



## Message From The Principal

It is my pleasure to again have the opportunity to write about the term at Trinity as we move towards the school holidays and Term 2. There are not many publications in which we don't mention the phrase "it has been another busy one", and this term is no exception. Anyone with teenage children knows that getting the most out of the school years is not just a 9-3 event any more. Having children who are actively involved in their community and taking part in activities whether this is sport, dance or debating, know the value of learning life long skills such as resilience, tolerance, patience, problem solving, sharing, manners, commitment, timeliness ... and I could go on! We are, of course, fortunate in New Zealand to have a balanced school system that allows time to develop the "soft skills", in comparison to living in countries with high pressure cram schools that operate outside of school hours in order to give students an academic advantage. Learning how to get on with people and developing strong communication skills alongside quality academic achievement is often the key to a satisfying and rewarding career.

It was again a special evening when we acknowledged our NCEA excellence students at our Academic Blues ceremony at Toitū Museum. We were very pleased with an increased level of endorsements in NCEA last year.

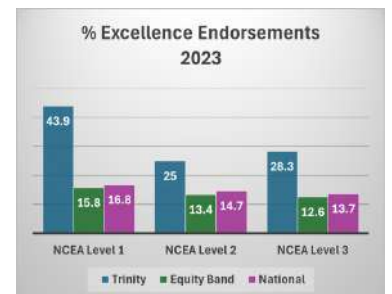
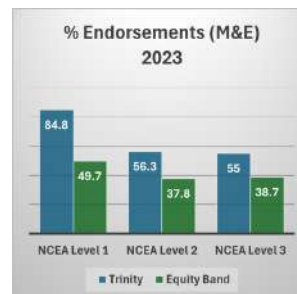
85% of our Year 11 students gained a merit or excellence endorsement compared to 50% for schools in the same equity band (schools that are similar in makeup). This was our best result in the last five years. Similar results were gained at Level 2 (the highest endorsement rate in four years) and at Level 3.

Endorsements in NCEA show us a number of things – our teachers are setting high expectations for students and preparing them well for assessment, and students are committing to their learning and developing a deeper understanding of both content and application. With results improving year on year, we are excited about what our 2024 NCEA results will bring!

It was great to congratulate our young people for their academic achievements, but I knew I was also congratulating those same students who starred in the college musical or Dunedin wide musical theatre last year, those who competed in national and international sports tournaments, or who had been selected for a national debating competition the prior weekend, and those who continue to serve their communities through Young Vinnies and cultural festivals. Along with their whānau, I know that we are all pretty proud of our students who make the most of their holistic education and commit to being the best versions of themselves.

Enjoy a restful autumn holiday break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back safely next term.

*Ngā manaakitanga*  
Mrs Kate Nicholson, Principal



(Note: Equity Band is the new term for schools with similar student demographics. We still compare ourselves with "like" schools, just as we have done in the past when comparing our results to those of other decile 8-10 schools.)



**Early in the term our international students attended a mayoral welcome at the University of Otago.**

## Student Leaders

At the beginning of the school year, the school's chaplain Fr Hook led the Opening Mass for students and staff. This provided an opportunity for the whole school to come together in the hall to start the year as a faith community.



The Opening Mass also included the induction of the Year 13 prefects as they embark on their year of servant leadership within the school. Each of these students was presented with their prefect badge which had been blessed by Fr Hook.

The Trinity Catholic College student leaders for 2024 are:

**Head Girl:** Alice Kelsall

**Head Boy:** Isaac Tili

**Deputy Head Girl:** Tia Mawhinney

**Deputy Head Boy:** Jake Innes

**Special Character Prefects:** Charlotte Harris & Beatrice Schonwald

**Academic Prefect:** Liam Clifford

**Arts Prefects:** Phoebe Harris & Jeremy Meikle

**Cultural Prefects:** Patrick Cotter & Maliana Todd

**Environmental Prefect:** Joseph Brennan

**International Prefect:** Calyn Prapapraditchote

**Pastoral Prefect:** Ruby de Graaf

**Print Media Prefect:** Tom Davis

**Social Prefect:** Mila Stace

**Sports Prefects:** Danny Botting & Aya Oseki

**Tech Prefect:** Drew White

**Wellbeing Prefect:** Sophie Golden

### House Prefects

**Dominic:** Daisy Jarvie & Scarlett Kettish

**McAuley:** Aila Armstrong & Anahera Lewis

**Nagle:** Monique Hollis-Pye & Layla Pawsey

**Rice:** Oliver Lodge & Abby Simpson

## Pompallier - Arts Block

The long-awaited refurbishment of the Pompallier Block, the new home for the school's visual and performing arts, is nearly completed - and it looks stunning! A large section of the building was finished in time for the start of the school year which has meant that art and music classes have been taught in the new space all year, while drama and dance will move back to Pompallier for the start of Term 2.



