



Welcome back everyone for the start of a new Garin decade

When school starts with our traditional *powhiri* at 8.35 on Tuesday 31 January, we begin our second decade as Nelson's Catholic secondary school. On Sunday 12 February we will have a day of celebrations—and current students and parents are invited to join us at St Francis of Assisi for Sunday Mass—and then back to school for an informal lunch, some music and some games—students from previous years are keen to see if their touch rugby skills have slipped over the years.

Congratulations to NCEA students. Your results were very impressive—and special congratulations go to year 11 whose passrate of 87.3% is outstanding! But teachers are also pleased by the year 12 passrate of 80.5% and year 13 passrate of 73.4%. It is also good to see the way NCEA allows students to complete qualifications from previous years—for instance last year's year 13 finished with a level 1 and 2 passrate of 97%!

Those percentage passrates are also slightly ahead of the results from the previous year—so it's great to see the College continuing to move forward!

It was also very good to see Congratulations to all the students who did so well—and it is great to see the Merit and Excellence passes—and Certificates endorsed with Merit or with Excellence! Our percentages in this area have risen each year at ALL levels. Well done.

Some Reminders

Some things parents could set up for a good start to the year ...

Calendar

A lot of work goes into making our school calendar as complete as possible. We do this so class time is not interrupted by last minute unplanned events—and also so parents know what is happening and can join us whenever there is an event that lends itself to partnership.

Stationery List

All students will need to fill in their stationery list and bring it (and a cheque) to school on the first day (Tuesday 31 January). Lists are available on our website www.garincollege.ac.nz on the *Calendar* and *Mail* tab. Alternatively, you can contact our Business Manager Ron van Drunen to set up an AP or organise split payments.

Free Music lessons

We have free music lessons for year 9 students for at least the first term. Come and find out more—and meet the tutors at the Music Information Evening on Thursday 2 February at 7pm. Contact kyleproffit@garincollege.ac.nz

Garin Express 2012

Students wanting to travel on the Garin Express will need to confirm that they need a ride. All forms need to be back to us before the end of JANUARY or the first day of school please, so we can make final arrangements.

Despite the rising cost of transport being passed on to us, the Garin Board has managed to maintain its commitment to keep the Garin Express charge under half the best concession rate parents are able to get from Nelson.

Now due: \$150 for term 1 (the charge to for 2 and 3 is also \$150—and \$90 for term 4.)

Uniform reminders

Senior students: remember that we have two formal uniform days : Day 1 (31 January), the Opening Mass (Friday 17 February). All seniors need to wear formal uniform *every Tuesday* (assembly day) - including Tuesday 31 January.

Hats: the sun-safe option

Several years ago students designed a hat they were happiest wearing—so now all students outside at breaks or during class-time are encouraged to wear our hat.

Senior Course confirmation

Year 12 and 13 students are required to come in to confirm their courses for 2012 on Wednesday 25 January from 9-12 noon, alongwith any Year 11 students who wish to change their course.

Calendar on-line

Our 2012 Calendar is on our website www.garincollege.ac.nz Just click the *Calendar* and *Mail* tab for downloading and printing at home..

Absence line

For new parents—and a reminder to everyone: please leave a message on 543 9490 before 8.30 if your student is away from school—and a VERY brief reason.

Opportunities for new parents

We do everything we can to help new students (and new parents) feel at home at Garin. One of the main reasons we put so much time into our Calendar and newsletter is to give parents the very best chance of knowing what is happening—and coming along to join in.

Parents are welcome to the *Powhiri* on Tuesday 31 January. New parents come into the gym as *manuhiri* with the new students.

A number of parents go with their student to their first *whanau* class. In most cases, parents will remember the teacher from the enrolment interview in November. That is the student's introduction to the *whanau* of about 20 students they will stay with for five years.

A number of parents go over to our staffroom after the *Powhiri*—it is nice to finish a *powhiri* off with an informal cup of tea and a chat.

We have a couple of opportunities for parents to join us this month: on Friday 17 February we will have our *Opening Mass* and the Investiture of our School Leaders for 2011.

On Thursday 23 February is our Athletics Day at Saxton Field.

GARIN NOTICEBOARD: events, advertisements & information

Complaints

The only way we can do better is for parents to let us know when things haven't gone well.

A note or email to our Head Teacher is the easiest way:

johnboyce@garincollege.ac.nz

Dispensing Medicines

Because our staff are not medically qualified, they do not dispense medication of any sort (including *Panadol*).

Parent partnership

Thank you to the parents who pay the voluntary "Parent Partnership". We are a small school and try hard to provide

all the things you want for your children, so your contribution makes a real difference—even if you can only pay part of it.

It all helps. Thank you.

