



From the Spiritual and Educational Leader

Kia ora Tātou, Parents, Caregivers and Whanau

We are now at the end of Term 3 and it has been a busy and outstanding term for us all. We celebrate wonderful success with our recent reviews as well as many student achievements in performing arts and winter sports especially. It has been a highlight for me to visit a number of events to celebrate these.

Family Mass

A special thank you to all those who were able to attend our college Family Mass last week that had a theme of service and where we acknowledged students receiving a Mother Theresa Medal for outstanding service. Congratulations to the following students:

Year 7:

Ella Sharman, Mikaela Bangalan, Danielle O'Driscoll, Kate Sung,
Kian Carrozzino

Year 8:

Isabella Ibbetson, Rose Adams, Cyprus Causer, Hyebeen Park,
Hayden Waters

Year 9:

Teresa Croker, Dante Choi, Alanna Santoso, Karissa Bryan,
Jennifer Zeng, Lily Jowett

Year 10:

Kathleen Shi, Samara Anubhav, Jonathan Aviet, Ian Tang,
Jersey-Leigh Gallardo

Year 11:

Alexandria Dougherty, Ella Smal, Sean Hancock, Sydney Causer,
Makayla Killip

Year 12:

Claire Barbafigera, Oliver Tamayo, Francesca Absemis, Alchimae
Prasad-Khan, Kaya Lal, Allyson Ropati

Year 13:

Faith Cruz, Mia Gilchrist, Tahlisa Stevens, Danica Loulie-Wijtenburg,
Patricia Dela Cruz





SMC Celebrates its Special Catholic Character External Review Findings

"...Special Character has been developed and aligned to all areas of the school. Significant changes have been made and the robust system puts Catholic Character at the heart of everything...The Board of Trustees, Principal and staff are commended on Authentic Catholic Christian witness and evangelisation...SMC is building a Catholic tradition that exemplifies the ethos and philosophy of Catholic education of which the students, staff and families are proud."

We are very pleased with our review findings and the rich discussions we shared about the many areas of progress since the last review and our vision going forward. The full report can be read [here](#).

I especially acknowledge the work of the immediate past Bishop Proprietor Representatives and who were a dedicated group ensuring that our Special Catholic Character was always at the heart of everything we do. Thank you Llew McGivern, Mark Sim-Smith, Dominic Carlos and Sue Kubala.

Outstanding Managing National Assessment Review (MNA) Findings

"The culture of self-review reflects the school's vision of allowing students to succeed in an inclusive, respectful, safe and positive environment. This is reflected in student achievement rates..." SMC has effective processes and procedures for meeting the assessment needs of their students and ensures credible assessment practices. The college has robust internal and external moderation processes in place...uses effective assessment-related data, reports accurate achievement and tracks student achievement progress to allow interventions to be made...There are effective processes and procedures for communicating NCEA information to families and assists common understanding of assessment practice..."

The Review reports that its next MNA review will be conducted in four years. This is the highest return time that a school can be awarded and complements the five-year ERO return time and the excellent Special Character Review. This and our other reviews have positioned us at a very high level. It serves to remind everyone that students attending Sancta Maria College attend a school of excellence that has now been recognised by independent reviewers over the past year. The College community should take great pride in their role to support this high level of performance and success. To read the report, click [here](#).

Senior Exams

The recent exams are to give students practice in exam technique and signal areas that may still require a greater focus as part of preparation between now and November. Students will have been made aware of any further work needed by their subject teacher and the upcoming holidays is a good time to get a hold on this. In the case of your child having to apply for a derived grade when the exam period is underway (ie. if your child is away sick) on the day of an NCEA exam, he or she will receive a derived grade, which will be heavily weighted on the recent exam results. The parent-teacher interviews this week will have given you any further advice your child needs as part of their preparation. Students should approach their subject teacher where they are requiring additional support.

Going Digital for NCEA Examinations

NZQA wants to ensure that young people are equipped with the skills they need to live and learn in a global, digitally connected world. Students have begun preparing now for doing their NCEA exams online using a PC or laptop, instead of using pen and paper. This reflects the way in which students are already using digital tools in their classroom learning.

Some students recently trialled doing their mock exams in some subjects digitally. At the end of this year, some students in some subjects will also elect to sit their exam digitally. Each year the expectation is that more and more students will elect to do their exams digitally in accordance with the direction NZQA is requiring of students and schools to move in. At some point in time, NZQA will require all students to be completing exams digitally.

