

5 June 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Our newsletter places a major focus on student futures...and there is a reason for this.

As I move around the school chatting with students, I am concerned that a number of senior students have no idea of their current NCEA credits and endorsements, and how many credits remain for them to achieve. On top of this there seems little consideration as to where they might be heading beyond school, be it apprenticeship or university or gap year. The lack of planning is causing stress amongst the students as it presents to them as a 'looming problem' that plays on their minds.

Please could I ask you to start conversations around this topic. Ask your son/daughter for specific details about their credit and endorsement situation. Where is their thinking at with regard to life after school? Point them at the web to find out the necessary pre-requisites for courses. It is important that they do the work, and I appreciate that teenagers can resist parents "poking their nose" into their business, so perhaps ask them to help with a job you are doing and chat at the same time. This is a time of life when the teenage brain can struggle with rational thinking and hence it is our job as parents to provide that support until the frontal cortex kicks in again.

For families with younger students, I would encourage the same kind of "heads up" conversations and constant exposure to the world of opportunities that are out there. Having a plan goes a long way to reducing the worry.

<u>Please click here</u> to find out more about our Student Futures department and what is available to our students.

Formal Friday's – Reminder Formals are to be worn every Friday during Terms 2 & 3.

Winter Buses - This Service starts on **Monday 8 June 2020** through to Term 3. These buses leave the College at 5:15pm sharp Monday - Thursday. Pay \$2 to the driver. Any student who is staying after school can use them. For information look under Bus Routes on the College website: Winter Late Bus Routes

World Vision 40 Hour Famine 5-7 June - Saint Kentigern College and World Vision are partnering in the South Pacific on a five-year project, with money raised going towards building resilient communities in Vanuatu.

We encourage students with parents' permission to use the link www.famine.org.nz for online fundraising through Facebook. This is a great way to get sponsors and easier to collect funds as they are direct credited into the official Famine account.

Foodbank, Friday 19 June - Saint Kentigern College donates food items to Presbyterian Northern Support each term. The Foodbank will appreciate our support more than ever this term, due to overwhelming demands during Covid-19 lockdown. A list of priority items will be sent out next week.

PRESCHOOL

Tutor Learning Conferences Years 8-13 - On Friday 26 June, we are replacing the traditional Parent Teacher Interviews with a Learning Conference. **This day will be teachers only onsite, and students will be encouraged to use the day as a consolidation day.** The rationale behind this change is to provide a workable solution for both staff and our parents to accommodate the need for a personalised conference/parent interview and work with the current health and safety guidelines regarding the pandemic.

This conference, which will be set up via your child's Tutor, will involve a 20-minute, one-on-one Video/Teams meeting between the Tutor, student and parent(s). At this meeting, the student's reports, their academic tracking so far, attendance, pastoral care record and their goals will be discussed. The student is expected to be at the centre of this conference and should be able to lead discussions on the following; how the year is progressing and what support they may need to develop their learning goals to ensure personal success. This conference is deliberately placed to acknowledge both our student's academic and personal well-being over the past months. This will give us a valuable opportunity to strengthen our learning partnerships with our students and their families.

Year 7 reports will be released in the first week of the holidays with Parent Interviews to be held on Tuesday 28 July.

NZQA Update

This week NZQA responded to educators concerns regarding NCEA or UE this year, because of the disruption caused by COVID-19. This supports the previous announcement about portfolios and examination timetables.

To help address this and support students, the following changes are being made:

- Learning Recognition credits; for every 5 credits a student achieves towards their NCEA either through internal or external assessment, they are entitled to an additional 1 credit. Students at NCEA Level 1 are eligible for up to a maximum of 10 additional credits. Levels 2 and 3 are eligible for up to a maximum of 8 additional credits.
- Students will be awarded a certificate endorsement if they achieve 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, rather than the usual 50. Students achieving 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course rather than 14 will be awarded a course endorsement.
- Current UE requirements have been reduced from 14 to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects. Students still need to attain NCEA Level 3 and meet literacy and numeracy requirements to be awarded University Entrance.

Best.

