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SMALL SCHOOL ~ BIG HEART ...

# GARIN COLLEGE

*Mau mai ... Haere mai ki te kura o Garin—Welcome ... Join our community!*

## Garin's 2012 powhiri to welcome new families

The highlight of our first day was the wonderful turn-out of parents who—rather than dropping their students at the gate—took time away from other important things to be with their children as they started their new school. One of the reasons we do so well as a school is the commitment of our families—and that was certainly apparent on Tuesday.

Following a tradition started in 2002, the school year started with a full school Powhiri. The traditional Maori welcome for all new students, parents and staff was a huge success, with approximately 700 people in attendance. The traditional roles of kaikaranga - female callers were performed by Cassie Keen-Gorman, Year 12 and both Dakota and Cheyenne Sigley, Year 13 students. Kristian Hall-Smith, Year 12, spoke on behalf of the new students and staff with pride. John Boyce and Simon Pimm (Matua) spoke on behalf of the College. The powhiri ended with fabulous waiata, sung by both groups and a huge number of staff and students performing hongis - a traditional Maori greeting, to the new staff, students and their families. Thanks for such a special start to 2012.



### New staff at Garin for 2012

Garin welcomes new staff to its employ. Paul Traynor has joined us as Head of Special Character having worked in South Australia and as a Chaplain at St Bedes in Christchurch. Sarah Rankin joins the Social Sciences Department having worked in Christchurch at Riccarton High School and Marlborough Girls High School. Joss Bradley is working in the Mathematics department. Recently she has spent a year working in the United Emirates after working at Nelson College for Girls. Tracy Duncan is teaching art part-time and is an author and illustrator. Edwin McRae and Tony Etchells are both working in the English department. Trained as a drama and English teacher, Tony's background includes writing scripts for Dr Who and the Bill. Edwin also works as a freelance games and transmedia writer and worked at Manurewa High School last year.



## GARIN NOTICEBOARD: events, advertisements & information

### Lockers at Garin

If your child wants to use a locker at Garin this year, they need to bring \$20, plus a suitable lock to the school office and choose an available locker.

### Timetables

All students received a timetable on Day 1. The paper contained two copies: one for sticking in their student diary and one for keeping in a safe place. After this week, Garin will be asking students to contribute 20c towards the cost of printing a replacement timetable.

### Garin Express 2012

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 same for 2 and 3—and \$80 for term 4.)

### Financial stresses

With rising costs, families are under pressure at the moment. There are a lot of costs associated with education, and if you need to talk to Business Manager Ron van Drunen about a delay in payment or an AP, please give him a call.

We don't collect the Attendance Dues, but if you are struggling to pay them each term, please ask him for a

form and we will see if we can help.

### Emailing Staff

If you want to email staff at Garin College you can simply use the person's name @garincollege.ac.nz, e.g. [tracystock@garincollege.ac.nz](mailto:tracystock@garincollege.ac.nz).

### We can e-mail newsletters

We publish a newsletter every Friday and email the link to every email address we have. It is always available as a pdf from our website too.

Any parents who want a printed copy need to let us know with a note—or send a request to [achieve@garincollege.ac.nz](mailto:achieve@garincollege.ac.nz)

If you would like a paper copy mailed we can do that too, at cost (\$30 for the year).

### When the Law is broken

Just a reminder that when we find illegal things happening we will always involve the police—and in the case of drugs, the police will normally get a search warrant and search your home.

Once the Police have been involved, the matter is out of our hands.

### Need Community Law Help

Nelson Bays Community Law provides FREE help for students and parents with legal problems at school. Phone 548 1288 or text 027 298 2796 for an appointment.

### Dove Catholic Fellowship

All women are invited to a special afternoon to hear speaker Wilma

Conroy; her topic 'Beautiful Women;' on Saturday 11 February 2-4pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Centre, William Street, Richmond Nelson. For further information please contact Ann on 548 8723.