To get ready, our students will be sitting all their NCEA and Scholarship exams in November in the Auditorium where there has been an upgrade of technology infrastructure to support technology use and any accompanying issues during the exam period going forward.

Please click into the following link to read to be informed on the change NZQA is making now and in the future:

<https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/About-us/Publications/NCEA-Online-Whanau-and-caregiver-factsheet.pdf>

For some students who require Special Assessment Conditions, NZQA guidelines will be followed. If you require any clarification about the support your child is eligible to receive please email Mrs Louise Stickland (Principal's Nominee) at l.stickland@sanctamaria.school.nz in the first instance next term.

Musician's Take Home Awards

Congratulations to Mr Gibbs, Mr Cho, Mr Arthur, Mr Roberson, Itinerant Staff and our musicians, who brought home awards at the Auckland Secondary Schools' Jazz Competition, the KBB Music and Lewis Eady Festival and The Big Sing. The results for our groups included:

The Auckland Secondary Schools' Jazz Competition

The Big Band	Gold Award
Two Combos	Gold Award

The KBB Auckland Secondary Schools' Music Festival

Big Band	Gold Award
Concert Band	Silver Award
Junior Jazz Orchestra	Silver Award
Symphonia	Bronze Award and a Scholarship Award

The Big Sing

Sanctus (Senior Choir)	Spirit of the Festival Youth Ambassadors' Award
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Lewis Eady

Primo Orchestra	Bronze Award
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These impressive results reflect Sancta Maria College musical talent and the commitment of all those involved!



Top Winter Sport Performances

We saw a big increase in participation at Winter Tournaments with more than 150 students representing the college across 13 sports codes throughout the North Island. In week 7 of Term 3 our Premier Netball Girls attended the UNISS Championships at Auckland's North Shore, Premier (1st XI) Hockey Girls at the Mary Clinton Cup in Wanganui, Premier (1st XV) Rugby Boys played in the Auckland Rugby Festival at the College Rifles Rugby Club in Auckland, Premier (U19) Boys Basketball in the Zone 1 AA Premier-ships and the Junior Premier Boys Basketball in the Zone 1 Junior Premier-ships at Pulman Arena in Takanini. We had a team of 44 students represent the College at the New Zealand AIMS Games in Tauranga during week 8 and 45 students from our Netball Programme travelled to Rotorua to compete at the Kurangaituku Netball Tournament.

Winter Tournament

Premier (1st XI) Girls Hockey	NZSS Mary Clinton Cup, Wanganui 8th place
Intermediate Boys Table Tennis	NZ AIMS Games Plate Division Champions
Junior 1 (8A) Girls Netball	NZ AIMS Games D Grade Champions
Jack Jane (Gymsports)	NZ AIMS Games Gold & Silver
Anais Bebelman (Gymsports)	NZSS Rhythmic International Grade Gold
Quintin Wong (Swimming)	NZSS Swimming Championships 4x Silver, 1x Bronze, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th (25th overall in teams section)
Brooke Gallagher (Weightlifting)	NZSS U15 Weightlifting Championships Silver



Winter Season

Premier (1st XI) Girls Hockey
Premier (U19) Girls Netball
Senior Open Hockey Girls
College 9 Girls Netball
Clive Luna (Badminton)
Intermediate (Spartans) Boys Basketball

Intermediate (Senators) Boys Basketball
Intermediate (Pumas) Girls Basketball
Junior Premier (Development) Boys Basketball

Auckland A Grade 11th
AMI Auckland Secondary Schools Senior A Grade Champions
Term 2 & 3 Auckland D Grade Runner Up
Howick and Pakuranga College 9 Grade Champions
AKSS Badminton Championships Silver
Term 2 & 3 Eastern A Grade Champions | SEZ Tournament Champions NZ
AIMS Games Top 20
Term 2 Eastern C Grade Champions | Term 3 Eastern B Grade Champions
SEZ Tournament Championships
B Grade Plate Champions

Thanks Llew McGivern Coach and Manager (Parent and Past BOT Member 2014-2019)

Orienteering is a sport that was newly introduced only a few years ago and has grown significantly in student numbers. Llew's passion has seen the sport succeed and we thank you for bringing Orienteering to Sancta Maria College. We can also thank the tremendous parent support we receive from Managers Renee Motion, Justine Edwards, Tony Motion and Katherine Granich who are Managers, along with Counties Manukau Orienteering who support and provide opportunities for our students.