Uniform Shop

To make contact with the uniform shop you can text Heather Tonk on 0274171063 or email her on tonk@xtra.co.nz. Hours for the year are Tuesdays and Wednesdays 1-4pm.

2nd Hand Uniform Sale

There will be a 2nd hand uniform sale on Saturday 28 January from 12-3pm in the gym foyer. It is cash only and please label and name your items.

CALENDAR

- Wednesday 25 January
 - ♦ Year 12 & 13 course confirmation 9-12 noon and Year 11 students who are changing their course
- Tuesday 31 January
 - ♦ Day 1: 8.35am Powhiri & Assembly
 - ♦ Summer Sports sign up
- Friday 3 February
 - ♦ Applications for School Captains close at our Office at noon.
- Week 2: Year 9 and 13 Journeys
- Friday 10 February
 - ♦ Academic Colours & photos

Starting Garin in 2012

New students are probably feeling apprehensive—so here is what will happen in the first week.

The first morning

On Tuesday 31 January we all start at the normal time (8.35am) with a *Powhiri* and then assembly (in formal uniform for all students) in the gym. Parents (especially the parents of new students) are welcome. We won't begin classes until about 12.00pm (period 4) - many parents like to join students in *whanau* classes at 11.21am - and drop in to the staff-room to have a cup of coffee with teachers after assembly.

- ✓ 8.30—students and staff new to the school assemble on the cobbled drive outside the library. Mr Moriarty will meet you there and explain what will happen next. Then we will all walk over to the gym for a welcome that will make all newcomers part of our school.
- ✓ 10.30am—Summer Sports sign-up
- ✓ 11.20am—Whanau time—a chance to meet your whanau and whanau teacher. Whanau time is 20minutes and parents of new students are welcome to join or visit the whanau.
- ✓ break of 40 minutes. The Canteen will be open. Students will need to think about how they will refuel during the day. The second 40 minute break will be at 1.40pm. New students need to bring lunch—or money to buy lunch from the canteen. Other than year 13, our students do not leave the grounds at lunchtime.
- ✓ 12.01pm—first timetabled classes begin

Bus students

Our final bell rings at 3.13pm, and the buses leave at 3.18pm. It is important that you move quickly over to the bus bay.

The feeder buses will take you to the Waimea College busbay and there you catch your bus home—if you don't know which bus to catch, try to find someone from your area to tell you. If you miss your bus, come to the office so you can call home.

Bring a cheque for Stationery

Also on Day 1 all students should have the money for their stationery—you will find the details in the Christmas mailout. If you need to set up an automatic payment, please talk to our Business Manager Ron van Druenen. Students will be called over to the library class by class to get issued with the stationery they need. This is really important to us, because it means that teachers can start work knowing that all students will have the stationery and equipment that they need from the start.

Year 13 Journey Requirements

Year 13 permission slips and payment are due on Wednesday 25 January or at the latest Tuesday 31 January. You can download a copy from our website www.garincollege.ac.nz via the Calendar and Mail tab. Alternatively, you can pay by automatic payment or set up payment schedules with Business Manager, Ron Van Druenen.

Year 9 Journey Requirements

Year 9 permission slips and payment are due on Wednesday 1 February. You can download a copy from our website www.garincollege.ac.nz, via the Calendar and Mail tab. Alternatively, you can pay by automatic payment or set up payments with Business Manager, Ron Van Druenen.

If anything goes wrong

The first day at a new school always causes some anxiety. If anything goes wrong on Tuesday, let someone know. We can help. See a teacher, go to the staffroom door and ask to speak to your whanau teacher (that is a name to learn as quickly as you can!) or ask a senior student.

If you get lost or lose your timetable or get an injury, go to the Office and ask for help. Our Office staff are very friendly and helpful.

Remember: we can't help if we don't know you have a problem.



French Pass wove its special spiritual spell over Garin's Year 13 journey students in 2011. The theme was "Together we make things happen" and students and staff explored how to make this happen together throughout the year.

Take a Moment ...

...The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach itMichelangelo

Student Leaders 2012

Year 13 students will find the nomination forms at the school office right through this week and the first week of school.

We are continuing with the same pattern as last year—each term a pair of our School Captains become Head Boy and Head Girl for the term. Teams are really important at Garin—but the leadership role is very busy and intense so having two to share it takes a lot of pressure off the head students and helps them keep up with their studies.

Our Captains of Christian Service have already been selected: this year we will begin the year with Nick Allison and Tessa Moffat—and over the next few weeks we will select our other Head Students, then our House Captains, and then our House teams.

The nomination forms for the School Captains of Sport, Arts and Learning are available now at the Office counter. Students will need to fill in the one-page CV, and ask a teacher or year 13 student to nominate them. Nominations for other Captains close at noon on **Thursday 2 February 2012.**

The Journey Programme

In February we have year 13 and year 9 out on their Journey. New parents may wonder why we place such emphasis on the Journey, so here is an outline.

