



Ipsa Duce

A termly publication from Kavanagh College

Welcome to our Term Two Ipsa Duce.

Within these pages you will read highlights of our last ten weeks. Our staff and students continue to contribute in wonderful ways to our college community both inside and outside the classroom. We hope you enjoy reading about some of these successes.

Term Wrap Up from our Head Students

Term 2 as usual has been a whirlwind of a term with excellence being achieved across all areas of our school. This shows us how the year's theme of striving to be the best version of ourselves is being implemented throughout school life. It is safe to say that every student has worked very hard this term to achieve their goals which puts them in a good position heading into Term 3.

Some highlights from this term have been the activities of enviro week, quiz nights and multiple field trips across the science subjects. With the addition of educational diversity videos, we have progressed as a school to expand our thinking and knowledge to embed the core values within our everyday lives, especially that of respect. The senior school has been busy with assessments throughout the term, all with fantastic results. To conclude the term, the Year 12 and 13 formal was a wonderfully successful night and a reward for the term's hard work.

The cold weather in Week 9 from the polar blast did not dampen spirits as we approached the end of the term. However, it did start to scare the Shave for a Cure boys as they head into the winter holidays with no hair. It is safe to say we have all earned some rest during the upcoming holidays and we can't wait to see everyone back for the start of Term 3!

Erika Fairweather & Enrique Garcia



Year 13 biology students at the NZ Marine Studies Centre at Portobello.

School Formal

The Kavanagh College Formal was held on the 2nd of July 2021 at the Otago Museum. It was the event of the year for many senior students who were unable to have the complete formal package last year due to Covid-19 and, consequently, there was a definite excitement in the air leading up to this date. The students arrived at the venue on Friday evening all looking amazing and then enjoyed a lovely dinner. After the meal the night continued with photos, dancing and the crowning of king and queen for both Year 12 and 13.

Leading up to the formal the Social Prefect and Social Committee did a lot of planning and fundraising to ensure this night would be one to remember. Fundraising such as sausage sizzles and bake sales took place throughout Term 2 to help with a hardship fund to assist those who needed a helping hand to make it to this special event. Many students were extremely generous in offering dresses and suits for an outfit hire programme that the Social Committee ran. All of these preparations ensured the Formal was definitely worthwhile and certainly a night to remember for everyone.

Adi Garnett



Year 13 students at the Kavanagh College Formal.

Erika Fairweather - Olympian



Erika celebrates being named a member of the NZ Olympic Team along with Suzie Bates and the rest of the school at a special assembly.

No doubt you have seen or read of our Head Girl, Erika Fairweather, and her naming in the 2021 NZ Olympic Swim Team. We were thrilled and privileged to share Erika's special moment during our college assembly on June 16th. Having an Olympian named while still at school is certainly not a common event around New Zealand and we are immensely proud of our Head Girl who is the youngest member of the NZ Olympic Team for 2021. Erika embodies humility and she has a constant focus and commitment to doing her absolute best. She truly lives our theme for the year "striving to be the best version of ourselves".

We wish Erika all the very best for the next few weeks as she competes in Tokyo. Erika is competing in the individual 200m and 400m freestyle events, as well as the 4x200m freestyle relay at this month's Games. Incidentally, another swim team member, Carina Doyle, was also a student at Kavanagh College - 2 out of an Olympic team of 7 is a pretty good outcome for one school!

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts department has participated in a variety of exciting events in Term 2. A number of Kavanagh students took part in the Midwinter Carnival in both dance and music. Our Dancers led the parade, followed a little further back by our Music Squad.

We were delighted that our Shakespeare Troupe won a major prize at the national Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition in Wellington in June. A massive congratulations to our director Kate Kelly, who seamlessly prepared her actors to physically bring *The Taming of the Shrew* to life with Troy Kubala as Petruchio and Amalie Latton as Katherina. The team was extremely successful and won the "Most Filmic Award". This was a huge achievement in such a tough competition.