We attended a number of events throughout the year, including the Eastern Sprint Series, SEZ Y7/8 Champs, AKSS Forest Champs, AKSS Relay Champs, NISS Orienteering Champs and the NZSS Champs that were held in Auckland. We had a group of more than 40 students participate throughout the season and a core group of 15 students competing in just about every event. Our outstanding runner and rising star is Alicia McGivern who continues to succeed in all events she competes in and comfortably makes it into the Top 10 (or higher) placements. Congratulations Alicia.

Our students will continue training and competing over Term 4 in for club based events towards the 2020 season. Keep a look out for our Term 4 event for Y7/8s and also a new Y7 event in the opening weeks of Term 1 next season.



Cultural Festival Twilight Celebration (Friday, 18th October 2019 - Week 1 Term 4)



We are looking forward to our Cultural Festival event at the end of first week back and welcome our school community to come along and be part of celebrating the diversity of cultures that make-up and enrich our school.

Come and enjoy the music and dance performances, delicious exotic food flavours and costumes.

Measles Update

I am pleased that Sancta Maria College have had no instances of measles through this term. Thank you for your support in assisting the college to check records regarding vaccinations. This has been straight-forward in the majority of cases, however, we must persist in having this information for all students on our files. If this still applies to you, please send to us evidence of vaccination at the start of Term 4. Evidence can include information contained in your Plunket Baby Book or a confirmation from your family Doctor. We have reviewed our records and estimate that at least 300 of our families have yet to respond to our request. This request is also in accordance with the guidelines of the Auckland Regional Health Service (ARPHS). If you would like more information about measles and/or vaccinations, please contact your GP.

L. J. Moore

Louise Moore
Principal

From The Chairperson

The newly elected Board of Trustees have been transitioning into their governance work and have been attending training organised by the Diocese and New Zealand School Trustees Association (NZSTA). The Board is a cohesive team and each member brings valuable skills and strengths to the table at each meeting. The Board is looking to participate in a strategic planning workshop later in the year.

We farewell and thank Francesca Adams, Student Representative to the Board of Trustees for her contribution throughout the year. The Board have been impressed with Francesca's reports which have provided valuable insights into student life at the College and she has brought a student perspective to the work of the Board.

The Board welcomes Mrs Juliette Martis, a Bishop Proprietor Representative from the Parish of St Mark's Pakuranga.

Student Pickups At End of School Day

The Board wishes to remind parents that it is a parent/caregiver responsibility to ensure students are picked up promptly at the end of the school day or after school activities if they are not walking home from school or catching the school bus. For health and safety reasons, students should not be left unattended as there is no assistance for any emergency. The College is responsible for a student for a reasonable time before school (half an hour) and a reasonable time after school (half an hour). The library can be accessed by students until it closes at 5 pm after which time, students should be picked up. For those parents requiring after-school care for their child, we recommend you get in contact with the Skids Team next to Sancta Maria Catholic Primary School to enquire about this as an option for children up to 13 years of age.

Financial Contributions

As we come to the end of Term 3, the Board would like to thank all families who are meeting their financial commitments on time. Can we please ask that all financial contributions due to the end of Term 3 are paid in full as soon as possible. This financial commitment you have made, as acceptance of your child to attend Sancta Maria College allows the college to continue to deliver the high level of Catholic Education as well as extended learning opportunities throughout their time at the College. This can only be achieved with your continued financial support which is greatly appreciated.

Warran Brabant
BOT, Chairperson

From The Chaplain

The Knot's Prayer

Dear God,

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life.

Remove the have nots, the can not and the do nots that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots, may nots, might nots that I may find a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots and should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life, all of the am nots that I have allowed to hold me back, especially the thought that I am not good enough.

Amen

-Author known to God-



Pastoral Corner

Wellbeing Week 2019

Wellbeing Week was held over the final week on Term Three. During Wellbeing Week we asked everybody at Sancta Maria College to make mental health and wellbeing (hauora) our number one priority.