The Journey logo below reminds us of the development of our students. We use the image of a mountain climbing expedition:

- Year 13: The Summit
- Year 12: The Ascent
- Year 11: Expedition
- Year 10: Navigator
- Year 9: Base camp



The Journey at Garin has evolved into a strong curriculum—starting in year 9 on a challenging physical programme with elements of spiritual development meeting the students where they are—and culminating with the year 13 experience that has very strong spiritual challenges with elements of physical experience.

By the end of his or her time at Garin a student has grown through adolescence to adulthood—and the Journey has kept pace with that growth in self-awareness and spiritual consciousness. By year 13 we see students able to sit comfortably in silence, able to meditate, pray in different ways, and discuss the real

spiritual and personal issues they face in their lives.

They participate in the experience as young adults aware of their whole selves, and keen to be self-critical and responsible for their own growth.

This growth has happened as a result of a planned programme in our RE classrooms, a graduated set of experiences and skill development on their Journey programme, and as a result of constant exposure to the Catholic and Christian culture of the College.

They have been lucky—in a new College we have had to be even more thoughtful and aware of the culture we develop, and we have not been able to take that for granted as might happen in a longer established Catholic school.

So it is no surprise to see our senior students able to see and appreciate our Creator in the environment at French Pass, in themselves and in their community.

As a Catholic school we work to do more than educate the intellect of each student: our goal is to help each student become the person he or she was created to be.

That means intellectual maturity—but also spiritual, physical, emotional and relational maturity.

Our Journey is a key strategy in our holistic educational programme.

NCEA Reviews

Deadline 17 February 2012

Students receive information about making applications for *Reviews and Reconsiderations* with your Results Notices which you have either printed out via the NZQA website or received in the post as requested last year. You can request a Reconsideration if you think that an externally assessed standard has not been assessed correctly and you wish the result to be re-marked. You must send NZQA an answer booklet for each Reconsideration request and you must send payment for each standard being reconsidered.

Timetable - 2012

The table below shows the times of Garin classes: with 6 periods throughout the day. Please note that whanau classes are held after period 3 and just before first break. Students need to remember that they bring enough food for two 40 minute breaks to help them maintain their focus for the whole school day.

Period	Start	Finish	Length
1	8.35	9.25am	50 mins
2	9.27am	10.17am	50 mins
3	10.19am	11.09am	50 mins
Whanau	11.11am	11.21am	10 mins
1st break	11.21am	12.01pm	40 mins
4	12.01pm	12.51pm	50 mins
5	12.53pm	1.43pm	50 mins
2nd break	1.43pm	2.23pm	40 mins
6	2.23pm	3.13pm	50 mins



GARIN COLLEGE

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TERM 1 2012 SUMMER SPORT AT GARIN

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

During Term 1 Garin will be encouraging students to participate in their choice from a number of summer sports offered at the College.

The Garin Sport Calendar and Code Directory you received at the end of last year contains important information about sports offered as well as guidelines to do with participation and expectations. These include codes of conduct, fair play principles, student expectations, participation costs including uniform hire and the philosophy of a wider curriculum which includes sport. We urge that you read this booklet carefully to enable you to understand the role of sport at Garin, and how it operates.

On Tuesday January 31, at 10.30 am in the gymnasium, students wishing to play summer sport will be able to sign up for their chosen sport. Following this, an information sheet that includes payment options and parent/caregiver permission document will be sent home via students. **Because competition commences in week 2, the forms will need to be signed and returned immediately together with the required payment. Garin has a “no pay – no play” policy for sport.**

To arrange an automatic payment facility, contact Ron van Drunen at the College on extension 204. Many parents find this simplifies the process.

Sports offered in Term 1 are:

Athletics. Selection during Term 1. Regional Championships on March 10.

Triathlon. Practice Friday 3.30pm. Wednesday 7.30am. Events start March 8.

Cricket. Practice after school, Junior Tuesday, Senior Thursday. Play Saturday.

Touch. Tournament February. House competition during term.

Tennis Coaching. Lunchtime to be advised.

Volleyball. Practice twice per week. Play Thursday after school.

Cycling and Mountain Biking. Events as scheduled.

Waka Ama. Training after school Tuesday and Thursday.

TO ENABLE OUR SPORT PROGRAMME TO WORK, IT IS CRITICAL THAT PARENTS/CAREGIVERS PARTICIPATE AS COACHES AND MANAGERS. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Contact:

Henry Kersten, Head of Sport, or **Mike Aronsten**, Director of Sport, 543 9488 Extn 206 or mobile 027 238 8313.