Russell Brooke College Principal

Appendix

Student Futures

The Student Futures team is committed to supporting learners to attain their aspirations and to develop a pathway from the College into the world. Sometimes support is needed to develop the capability to self-manage life and learning to successfully make the transition from school to further learning and work.

Information is already available for learners via the 'Notices' section of the OLE. As booking are made and scholarships are made available, they will be added to the notices.

To make an appointment to speak to Student Futures, visit the Student Futures OLE page and click the link.

Need some help considering your next steps?

New Zealand will be having two careers expos this year to help learners explore the opportunities available them domestically and internationally.

The 'Virtual Careers Expo' will allow you to enter into a virtual 'exhibition hall' and browse through a wide range of tertiary providers, visit virtual stands and engage in live chats and webinars with representatives from each institution. The expo will take place on Thursday 18 June (12-8pm) and Friday 19 June (9am-5pm). To register for this event, follow this link to the registration page https://www.mediadesignschool.com/virtual-careers-expo.

The NZ Careers Expo is being held in Auckland at the ASB Show grounds from 6-8 August.

This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with a wide range of universities, alternative education providers and direct entry careers (e.g. the Defence Force). Exhibitors will be there from all over New Zealand as well as online connections to international institutions. This is free event to help you look ahead at what future pathway you might want to take and where it might take you.

University and Tertiary Institution Course Information Meetings

As we look forwards, some NZ based institutions will be visiting Saint Kentigern College to talk about the courses, accommodation, facilities and scholarships available to all learners. The table below shows the bookings made so far, with more to come in Term 3.

Date	Time	Institution	Location
Wednesday 10 June	1pm	AUT	Goodfellow Centre
Monday 15 June	1pm	University of Otago	Goodfellow Centre

As more are confirmed, they will be added to the Notices section of the OLE.

Online Tertiary Institution information evenings

In addition to visits to the College, some institutions are also offering online one-to-one and group meetings about what is available at their institution.

AUT are offering one-to-one Zoom calls for learners and parents. Follow this link to make an appointments:

https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/Futurestudentsteam@autuni.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/

Victoria University are hosting a two-part series of digital information sessions for prospective students. The first part will provide students with an introduction to the University, and information about degrees, student life, accommodation, and scholarships. In the first part of the series, there are three sessions to choose from:

- Wednesday 10 June, 6–7 pm
- Thursday 11 June, 6–7 pm
- Tuesday 23 June, 6–7 pm

You can register at this link: https://go.wgtn.ac.nz/undergraduate-digital-information-sessions.html

Holiday Courses

Yoobee Creative Courses – July holidays. Over the July holiday period Yoobee will be running a variety of creative courses for learners to participate in. The courses range from digital illustration, film making, 2D and 3D animation, Photoshop and photography techniques and many others. For more information, email Hannah.williams@saintkentigern.com.

Queenstown Resort College: QRC (Queenstown Resort College) are hosting an experience opportunity at their Queenstown campus for anyone interested in studying Adventure Tourism Management or Hospitality Management. The experiences are: 14-16 July or 6-8 October. For further information, please visit https://www.grc.ac.nz/experience-qrc/

Financial Scholarship Awards

Every year, millions of dollars in financial scholarships are available for students in Year 13 intending to study in 2021. MoneyHub provides a comprehensive list of all the scholarships available. Here is the link to the lists: https://www.moneyhub.co.nz/scholarships-nz.html

Learners can apply for more than 1 scholarship at more than one institution and a decision can be made later as to which scholarship is accepted.

Help is available for anyone applying for scholarships from Student Futures.

In addition to these scholarships, other significant scholarships are available. Information on these scholarships are available from Mrs Williams in the Student Futures office.

The Keystone Trust is for any learner who is considering studying 'construction' in 2021. The title 'construction' includes: property, architecture, land surveying, property law, engineering, landscape architecture, quantity surveying, urban planning and building science.

The Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award is offered each year by Zonta Clubs around the world to young women aged 16-19 years, studying at a secondary school, college or university in a Zonta district or region. It is awarded in recognition of commitment to voluntary services, evidence of volunteer leadership and a dedication to empowering women through service and advocacy.