



POMPALLIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Te Kāreti Katorika o Pomapārie

"Diligere Verum" "Love the Truth" "Arohatia te Whakapono"

Newsletter 3 : 8 March, 2024

Tēnā Koutou Katoa, Greetings to you,

Make it a number one please.

As the years pass, the boys in our family end up with either thinning hair and bald patches, or curly gray hair. It is the genetics of mum's family or dad's family at play. In my earlier years a haircut would bring comments about how thick my hair was and I would be asked whether I prefer a number three or four for a haircut. Now I get asked if I want a two or one and I wear a hat more often. The ravages of time take their toll on many things if we are on earth long enough.

It should come as no surprise to find that this reality is explored in the Bible. A book of its size and with an authorship spanning 600 years, one would reasonably expect a few themes to be covered.

When it came to nice skin and great hair, Absalom, the son of King David, would have had his picture on the cover of Vogue in 980 BC. He had fantastic hair. Not only was it thick and dark, though artists often show it as brown, he also let it grow and cut it only once a year when it got too heavy for him. He liked to weigh it when it was cut. Usually it was around 1.5 kg.

From the top of his head to the sole of his Crocs there was no blemish on him (2 Samuel 14:25). Great skin and great hair. To compliment his good looks, he invested in a fancy chariot and a team of horses. It was an historic Ferrari Stradale. He also had the measure of 900 BC social media by having fifty footmen run ahead of him to let people know about his importance.

Absalom knew all about media management. Every morning he would take that chariot to the city gate mosh pit to have, metaphorically speaking, selfies with generation CM BC. One of the early "influencers", Absalom had a social agenda focusing on overthrowing his father and installing himself as King.

When he had enough followers on his social media account he made up a story for his father and headed out of town. He took with him his father's PR manager and worked on his strategic plan to become King. By this time, via his good looks, fast car, intelligence and media campaign, he had most of Israel supporting him. His dad, King David, had to leave the capital of Jerusalem. But what Absalom did not know was that his PR manager was acting as a double agent for his father. It never entered Absalom's head that someone would rate his father ahead of himself.

The family dispute gave rise to a war. Using the information provided by his double agent, David's army annihilated Absalom's army. Absalom fled the scene on a mule (no more flash car) through the forests of Ephraim, where his beauty got the better of him. His long waxy hair got caught in tree branches, leaving him dangling off the ground. David's general got to him, stabbed him, and tossed him into a hole. For good measure he filled it over with stones.

When David's army returns to its camp, the first question he asks is about his son, "Is he safe?"

He did not get a straight answer until he had asked the question three times. When he finally gets the news he did not want to hear, David is distraught. "If only I had died instead of you" he laments.

How often do we hear this story where the "off the rails" child is the one who generates the most pain for the parent? It is not the well behaved and successful child that creates pain, it is the one who fails no matter how much love we invest in them.

The Bible has many stories of this nature. It should not be surprising therefore to discover that this same pain and intent is found in the person of God. God loves and forgives. God moves towards us, no matter how dysfunctional and messed up we make our life. As with David and Absalom, the state of our righteousness is not the focus. It is the overwhelming love of God for his people.

We are moving closer to that time when we recall that Jesus was betrayed and on that very night prayed that we might know what it means to be loved by God with the intensity Jesus experienced. A love that sets aside our failures and is not conditional upon how good we are. If our mission on earth is to be good enough to earn God's love, we will constantly fail, as it is based upon a misunderstanding. God sees us in all our failings and constantly desires to be reconciled with us. If King David could do it, God must do it even better.

Richard Stanton
PRINCIPAL

VISION STATEMENT

Pompallier Catholic College is a Catholic community with a Marist charism that challenges all students to excel in their endeavours. We promote Christian values, excellence in learning and quality relationships to enable students to be outstanding citizens. Our College shall be a place where all "...encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth".



UPCOMING EVENTS - Term 1

NOTE: All events are subject to confirmation.

MARCH

Mon 11 - Tue 12	Gateway First Aid Course (Group 1)	Pompallier Library	9.00am - 3.00pm
Wed 13	Gateway First Aid Course (Group 2)	Pompallier Library	9.00am - 3.00pm
Wed 13	Otago University Liaison Visit	College Boardroom	9.30am - 10.30am
Thu 14	College Inaugural Mass	Pompallier	9.00am
Thu 14	Massey University Liaison Visit	College Boardroom	2.00pm - 3.00pm
Fri 15	Gateway First Aid Course (Group 2)	Pompallier Library	9.00am - 3.00pm
Fri 15	University of Auckland Liaison Visit	College Boardroom	9.30am - 10.30am
Mon 18 - Tue 19	Year 9 Special Character Event (Group 3)		
Tue 19 - Wed 20	Flight Attending Course	NorthTec, Raumanga Campus	9.30am - 2.30pm
Thu 21	Careers Roadshow	Pompallier	12.30pm - 3.00pm
Mon 25 - Thu 28	Year 11 PE Camp	Whangarei Heads	
Wed 27	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations (Dose 1)	College Library	9.00am
Wed 27	Year 12 English Creative Writing Workshop	Kiwi North	9.45am - 2.45pm
Thu 28	Stations of the Cross Liturgy	TBC	TBC
Thu 28	E-Mission Day		