### Stix on Skinz Drum Lessons

If you are interested in taking drum lessons, Andrea is available by phone or text on 027 315 5079. Vacancies are available for beginners, intermediate or advanced students after school at reasonable rates.

### Aspire Big Band

Aspire invites you to a concert on Friday 24 February at the Hills Community Church in Mapua. Tickets cost \$15 - adults, \$10 - seniors, \$8 - students and \$40 - family.

Saturday morning there is an education session from 9.45am-11. Join them for a JAM at the Golden Bear Brewery from 2-5pm or a swing Dance party at the Playhouse (\$35) from 8 till midnight. Phone 540 2661.

## CALENDAR

- Tuesday 7 February
  - ♦ Years 9 and 13 go on Journey
- Friday 10 February
  - ♦ Academic Colours Awards and whanau photos
- Friday 17 February
  - ♦ Term 1 Mass

## ... from Head Teacher John Boyce



It has been a hectic start to the new year—but it seems to have gone really well. I said at the *powhiri*—and I would like to say again now—I was delighted to see so many parents coming to the *powhiri* and staying on to visit *whanau* classes and meet staff and other parents on that first day. As always, your support makes a big

Year	NCEA1	NCEA2	NCEA3	UE	difference to us—and to your young people (even the ones who tell you that they don't really want you there!)
11	87.3%				
12	93.9%	80.5%			
13	96.9%	96.9%	73.4%	54.7%	

The table above shows that our students did really well in their NCEA last year—and I would like to especially congratulate year 11 on what could well end up being our best ever Level 1 pass-rate.

NCEA gets noticeably harder after the first year—but these results are also very good. Our Numeracy pass rate remains in the high 90s (98%) and last year our Literacy pass rate was 96%. A great result for teachers and parents. Over the next few weeks I will put in some other figures so you will get a fuller picture of our results.

### And finally this week—THE TENTH REUNION.

Next Sunday 12 February we will celebrate our first ten years as Nelson's Catholic secondary school. There are just two events planned—Mass with Stoke's St Francis parish community at Songer Street at 9am. Everyone is welcome. And that will be followed here at the College with a "bring-your-own" picnic starting at 11am. There will be music, impromptu sports games and challenges, a nostalgia dome with plenty of memories from our early years. It promises to be a very relaxed and enjoyable family day—join us.

## Gifted & Talented

If you are interested in your child participating in the Garin Gifted and Talented (GATE) programme for Years 9 and 10 and are an entering family to the Garin community, please stop by the office and fill out a parent recommendation form. If you'd like more information about the programme, please contact Amy Cornelisen directly at [amycornelisen@garincollege.ac.nz](mailto:amycornelisen@garincollege.ac.nz)

## NZQA Reviews

Students should download personalised forms from their Learner login for both reviews and reconsiderations. Applications for reviews and reconsiderations for NCEA externally assessed standards close on Friday 17 February. Scholarship reviews and reconsiderations close on Friday 16 March.

## NZQA Documents

Reminder to senior students that they need to order any documents they are eligible for and want copies of. These include: NCEA's Record of Achievement and, for school leavers, the School Results Summary which will not be automatically sent to students in April as they were in the past. Students can also see and pay outstanding fees. Please use your Learner Login to access all documents.

## Summer Sport Sign Up and Payment

Sign up for Summer sport for Term 1 was held on Tuesday. Students were given the opportunity to register and take permission slips for a range of sports includ-

ing cricket, volleyball, triathlon, waka ama, and tennis lessons. They should have taken home permission slips for each sport chosen and these need to be signed by a parent or caregiver and returned to the College office together with payment by next Friday February 10.

In fairness to all students and families Garin has a "no pay - no play" policy. Sporting fees cannot be charged to a school account and are paid by cash, cheque, internet direct credit or through automatic payments which can be arranged with our Business Manager, Ron van Drunen on 543 9488 extn 204.