Congratulations to Serenity Hook whose group 3 Dimensions gained a Highly Commended award at the NZCT Chamber Music Contest. Serenity played the trumpet for the piece they performed which was Jan Koetsier's *Irishes Trio fur Trompete, Posaune und Klavier op. 126 (1991) Movement 3*.



The Kavanagh dancers dressed as moths lead the parade in Dunedin's Midwinter Carnival.



Troy Kubala and Amalie Latton ready to take to the stage in the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition.

Students and Service



Throughout the year Kavanagh College students get involved in a wide variety of service activities. This is an important aspect of our school's special character and students willingly give their time and talents to do things for others or to help in the community. Some of the many things Kavanagh students have been involved with recently include helping Catholic primary schools with their swimming lessons, assisting the Mercy Parish prepare meals for the community and sewing warm fleece hats for the upcoming Edmund Rice Camp.

Students Jessica Power, Madi Blakey and Lizzy Peacock sew hats for the Edmund Rice Camp.

Ngā Manu Kōrero

In June, Year 12 Kavanagh student Manaia Barns took to the stage and lit up the Dunedin Town Hall at Ngā Manu Kōrero, the national secondary school Māori oratory competition.

This prestigious event began in 1965 with the purpose of promoting command and fluency in English and Te Reo Māori. There are now four sections and Manaia competed in the “Korimako” Senior English section. The speaking competition consists of two parts - He kōrero ohorere (an impromptu speech) and He kōrero takatū (a prepared speech). The speech contests are intended to encourage the development of skills and confidence of Māori students in spoken English and Te Reo Māori.

In both sections Manaia spoke beautifully. He was composed, confident and delivered his message from the heart. When he spoke on stage about “What it means to be Māori” his whānau and the community of Kavanagh College were immensely proud of the message and the way he delivered it. Congratulations to Manaia on his third overall placing at this prestigious event.



Board Information

The current Board consists of elected parent representatives, proprietor’s appointees, a student representative, a staff representative and our school principal. All members of the Board are responsible for providing strategic leadership and direction for the school with the proprietor members having additional reporting requirements to the diocese.

Te Tīmatanga, our new curriculum delivery model for Years 7-9, has been implemented this year and the Board appreciates the time that staff and the senior leadership team have put into making this a smooth and successful transition.

This year the College also commences its Education Review Office (ERO) review. The Ministry of Education has introduced a new system for carrying out reviews and under this model the College works with an evaluation partner from ERO to support us in a process of continual improvement. This new way of operating suits Kavanagh well as it supports the evaluation approach we are already using for the review of our new curriculum and our annual plan.

The Board’s meeting dates are on the school calendar and the contact details for Board Members, as well as the Board’s policies and procedures, can be found on the Board section on the College website. We welcome attendance at meetings and feedback from the Kavanagh College community.

Barb Long, Board Chair

Term 2 Curriculum – General Overview

This term's theme has been 'Ready For Action' and our big question has been "How can we be prepared for what could strike next?". Over the last two weeks, all year levels have been looking at the structure of the earth and all the different layers which make up our planet. Year 7 looked in detail at volcanoes, Year 8 looked in detail at earthquakes and Year 9 looked in detail at climate change. Year 7 and 8 are now applying their knowledge of the earth and natural disasters and creating a model of how our society could be more prepared if a natural disaster were to strike (through earthquake-proof buildings and heat-proof shelters to protect from a volcanic eruption). Year 9 are producing documentaries using their knowledge of climate change to show how we can be kaitiaki (guardians) for our planet.

Year 7 – Niamh Higgins and Lucy Bryant 7OCS

Our topic this term was volcanoes and tectonic plates. We started off by zooming Tom who works at the Auckland War Museum. He talked to us about how volcanoes erupt and he also showed us some different types of rocks such as obsidian which forms when water and lava touches, pumice which forms when volcanoes erupt explosively and volcanic ash which happens when molten rock dissolves into ash. Then we moved on to doing an experiment where we got shaving foam and wafers and we moved them into different positions to show us how tectonic plates move. We also did another experiment where we got sand and popsicle sticks and we measured the sticks and then we put the sand in and we blew to see how much sand we took off to represent erosion and how fast it can happen. We did some reading about volcanoes like the Dunedin volcano and the White Island volcano. Then we moved on to our project where we chose a natural disaster like volcanoes, tsunamis or earthquakes and we wrote about how they happen and the effects.