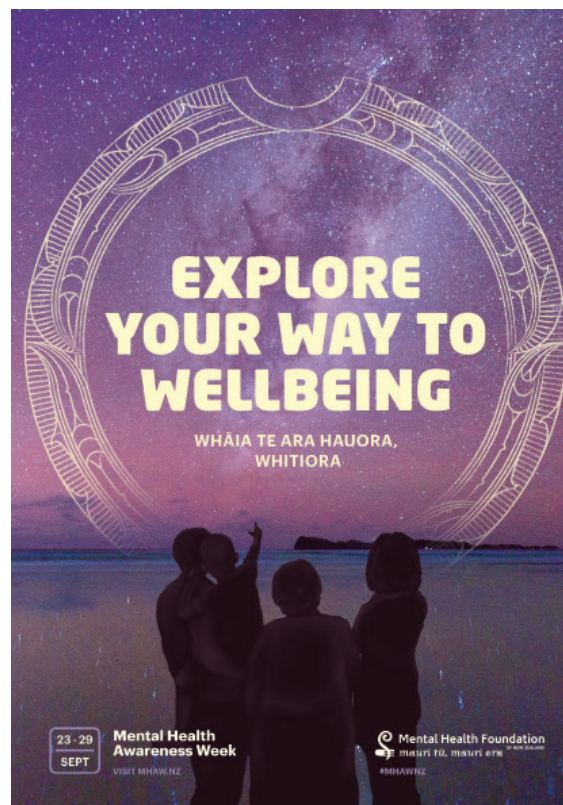
Afterall, we all have mental health! It's a taonga (treasure), something to look after so we can lead our best and most fulfilling lives at school (kura), work and with whānau and the wider community.

The World Health Organisation defines wellbeing as 'a state in which every individual realises their own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to their community'.

During the week there was a number of events running where students can 'Explore their way to wellbeing', this year's key theme. (see below)

E tūtaki ana ngā kapua
o te rangi, kei runga te
Mangoroa e kōpae pū ana

The clouds in the sky gather,
but above them extends the Milky Way.



Monday 23rd September

'Dealing with School and Study Stress' a presentation by Mrs Goddard in the library quiet room at lunchtime.

A 'Random Acts of Kindness' raffle and display wall in F Block.

Tuesday 24th September

'Jump Jam' in the main courtyard at lunchtime.

Wednesday 25th September

'Mass Mindfulness and Meditation' with Mr Du Sart in the Gym at interval.

Mass with Father Kevin at lunchtime, with a focus on exploring our spiritual wellbeing (taha wairua).

Thursday 26th September

'White Ribbon Day' where we can stand up against violence towards women in our community

LOGOS will be running wellbeing activities for students to try in F Block at lunchtime.

Friday 27th September

'Day of Silence' at lunchtime to stand in solidarity with the wider rainbow community in protest against bullying.

Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
16 October, Wednesday	Caritas Mufti day/ Yr 9 Caritas	All day	Field/Turf/Gym
17 October, Thursday	Staff PL Late Start #15		
17 October, Thursday	Photos - co curricular session 3	8.30am-1.00pm	Auditorium
18 October, Friday	Cultural Festival	See poster	
22 October, Tuesday F	inal Formal Prefects Assembly	8.40am	Auditorium
23 October, Wednesday	Sports Awards	6.30 - 9.00pm	Auditorium
25 October, Friday	Merit Assembly	9.30am	Auditorium
19 October, Saturday	Netball Prizegiving	4.00pm	Auditorium
29 October, Tuesday	Give Back Assembly	8.40am	Auditorium
30 October, Wednesday	Thanksgiving Mass		Auditorium
30 October, Wednesday	Senior Prizegiving	7.00pm	Auditorium
31 October, Thursday	Year 11 Prize giving	9.30am	Auditorium
1 November, Friday	International Graduation	11.30am	Quiet Room
6 November, Wednesday	Non Feeder/SENCO transition Day		SMC Campus
11 November, Monday	Yr 10 Camp Assembly	8.40am	Gym
14 November, Thursday	Yr 10 Careers Day	Full day	SMC campus
20 November, Wednesday	2020 Student/Parents Evening	5.30-7.00pm	Auditorium
22 November, Friday	Stella Maris Shield (7/8)	8:40am-3:15pm	Gym
23 November, Saturday	Elizabeth Michael Uniform Sale	10.00-2.00pm	Auditorium
26-29 November, Tue-Fri	YR 10 Camp/Retreat		Ngaruwahia
26 November, Tuesday	YR 9 EOTC WEEK		
3 December, Tuesday	Final School Assembly 8.40am		Auditorium
4 December, Wednesday	Y 6 Transition Day Feeder		SMC Campus
4 December, Wednesday	Leavers Dinner	6.00pm start	Alexandra Park
5 December, Thursday	Yr 9 - 10 Prizegiving	9.30am	Auditorium
5 December, Thursday	Year 10 ART	9am - 1.30pm	Auckland City Art Gallery
6 December, Friday	Yr 7 - 8 Prizegiving	9.30am	Auditorium
10 December, Tuesday	Christmas Liturgy		Auditorium
10 December, Tuesday	School Closes 1.00 pm		