Teachers and students alike are truly enjoying the benefits of the new, immensely improved facilities and it will be wonderful to have all staff involved in the visual and performing arts located together in the same building.



*The 2024 Trinity Catholic College Prefects*

# Performing Arts

## School Musical

Rehearsals are well underway for Trinity Catholic College's 2024 musical *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. With around 100 students involved, as well as numerous staff and other adult volunteers, the musical is always a huge but very rewarding undertaking.

This well-known and well-loved musical will be performed 21-24 May 2024 at the Trinity Catholic College Auditorium and tickets will go on sale at the end of April.



## Debating

At the Otago Regional Schools' Debating Championships in early March, the Trinity senior team won a number of their debates and also achieved individual successes with Ché McGivern (left in the photo below) being named in the Otago Team for 2024, while teammates Joseph Kelly (right) and Akein Wickramagedara (centre) secured places in the Development Squad for the second year running. Ché will take part in the Nationals in Wellington later in the year.



## Shakespeare Festival

During Term 1, a number of Trinity Catholic College students spent time preparing for the Otago regional Shakespeare Festival which took place just after Easter. Four different 5-minute scenes were selected from three different Shakespeare plays - *The Tempest*, *Twelfth Night*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The students involved spent many weeks learning lines and rehearsing during their morning tea and lunchtime breaks.

The festival was a whole day event with 11 schools from across the region participating. The Trinity groups all gave amazing performances full of energy and passion. Three of our groups were selected to present their scenes at the final showcase in the evening and our students were successful in achieving a number of different awards:

- Best 5 Minute Scene: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Jeremy Meikle, Isaac Tili, Nuala Kelly, Meadow Stewart)
- Runner-Up 5 Minute Scene: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Phoebe Harris, Sophie Golden, Matilda Andersen, Ariel Holloway, Anamika Jones, Ciana Mclver, Saira Eldho, Ella Carruthers, Eden Webb, Nuala Kelly, Meadow Stewart, Charlotte Harris, Oliver Lodge, Tom Restall)
- NSSP (National Shakespeare Schools Production) Direct Entry Award: Phoebe Harris
- Denise Walsh Best Ensemble Award: *The Tempest*
- Best Use of Comedy Award: Ciana Mclver (Maria in *Twelfth Night*)
- Best Use of Sound Award: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- Realisation of Text and Delivery Award: Isaac Tili (Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*)
- Excellent Realisation of Character Award: Nuala Kelly (Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*)



# Athletics Day

In the same week that our city welcomed home ex-pupil and now world swimming champion Erika Fairweather with her gold, silver, and bronze medals from the World Aquatics Championships in Doha, our own athletes performed very well at the second-ever Trinity Catholic College Athletics Day.

Held on Monday 19 February at the Caledonian, the fiercely competitive house spirit of Athletics Day was not diminished by the occasional rain showers. The success of the day reflected the efforts of teachers, house prefects, and competitors, as well as all the behind-the-scenes helpers.

Three school records were broken at the 2024 Athletics Day:

Eamon Henderson (Year 7) broke the U12 boys 400m record which was initially set in 1998 by Marcus Hand (1.10.08). Eamon's time was an impressive 1.10.00.

Eamon also broke the U12 boys high jump record set by Ola Shittu in 2021 (1.35m) by jumping a height of 1.37m.

Rhiannon Anaya Vera Llamas (Year 10) broke the longstanding U14 girls 200m sprint record set in 1993 by Paula Giles (28.59 seconds). Rhiannon's new record was set at a time of 28.00 seconds.

Congratulations to the winners of all the events and to McAuley House for winning first place in the house competition. It was great to see so many people participate in healthy competition with such great team spirit.

*Tom Davis (Year 13)*



# Academic Blues Awards

The Academic Blues Awards evening was held at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum in March and students who achieved an Excellence endorsement in NCEA last year were recognised by being presented with an Academic Blue, while those who achieved 100 or more excellence credits were also presented with a Centurion Award.

The guest speaker at the event was Monique McKewen, an ex-student who is a chartered accountant with a degree from Otago University and is now a Business Manager at BB&S. As a strong advocate for self development, Monique spoke about how the College values of respect, service, justice, and truth had given her the foundations for her studies at university, the courage to not adhere to stereotypes, and the confidence to follow her goals. Her speech was thought provoking and she encouraged the students to stay curious, resilient, and true to themselves.