Year 8 – Maisy Hill 8TAU

In 8TAU in Term Two the main focus for our topic Ready For Action was to study the effects of earthquakes on model houses. Using recycled materials to benefit the environment, we built models and tried different shapes, styles and materials. This led to learning about other natural disasters and how to prepare for them and escape from them. We chose a fire meet point in our own homes and drew a floor plan to help find alternate fire exists. In English, we wrote projects on famous natural disasters using the TEDS paragraph style. In maths this term we learned about converting fractions to decimals and percentages, and the strategies to use to do the equations. We now know how to enquire and study almost any project and how to write a report on the learning that has taken place.

Year 9 Future Dunedin – Greg Twardowski, Tamzin Clarke and Matthew Pelvin 9STTL

Aaron Hawkins comes to Kavanagh!

The Mayor of Dunedin, Aaron Hawkins, came to the Year 9 classes to answer some questions we had and to look at what we had done and take some photos. The questions we had were about future Dunedin and about him. First, Matua Tili greeted Mr Hawkins and the Year 9s sang for him. Next, the executive from the 9STTL Council (the Dunedin Sheesh Council) gave an introduction and explained different things about the model that 9STTL had made of future Dunedin including the materials used, the ideas every area of responsibility had and how everyone looked at a different problem. We all had a good time and learnt a lot about what the Mayor does for Dunedin and just how important his job is.



Term 2 Sporting Highlights

Kavanagh College students have been involved in many different sporting activities during the term with some stand out results and tournament successes as well.

Cross Country Series

Seven students from Kavanagh College competed in the Logan Park Road Race with Oliver Lodge finishing 2nd in the junior boys section. Oliver also had an impressive run in the Otago Secondary School Cross Country where he placed 4th in the U15 boys.

Our Year 10 boys team of Joseph Brennan, Jeremy Meikle, Isaac Tili and Oliver Lodge finished 3rd in the Caversham Harriers Relay, while our junior girls team consisting of Anamika Jones, Evie de Graaf, Ella Flawn and Ryleigh Makiiti finished 8th and our Year 9 boys team of Wills Harrington, Luca Phillips, Brent Manangan and Oscar Ung finished 9th.

Swimming

Meg Christophers, Emma Christophers and Hayley Roding competed in the Otago Secondary Schools Swimming Championships and gained a number of top ten placings. Meg then followed this up with some impressive results at the South Island Secondary Schools Championships achieving the following results: 1st in 50m butterfly, 1st in 100m butterfly, 2nd in 100m individual medley, 2nd in skins relay, 4th in 50m breaststroke and 4th in 100m breaststroke.



Oliver Lodge competing in the Otago Secondary Schools Cross Country.

Netball

Kavanagh College won the Mixed Year 9/10 Section at the Otago Secondary Schools Netball Tournament recently and they're now preparing to take part in the Junior South Island Tournament.

Congratulations to Ryleigh Makiiti who was selected for the Dunedin U14 A netball team and to Aya Oseki, Daisy Jarvie and Sophie Golden who were selected for the Dunedin U14 B team.

Football

Georgia Kennedy is now into the second stage of the ID football camp for selection into the NZ U17 girls team.

Table Tennis

Well done to Lam Duong and Karn Lertjirawong who were both selected for the Otago U15 table tennis team and to Joseph Tupai who was named in the Otago U13 team.

Basketball

Kavanagh's Sophie Golden, Abby Simpson, Aya Oseki, Ryleigh Makiiti, Daisy Jarvie and Jessica Tupai have all played for Otago in the U15 girls basketball team this term, while Annabelle Ring was a member of the U19 team.