Fri 29 GOOD FRIDAY

School closed for instruction

APRIL

Mon 1 - Tue 2	EASTER MONDAY and EASTER TUESDAY	School closed for instruction	
Thu 4	Waikato University Liaison Visit	College Boardroom	10.15am - 11.15am
Thu 4	Parent / Teacher Interviews	College	TBC
Fri 5	Kids Lit Quiz	Kerikeri	8.00am - 2.30pm
Fri 12	Last Day of Term 1	School finishes 3.00pm	



LOST PROPERTY !!!

We have an enormous amount of lost property at our Student Centre.

Parents, if your child has lost an item, please ask them to pop into the Student Centre during their break to have a look through what has been handed in.

Also, this is a timely reminder to **please name your child's school uniform**. That way, if it lands up in our lost property, we can quickly return it to it's owner.

Thank you!



GIFTED & TALENTED

The College recognises that within its group of gifted and talented students, there is a wide range of ability from mild to profound. While most are catered for through differentiated programmes within the classroom, some may require provision beyond the classroom.

Parents & Caregivers - if you think your child may be gifted, but they have not currently been identified as such by the College, please complete our [Questionnaire](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Gifted & Talented Co-ordinator, Sarah Edgecombe, via email: sarah.edgecombe@pompallier.school.nz



SPORTS DEPARTMENT NEWS : Term 1, Week 6

ATHLETICS DAY - RESULTS

We had a great turn out to Athletics Day this year, with a noticeable increase in entries from our senior school!

This was very evident with the amount of school records broken - some over 40 years old!

Congratulations to our age group champs and new school record holders.

Our Champions for 2024 are ...

- **Junior Girl** Keira Davis
- **Junior Boy** Malachy Smedley
- **Intermediate Girl** Ayla Johnson
- **Intermediate Boy** = Denton Lim & Imisioluwa Falope
- **Senior Girl** Charlotte Butler
- **Senior Boy** Riley Linford

Records broken:

Junior Girls:

200m Sprint **Keira Davis** - 27.57s
Previously P Roughan, 1980 - 28.00s

Junior Boys:

Discus **Malachy Smedley** - 35.90m
Previously S Lewis, 1993 - 33.26m

Intermediate Girls:

Long Jump **Ayla Johnson** - 4.59m
Previously N McDonnell-Kelly, 2011 - 4.56m

Intermediate Boys:

High Jump **Denton Lim** - 1.70m
Previously R Rorenson, 1977 - 1.66m

Senior Boys:

High Jump **Maz Findlay** - 1.74m
Previously D Firth & R Gardiner, 1994 - 1.73m

We have included some photos of the day on Page 6.

NEW SPORTS GEAR

We are grateful to have been successful in our **Gassroots Trust** funding application. We were able to purchase nearly \$4k worth of new sports gear, which will facilitate the participation of Football, Hockey, Netball, Volleyball and Basketball across the school.

All of our ageing gear will be held in the sports office for students to be able to use during lunchtimes and breaks!



* CALLING ALL COMMUNITY FOOTBALLERS *

We have an awesome bunch of senior girls who are really keen to enter a team into the Girls Football league this year, but they do not have a Coach.

If there are any awesome parents, aunties, uncles or neighbours that would have the time to help support these girls this season, please get in touch!

TRIALS

You must attend at least one trial to be placed in a team - exceptional circumstances may be considered by the school and management.

Team Selection:

- Based on merit / skills / attitude and a willingness to learn
- All trials will have a selection panel to make the process as fair as possible. In the selection panel, we will **endeavour** to include: coach, school representative and independents (not related to students).

Football:

Collegiate Boys' (Year 9 - 13)

Thursday 7 March: 3.00pm - 4.30pm, PCC Fields

Thursday 14 March: 3.30pm - 4.30pm, PCC Fields

JMC (Year 7 & 8)

To be confirmed

Hockey:

Collegiate (Year 9 - 13)

Sunday 3 March: 10.00am - 12.00pm, Hockey NtInd

Sunday 10 March: 10.00am - 12.00pm, Hockey NtInd

JMC (Year 7 & 8)

Wednesday 20 March: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, Hockey NtInd

Thursday 21 March: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, Hockey NtInd

Netball:

Collegiate (Year 9 - 13)

Saturday 16 March: 9.30am - 11.30am, School Courts

Saturday 23 March: 9.30am - 11.30am, School Courts

Intermediate (Year 7 & 8)

Wednesday 13 March: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, School Courts

Thursday 14 March: 3.30pm - 5.00pm, School Courts

... continued page 4



SPORTS... continued from page 3

BRUCE SCOTT CRICKET

At the start of the term we entered a composite team into the Bruce Scott – Secondary Schools Tournament. Although we didn't come away as the champions on the day, we showed great teammanship!