The following students were awarded an Academic Blue for their 2023 NCEA Excellence Endorsement:

## Level 1

Lucy Appleton  
Eirean Artus  
Isa Binu  
Sophie Bracegirdle  
Tamzin Clarke  
Gabriel Curtis  
EJ Damason  
Evie de Graaf  
Lam Duong  
Stephen Fernando  
Greta Gardyne-Sincock  
Ariel Holloway  
Anamika Jones  
Nuala Kelly  
Louis Le  
Stephanie Lee  
Isobelle Mahoney  
Brent Manangan  
Crystal Mason  
Kiera Mullens  
Matthew Pelvin  
Luca Phillips  
Hayley Roding  
Cody Shaw  
Meadow Stewart  
Grzegorz Twardowski \*  
Joshua Vink  
Holly Waterworth

## Level 2

Elijah Booth  
Joseph Brennan  
Isabel Castillo  
Jenelle Clado  
Liam Clifford  
Patrick Cotter  
Tom Davis  
Sophie Golden  
Charlotte Harris \*  
Phoebe Harris  
Monique Hollis-Pye  
Daisy Jarvie  
Alice Kelsall  
Oliver Lodge \*  
Tia Mawhinney  
Jeremy Meikle \*  
Christian Mullens  
John Ramos  
Mila Stace  
Vania Wong

\* Indicates those students who achieved a Centurion Award for gaining 100 or more Excellence credits in 2023

## Level 3

Scarlett Armstrong  
Hannah Davis-Gorrie  
Orla Kelly  
Samuel Kelly  
Shreenidhi Mahamuni  
Ellie McKenzie  
Isobel McKewen  
Heath Middleton  
Jemma Mortimer  
Melanie Noquilla  
Olivia Oram  
Cole Phillips  
Ella Reilly  
Sean Small  
Harlan Smith  
Peter Wilson



## Top Scholars

At the Academic Blues Awards the senior Top Scholars for 2023 were also announced:

Year 11 - Grzegorz Twardowski

Year 12 - Charlotte Harris & Jeremy Meikle

Year 13 - Jemma Mortimer

Congratulations!



From left to right: Jemma Mortimer, Jeremy Meikle, Grzegorz Twardowski, and Charlotte Harris

## Sports Update

### Otago Secondary School Athletics

In March, 23 Trinity Catholic College students took part in the Otago Secondary Schools Athletics Champs in Dunedin. Congratulations to the following students who placed in the top five of their respective events:

**Tomas La Hood, Harry Lodge, Cole Skipper, Jack Waterworth** - 1st in the 4x100m Relay (U16 boys)

**Tomas La Hood** - 1st in the 400m and 3rd in the 100m (U16 boys)

**Oliver Lodge** - 1st in the 2000m Steeplechase (open boys)

**Jeremy Meikle** - 2nd in the 2000m Steeplechase (open boys)

**Abby Simpson** - 2nd in the 3000m (senior girls)

**Rhiannon Anaya Vera Llamas** - 3rd in the 100m and 3rd in the 200m (U14 girls)

**Rhiannon Anaya Vera Llamas, Niamh Booth, Daphne Kendrick, Lucy Koudayah** - 3rd in the 4x100m Relay (U14 girls)

**Cole Skipper** - 4th in the 100m (U16 boys)

**Made Newson** - 4th in the 800m and 5th in the 1500m (U15 girls)

**Joshua Elliotte** - 4th in the 100m, 5th in the 200m, and 5th in the 1500m (U14 boys)

**Harry Lodge** - 5th in the 100m (U16 boys)

**Hiro Yamada** - 5th in the 800m (U16 boys)

**Elani Mafi** - 5th in the Shot Put (U14 girls)

**Esther Moata'ane** - 5th in the 200m (U15 girls)



### Squash

Congratulations to rising squash star Aria Bannister (Year 12) who has been accepted into the 2024 intake of the Otago Academy of Sport. The programme supports athletes in a high performance environment with gym access, nutrition advice, and coaching support. Aria is the first squash player to be accepted into the programme.

In addition, in March Aria was selected for the NZ Junior Squash Team to play against Australia in a test series in Melbourne in April. While in Melbourne Aria will be playing in the Oceania Junior Champs followed by the Junior Trans-Tasman Test Series.

## Board Update

It has been a busy term with many annual college events taking place, such as the Year 13 retreat, the Year 7 overnight marae trip, and Athletics Day. In addition to this, there have been regular weekly sports competitions, sports tournaments, rehearsals for the school musical, tramps, and other curriculum activities that have included away trips.

The Board greatly appreciates the support of the parents and caregivers who attend and/or assist with these events, as well as the support of the staff involved. Such activities simply would not be able to occur without everyone's help.

The Pompallier Block is very near completion, and many classes are already taking place in there. The Board appreciates the support of the Diocese for this block to be renovated to create an outstanding space for our performing and visual arts.

As required following a legislative change, the Board has implemented a new cell phone policy and we appreciate the parent/caregiver and student feedback we received while this policy was being developed. Sessions have been held with all students about the new policy which has now come into effect.

