



POMPALLIER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Te Kāreti Katorika o Pomapārie

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

Newsletter 18 : 22 November, 2024

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Change is in the Air

The academic year is nearing its end here at Pompallier Catholic College. Year 9 and 10 end-of-year exams have finished, Year 7 and 8 are completing final assessments for the year, and the NCEA exam season will conclude next Friday, 29 November. The remaining weeks of 2024 will focus on preparing students for the beginning of the 2025 academic year.

In addition, preparations are well underway, both here at Pompallier Catholic College and at the national level, for significant curriculum change. A refreshed Mathematics curriculum is being rolled out across the country next year for Years 0-8. An updated English curriculum will also begin for Years 0-6 in 2025, and will be extended into Year 7-8 in 2026. A significant aspect of these changes is the Teaching Council's decision to include new entry requirements for Primary teacher training programmes. This will take the form of an assessment where candidates will need to demonstrate mathematics competency equivalent to NCEA Level 2 Mathematics. While critics of the changes note the quickness of their implementation, the lifting of required teacher mathematics capacity is clearly a positive.

Elsewhere, in an address to the Northland Secondary Principals' Association on Friday 15 November, Minister of Education Erica Stanford signalled that a soon to be released review of NCEA will expose significant flaws and provide a roadmap forward. Given the decline of our national education system over the last 20 years when benchmarked against international standards, we can only be hopeful that this will result in a framework for positive change.

In the midst of this groundswell of change, I have seen in my first six weeks here at Pompallier Catholic College a strong foundation upon which to continue the mission of a Catholic Secondary School in the Marist Tradition: The pursuit of academic excellence, based upon the rock of faith in Christ, with the aspiration of living in the way of Mary: humility, work ethic, and active compassion.

Upon this foundation, Pompallier Catholic College is ready to embrace the change that is indeed in the air, as we look forward to the Christmas season and a new year of challenges and opportunities in 2025.

Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki

Hayden Kingdon
Principal

Please note:

- A thank you to our curriculum leaders and staff as they prepare for NCEA and New Zealand Curriculum changes for 2025.
- Congratulations to the students who received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and first Holy Communion this week.
- A reminder of the end-of-year parents' night here at the college on Thursday 12 December. See flyer on Page 2 for more details.

VISION STATEMENT

Our Pompallier community living the values of Christ through faith, scholarly inquiry, aroha and courage.



UPCOMING EVENTS - Term 4

NOTE: All events are subject to confirmation.

NOVEMBER

Mon 25 - Fri 29	e-asTTle Assessments - Year 9 & 10		
Tue 26	Orientation Day for 2025 Year 7 students	College	9:30am - 1:00pm
Tue 26 - Fri 29	Young Marists Awa Run	Whanganui	
Wed 27	WPSSA Athletics Day		
Fri 29	Orientation Day for 2025 Year 9 students	College	9:00am - 10:55am
Fri 29	Learning Centre Ten Pin Bowling Event		9:30am - 2:30pm

DECEMBER

Thu 12	Pompallier End of Year Parents Evening	College	6:00pm - 7:30pm
Fri 13	Junior Prizegiving	College Hall	10:00am
Fri 13	Last Day of Term 4	School finishes at approx. 12:00pm (at the conclusion of prize giving)	

2025 TERM DATES

TERM 1	Wednesday 29 January	Friday 11 April
TERM 2	Monday 28 April	Friday 27 June
TERM 3	Monday 14 July	Friday 19 September
TERM 4	Monday 6 October	Friday 5 December

2024 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Our magazine is currently being finalised with the printing company and we hope to have them here in the next week or two!

If you have ordered a magazine and have a younger child still at school, we will deliver it to them. If your child is a senior, they can collect your copy from the College office - we will let you know when they are available.

POMPALLIER END OF YEAR PARENTS EVENING

On Thursday, 12th December, Pompallier Catholic College PTFA invites all parents to join us for an evening to meet our new Principal, **Hayden Kingdon**, and connect with new parents.

You'll hear first-hand experiences from our guest speakers, including our MC and Head Boy 2024 **Tom Cunningham**, and **Angela Gordon**, a current parent with valuable insights. Learn about the role of the PTFA from Chair **Mark Going** and explore opportunities to get involved.

This is a wonderful chance to gain insight into school life, strengthen connections with other parents, and be an active part of the Pompallier community.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Tom Cunningham
MC & 2024 Head Boy



Angela Gordon
Parent & More FM
Breakfast Show



Hayden Kingdon
Principal



Mark Going
Chair PTFA



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

newsletter@pompallier.school.nz



LEAVING SCHOOL THIS YEAR?

If you are leaving the College this year, there are a few things you need to do before you go:

- Return all library books, subject textbooks and sports uniforms, otherwise you will be charged for them!
- Complete a **LEAVERS FORM**, available from the Student Centre (Year 13 students will receive one shortly from your whānau teacher)
- Return your **completed** leaver's form to Mrs Woolston in the College office **BEFORE** the end of term.

Thank you!

**THURSDAY, 12
DECEMBER
6:00PM - 7:30PM**

At Pompallier Catholic College



RSVP by 6th December to
ptfa@pompallier.school.nz



SPORTS DEPARTMENT NEWS : Term 4, Week 6

What we have been up to this week!