Congratulations to Aaron Halaapiapi (Year 13), pictured below right, who scored 52 not out!



KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH SPORTS AT POMPALLIER...

Term 1 is one of the busiest terms, so don't miss out on any upcoming opportunities!

[Add us on Facebook](#) for all sporting communication for PCC! Not on Facebook? – no worries – all important information will still be posted internally through email and school notices!

UPCOMING EVENTS - TERM 1

All events entered are subject to student interest, parent help and organiser's changes.

- Wed 13 Mar WPSSA Swimming *WIS*
- Fri 15 Mar NSSSA Track & Field Event *Trigg Stadium*
- Tue 19 Mar Hockey 9's (Y9 - 11) *Nthlnd Hockey*
- Tue 26 Mar Senior Volleyball Cup, Boys *Trigg Stadium*
- Wed 27 Mar Tennis Individual (Y9-13) *Thomas Neale Cts*
- Thu 28 Mar Senior Volleyball Cup, Girls *Trigg Stadium*
- Thu 4 Apr NSSSA Swim Champs *Whangarei Aquatic Ctr*

Sam Page
SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR
 438 3950 Ext 219
sports@pompallier.school.nz

WRITER'S TOOL BOX

Years 7 - 10

The Pompallier English Department is very pleased to announce that we have a contract with Writer's Tool Box.

This is a powerful resource that will immediately improve literacy levels, for Years 7 - 10.

The time for this resource in school is limited, but please, assist your child by spending some time working alongside them at home.

We also encourage reading a range of text types to improve vocabulary and reading comprehension.



STUDENT LATENESS

We have a number of students arriving at the College well after the bell has rung.

Our school day begins with Whānau class, so punctuality is especially important in the morning, as a lot of information is given to students during this time.

The first bell is at 8.40am and all students are expected to be at school by then.

Your assistance with ensuring your child is at school on time is appreciated.

North CATE Presents

CAREERS ROADSHOW

Whanau evening

Wednesday 20th March, 5.30-7.30PM

Whangarei Boys' High School
Auditorium

Bring the whanau to check out career pathway options, employers, future opportunities and tertiary providers

to register, please email careers@wbhs.school.nz

Some of the providers attending:

- Air NZ Academy of Learning
- American Summers IENA
- AUT
- BCITO
- Chartered Accountants Aus & NZ
- Competenz
- Dive Zone BOI
- Evolution School
- Fulton Hogan
- International Travel College
- Massey University
- Whangarei Agricultural Pastoral Society
- Yoobee Colleges
- Media Design School
- NGEN Room
- Northtec
- NZ College of Chiropractic
- NZ Defence Force
- People Potential
- Project Island Song
- Regent Training Centre
- R Tucker Thompson
- The Design School
- Tokotoko Solutions
- Volunteering Northland
- University of Auckland
- University of Otago
- University of Waikato



Remember, if you have a student success you would like to share, email us at ...

newsletter@pompallier.school.nz



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Ecumenical Service at St Francis Xavier Friday 1 March, 2024

Last Friday, two of our senior students, Angel Lucas and Mischy Disu, accompanied by Mrs Monica Johnson, attended the World Day of Prayer service at St Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

World Day of Prayer is an international movement of Christian people in many different traditions that have a continuing relationship of prayer and service. People from various denominations gather in one another's churches to celebrate, using a service prepared by women of a different country each year.

It was started by a group of women in the United States in 1887 and has grown to include over 180 countries and regions worldwide. In New Zealand, the first nationwide worship service was held in 1931.

Each year the service is written by women in a different country and it affirms that informed prayer and prayerful action are inseparable.

The theme for 2024 from Palestinian Christian women, was: I beg you... bear with one another in love. An ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women have prayed and reflected together over the past several years and responded to the invitation to write the 2024 program. Their theme was based on Ephesians 4:1-7. This program calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression. The service shared stories of three Palestinian Christian women, who witness to the power of bearing together in love. One of the stories was read by Angela and Mischy.



Eat a range of healthy foods
Kaingia ngā kai hauora

TIPS TO KEEP YOU SMILING

Fluoride in toothpaste helps prevent tooth decay

Avoid eating or drinking after brushing teeth.
Especially at night so the fluoride can keep working to protect and strengthen teeth.

Need a dental appointment for your child?
0800 MY TEETH (0800 698 3384)
Monday to Friday 8am to 4:30pm



0800 698 3384
(0800 MY TEETH)

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand



POMPALLIER ATHLETICS DAY Wednesday 28 February, 2024