Information about sport at Garin is contained in the Club Garin sports booklet which was mailed to all families at the end of the year. If you have any questions, please call Sports Director Mike Aronsten on 543 9488 extn 206.

## From the Head of Sport

It has been a great start to the year in Sport and we have a large sign-up in a number of summer sports. As a result we will need parents to volunteer their time to manage and coach teams. We have 9 Volleyball teams.

If there are other queries regarding sport please either ring the school and ask for Michael Aronsten (Director of Sport) or Henry Kersten (Head of sport). you can email

[michaelaronsten@garincollege.ac.nz](mailto:michaelaronsten@garincollege.ac.nz)  
or [henrykersten@garincollege.ac.nz](mailto:henrykersten@garincollege.ac.nz).

## Kapa Haka at Garin

2012 will see the launch of a new initiative that has been designed to respond to the Education Ministry's Ka Hikitia Strategy and the Garin College Strategic Plan and we are very excited about its potential to bring about positive change.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the academic paper submitted to the Board that supports the link between higher achievement at secondary school level and participation in Kapa Haka. A permission slip with detailed information is also attached for completing and returning to the office by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

Students ranging from year 9 to year 13 will have a scheduled group lesson once a week on a Tuesday afternoon (period 6 plus one hour after school) with an expert tutor. NB: This programme is open for participation by all students i.e. Maori, Pacifica, Pakeha, International etc.

About the Tutor - Wayne Hippolite comes with a big reputation of Kapa Haka involvement in the Nelson region for over 18 years.

Wayne has tutored Kapa Haka in many of Nelson's Primary, Intermediate and Secondary schools. He has taken a number of groups through from regional to national competitions with outstanding results including 20 overall titles. More details about Wayne's background are included in the attached Permission/Information slip.

The programme costs will be covered by Star Funding to allow as many students to participate as possible and the content will cover NCEA Unit Standards that represent 19 credit opportunities. **Start date is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.** Please also know that it is a trial programme, as Garin College is committed to investigating, developing and delivering learning initiatives that will enhance student opportunities to succeed. Your support will therefore be very much appreciated.

Cath Aronsten, Arts Director

## Tax Rebate Information

Financial Manager Ron van Drunen works hard to identify components of these activities which can qualify for tax rebates, and this should be seen as a significant contribution to reducing the costs to you. On 31 March each year you will receive a tax rebate form from the school with an itemised list of tax rebates to include on your tax return.

## NGA WHETU O GARIN stars@garin



★ Congratulations to Mrs Cornelisen and her Year 9 mathematics class from 2011 who competed against 80 teams in the international Stock Market Game and WON 1st through to 5th place. The first place team consisted of Jack Keenan, Sam Harrison, Frank Quin, Jansson Ford and Carlos Drysdale. This team was the only team in the entire competition that outperformed the S&P 500. All of Garin's teams did extremely well and should be commended on their performance.

★ Jeff Lautenslager became the first boy in Garin College history to win a medal at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Championships on December 11, when he finished second in Junior 3,000m race at the Newtown Park track stadium in Wellington. Jeff Lautenslager, now a Year 12 student, finished in 9:30.03 seconds and 12 seconds behind winner Jacob Priddy of Hamilton Boys High School.



★ Thanks to Chiara and Norina Gasteiger for producing the the student diary this year. They spent countless hours during the summer break to complete it. What an amazing job!

★ Special thanks to our stationery helpers (Heather Tonk, Nicky Sowry, Jenny and Trevor Borlase, Robyn van Gelder) who came and worked tirelessly to collate and hand out stationery to all of Garin's students.



Sam Harrison in the driver's seat of Garin Sailing Club's new sailing division - BloKarting

## Take a Moment...

...2012 is at the door. Remember life is short, break the rules, forgive quickly, love truly, laugh uncontrollably, and never regret anything that made you smile  
...No Name