Three Year 7/8 volleyball teams headed to McKay Stadium to compete in the Volleyball Festival. All teams played really well with some unsuspecting students shining through!

Special mention to our Girls team who came 3rd equal. Well done!



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - COACHING 2025

Football - Collegiate Girls

Our Senior Girls Football squad are in search of a volunteer coach for the 2025 season! This team is heading into their 3rd season together and, with the right guidance, one of their best.

More about the commitment;

- Trials/Muster will be held mid-Term 1
- Trainings can be held either during lunchtime or after school
- Games are every Wednesday, from 4:00pm, starting Term 2 (about 8-10 weeks)
- You do not need to be a superstar, just have a positive attitude with a love of football!

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the commitment, please contact the Sports Co-ordinator on sports@pompallier.school.nz or 09 438 3950 ext 219.

SPORTS FEES

We are coming to the end of the year and we still have many sports fees outstanding. **These are now extremely overdue and need to be paid as soon as possible.** If you have any queries or are having trouble with paying fees, please contact Jane in the front office.

UNIFORM RETURNS

We only have a few uniforms left that need to be returned! Thank you and well done to all those who have returned theirs.

As a reminder – all those who have not returned their uniform will have a replacement fee invoice sent to them for payment.

POMPALLIER SPORTS... [Add us on Facebook](#) for all sporting communication for Pompallier!

UPCOMING EVENTS - TERM 4

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

- Wed 27 Nov Year 9/10 Tennis Doubles *Kamo*
- Wed 27 Nov WPSSA Athletics *Trigg Stadium*

TERM 1 2025, SCHOOL EVENTS CONFIRMED

Swimming Sports

- 12 & 13 February 100m races
- 14 February Swimming Sports Day

Athletics Day

- 26 February, postponement 28 February

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

STUDYLINK 2025

Apply before 16 December

Remember to apply for your student allowance or loan before 16 December to give yourself the best chance of having everything sorted and ready for the start of your course!



TOI AHIAHI ART EXHIBITION ...

Toi Ahiahi was an evening of celebrating our Arts department. The event was held at ONEONESIX on Bank Street on Friday 8 November and included an exhibition of artwork, background music, and a short drama.

Thank you to everyone who went along to support the students and teachers. We had initially expected a small turnout, but we were absolutely delighted by the crowd and the success of the evening.

A special mention to our teachers, Ms Jensen, Ms Edgecombe and Mr Downes, who put in a huge effort to make the evening happen. There is already talk of making this an annual event!

Below are a few pictures from the setup.





Year 12 Students Install Park Benches at St Francis Xavier Church...

A wonderful community project recently came to life thanks to the hard work of the Year 12 Construction class. The students crafted five beautiful park benches out of Macrocarpa timber, and three of the students - John Gadolo, James Thornton and Danica Withers - were chosen to help install them at St Francis Xavier Church.

The cost of the materials for the benches was sponsored by a group of Saint Francis Xavier Parishioners as part of the 'Catholics coming home for Christmas' initiative.

After completing the benches in class, it was time to put them in place at the church grounds. Father Brian, Father Trevor and several parish members came together to witness the students' work and to bless the benches before they were installed. Their blessing added a special touch to the project, marking the benches as a meaningful addition to the church community.

The installation process began with careful planning to decide where each bench would go. Once the locations were set, John, James and Danica got to work, digging holes and securing the benches in place with concrete to ensure they would stand firm and last for years.

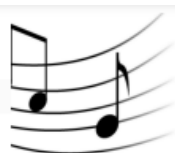
Father Brian generously treated the students to a McDonald's lunch as a reward for their hard work! After a well-deserved break, the trio returned to finish installing the last of the benches, completing the project with pride.

This project not only showcased the students' construction skills but also their commitment to contributing to the community. The benches are now ready for use, offering a peaceful spot for parishioners and visitors to enjoy the church grounds.

We would like to extend our thanks to John, James and Danica for their hard work and dedication, as well as to Father Brian, Father Trevor, and the parish community for their support.

The Year 12 class should be very proud of their craftsmanship, and we look forward to seeing the benches enjoyed by many for years to come. Special thanks to everyone involved in making this project a success!





WHANGAREI
Sistema
Toi Akorangi



For more
information,
[click here for
Facebook link](#)

CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT

Saturday 30th November
Time 7:30 - 8:30pm
St Francis Xavier Catholic
Church, Kamo Rd

An elegant evening of Bach and
MORE from our Sistema
seniors and grateful graduates

Tickets \$20
Teens - \$10
Primary age \$5
Eftpos and cash door sales

SUPPORT THE MARIST SCHOOLS AWA RUN !!

We're excited to share an inspiring event coming up - **the Awa Run**, organised by all Marist schools across New Zealand, including Pompallier Catholic College. This annual event brings together students, teachers, and families in a wonderful display of community spirit and physical endurance. Whether you're participating or supporting from afar, it's an event that truly embodies the Marist values of faith, unity, and service.

Want to get involved?

To learn more about the event and how to donate, visit: <https://givealittle.co.nz//marist-schools-awa-run-2024>

Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference in helping continue the tradition of the Awa Run, which fosters camaraderie and a healthy lifestyle for all participants.

We're grateful for any support you can offer - thank you for being a part of our Marist community!