESTAY FAMILIES NEEDED FOR 2025

We require homestay families to host our new international students in 2025.

Homestay families are a highly-valued part of our International Student programme. If you would like to know more, or you are interested in taking part in this rich, rewarding experience, contact our International Student Administrator, Philippa Fryer through the school Office, phone 8898308 or email: philippa-fryer@morrncoll.school.nz

SPORTS RESULTS

Week 5 – 19 August

Football:

Boys' 2nd XI had a win against St John's College 3-1.

Boys' 1st XI had a loss to Otorohanga College Boys' 1st XI 1-5.

Girls' 1st XI won against Te Awamutu College Girls' 1st XI 6-3.

Rugby:

U15s won against Te Awamutu College 24-11 and secured a 4th position in the A pool.

1st XV won by default.

Lacrosse:

Girls lost to Matamata College 7-11.

Boys won their semi-final against Te Awamutu College 12-4.

Week 6 – 26 August

Football

2nd XI had lost against Fraser High School 0-9 in the KO Cup semi-final.

1st XI Girls won by default against Hamilton Girls' High School.

1st XI Boys won by default.

Week 7 – 2 September

2nd XI won by default against Taumarunui High School.

Girls' 1st XI drew 2-2 with Waikato Diocesan 2nd XI.

1st XI had a loss to St Paul's Collegiate 0-4.

Netball

Open A lost to Sacred Heart GC Premier 25-29.

Development team lost to Hamilton Girls' HS 24-26

Junior Premier won by default.

Boys' Lacrosse

The final weekend saw a loss of 6-10. Congratulations to the team on their second placing in the Waikato Lacrosse Competition.

COMING EVENTS

Wed 18-Fri 20 September	JEEP trip
Mon 23 – Fri 27 September	Spirit Week
Fri 27 September	Matamata Cultural Exchange
Fri 27 September	End of Term 3
Monday 14 October	Start of Term 4
Wednesday 16 October	Arts & Cultural Prizegiving
Tuesday 22 October	Board Meeting, 7pm
Wednesday 23 October	Sports Prizegiving
Thursday 24 October	International Prizegiving
Monday 28 October	Labour Day Holiday
Wednesday 30 October	Senior Academic Prizegiving
Wednesday 30 October	Last day for seniors

Morrinsville Athletics Club
 2024/2025 Season
 Register online at
www.sporty.co.nz/morrinsvilleaa
 First Club night Tuesday Oct 15,
 5.45pm, Morrinsville College grounds
 Ages 2-14
 Enquiries: morrinsvilleaac@gmail.com



Tournament Week