Annabelle has also been invited to attend the Steven Adams invitational basketball camp in Wellington during the July holidays and named in the U19 Women's Basketball Tournament Team following the Nationals in Auckland in June.

Handball

Jack Harris has been playing in the Otago Senior Mens and Otago U23 handball teams this year and Otago came 3rd at the National Youth Cup in Wellington in May.

Volleyball

Ruby de Graaf and Katie Pullar have been selected for the U17 and U19 Otago volleyball teams respectively.

Southern Catholic Schools Junior Sports Tournament

In June, schools from Verdon, St Kevin's, St Peter's, St Mary's and St Joseph's Oamaru all competed in basketball, netball, rugby and futsal. The day was a great celebration of Catholic schools and the sport was played in great spirit. Congratulations to Verdon who won the overall day for the third year in a row.

Dunedin Co-Ed Sports Tournament

Kavanagh College competed in the annual co-ed schools sports tournament at the beginning of July which included football, hockey, badminton, curling, basketball and netball. Kavanagh won the boys football, the girls senior netball, the boys and girls badminton and the senior girls and boys basketball - and came out the overall tournament winners.



Students playing basketball at the Southern Catholic Schools Junior Sports Tournament.



Josh Forrester playing badminton at the Dunedin Co-Ed Sports Tournament.

Message from the Principal

(As published in the NZ Catholic)

A few years ago, I wrote a school newsletter piece about the previous Sunday's gospel, the well-known scripture reading 'The Vine and the Branches' (John 15:1-17). At the time, when I was listening to this passage and probably influenced by my plant science background, I remember thinking about the need for the vine to have the right environmental conditions to bear fruit, be pruned and stimulate new growth. And so, I wrote about the analogy where Catholic education is like the quality of the soil that provides the vine with all it needs to thrive and flourish.

I often think about that analogy in my privileged work as a Catholic secondary school principal. Young people, our young vines, are growing up in an environment where they are very exposed to the elements. Connection through technology has the danger of creating an environment of materialism and individualism, and where 'if it feels good and makes you happy, then just do it' can become the mantra by which they live. Many of our teenagers live their lives through an 'Instagram lens' where carefully curated and posed photos cause them to think that their life should be as wonderfully exciting, successful and happy 24/7 as those they follow. Therefore, the downside of our digitally connected world is that it can create unrealistic expectations and, in my opinion, has influenced the resilience and mental health of our teenagers. Instead of the outward-looking view we would expect from global connection, it can cause our children to become very inward-looking and dissatisfied with what they see.

Catholic education done well can provide a healthy protection against these damaging environmental elements our young people are exposed to. Faith in action within our schools gives an alternative view of the world around us. Looking outward, putting others first through social justice actions, encouraging hope, learning to think critically and keeping a 'what would Jesus do' lens on everyday life gives our young people protection against the elements and allows them to grow stronger in the face of challenges, creating a more positive view of themselves. Schools have become the 'go-to' for governments wanting to create social change, and the work schools are being asked to do to help fix social issues and produce better future communities grows every year. While some in education may complain about these requests taking time away from the curriculum, Catholic schools consider that creating a world with respect for ourselves, each other and our environment is our mission.

Catholic schools' pastoral care is second to none, and the belief that every child is made in the image and likeness of God influences the way we prioritise relationships, belonging, identity and inclusiveness. Many of our schools become a successful 'fresh start' for those who arrive somewhat battle scarred from previous experiences. Rather than conflicting with the aim of delivering the curriculum, our high-quality pastoral care becomes the foundational support that increases academic outcomes. Media reports often point to the fact that Catholic secondary schools in New Zealand are consistent in providing excellent academic results as compared to state schools. What they omit to report, because it is not always visible from the outside, is that our faith-based pastoral care is the 'how' of these excellent academic outcomes.

We are about more than curriculum and assessment. We are about contributing to the Kingdom of God on earth. We are about providing the nutrients, the water, the soil structure and the protection against the elements that will allow the young vines in our care to grow strong, flourish and bear much fruit.

Kate Nicholson



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