Students are presently involved in many pastoral care and social justice projects with the senior students also engaging and supporting the junior students in these activities which is fantastic and aligns so well with our College values.

The Board wishes all staff and students a restful break after a busy and exciting first term.

*Barb Long*

*Presiding Member, Board of Trinity Catholic College*



In February, alumnus and world swimming champion Erika Fairweather was welcomed home from the World Aquatics Championships in Doha with her trio of medals (gold, silver, and bronze) by some Trinity students who greeted her with the school haka.

## Year 13 Retreat

On Thursday 22 February, the Year 13 students travelled to Tirohonga Camp on the beautiful Taieri Plains for their retreat. Tirohonga provided a picturesque and serene setting that served as the perfect place for this camp. The purpose of the Year 13 retreat is to start the year with a clear shared vision of communal goals for the year.

Led by Mr Sutherland, the retreat began with fun activities that included bonding games, caterpillar racing, film making, team building competitions, and 'speed dating'. In the speed dating, randomly paired individuals had 1-minute conversations, creating an opportunity to break down barriers and get to know people we might not have talked to before. These challenges created a real atmosphere of joy as new connections were forged. These activities were divided by various workshops led by other assisting staff about topics such as goal setting, life purpose, balancing self-care with care for others, and servant leadership, helping us reflect as individuals on the big picture of our lives and what really matters.

Finally, at the end of the day, Mr Sutherland led us in a candle-lit reflection where we wrote to those we love and appreciate. We found connection throughout the year group which brought us all closer together to start our final year together before we go off on our own separate paths next year. The following morning, Mr Sutherland took us on a walk up a hill to a paddock overlooking the beautiful plains where we had a small reflection and prayer before quietly walking back down the hill for mass with Father Hook.

These couple of days gave us time to connect and bond as a community, and for some it was a real eye-opening experience. We created trust and bonds with people we have never talked to and the overall feedback was very positive. Students reported that they left the retreat with clarity for the year ahead, stronger communal connection, and a deeper appreciation of how special the friendships are that they will get to enjoy for another year.

*Tom Davis (Year 13) & Beatrice Schonwald (Year 13)*

## Year 11 Art Trip to Otago Museum

Early in Term 1, the Year 11 Art students spent the day at the Otago Museum for the purpose of making observational drawings and collecting visual information around the Level 1 topic for the year - the local environment.

The information gathered through drawing, photographing, and note taking during the trip will be vital to the development of the students' artwork throughout the remainder of the term.

*Chris Pickles*



## Year 7 Marae Camp at Karitāne

A few weeks ago, all five Year 7 classes went to Puketeraki Marae in Karitāne. The classes were split and two separate camps were run one after the other. To help each camp run smoothly some brave parent helpers tagged along as well as a few Year 13s. These helpers were amazing!

When we arrived at Karitāne, we were welcomed onto the marae with a powhiri. We had been learning about marae protocols in class and it was great to be involved in them for real. Once the speeches were over we ate some food in the wharekai to officially welcome us on to the marae and to break the tapu. The home baking was delicious!

Next we went on a walk up to Huriawa Pā. We were told lots of interesting stories by our guide and learned about how the local Māori had lived, as well as a bit about the whalers who arrived later. After lunch we got split into three groups and went around different activities. For one of the rotations, we played an adapted version of kī o rahi, which was kind of like rippa rugby and tag combined - it was a pretty intense game.

The second rotation was flax weaving. An awesome Year 13 student, Anahera, taught us how to create this beautiful flower design. It took a while, but the end result was stunning and we were all very proud of our flax creations. In the third rotation we sang, practised the school haka, and spoke our pepeha which we had created a week or so earlier. The next day we had a sandcastle competition on the beach where we made awesome creations themed around our time at Karitāne.

I think we all appreciated our time at the marae and Huriawa Pā greatly - we learnt new things about the Māori history of the area and spent more time with our peers. Overall it was a wonderful experience that our entire year group enjoyed. Thank you to all those who made it possible.

*Elizabeth Cartwright (Year 7)*



## Year 13 PE Rafting Challenge



The Year 13 PE students competed in the annual Taieri Rafting Challenge at the end of February. The group was very lucky with the weather as the sun shone all day.

The students were put into three teams and then they went into battle against each other in a series of challenges which were on, in, and off the water. The teams were either racing each other or the stop watch.

The focus of this activity was leadership and every student had an opportunity to lead a challenge for their team.

This year's students were an amazing bunch - they competed hard and got fully involved in everything, but there were also lots of laughs throughout the day.

*Ant Harris*

**Excellence in teaching  
and learning in a  
climate of faith and  
pastoral care.**

TRINITY  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



Hei ākongā mā te Karaiti

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