



GARIN COLLEGE

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"Small School, Big Heart..."

From our Principal, John Maguire

Tēnā koutou katoa ngā whānau,

I am sure you were as pleased as I was to hear the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday that the community could return to Covid-19 alert level 1. At alert level 1 we must all remain extremely vigilant, maintain excellent hygiene standards as observing the following "Golden Rules"

- If students are sick, they should stay home (phone Healthline or their GP and get tested if they are experiencing cold or flu like symptoms).
- Continue to wash and dry hands regularly with soap and water
- Maintain sneeze and coughing etiquette
- Hand sanitisers will still be available in each classroom should students choose to access it.
- Face coverings are **not required** at school or on any school transport, but from Monday 22nd February they must be worn on all public transport, including by any school children **aged 12 and over**.

Our annual Catholic schools commissioning Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of the Bays Parish in Richmond on Friday 12 February with representatives from all Catholic primary schools from across the top of the south. We were blessed and privileged to have Cardinal John Dew celebrate the mass along with our priests from throughout the diocese and our School Chaplan Fr Seph Pijfers. The commissioning mass is particularly significant for us here at Garin as we welcome our new staff and teachers to the College for 2021. Cardinal John reminds us of our mission as educators in Catholic schools, to be people centered in Christ, to be people of hope, where we grow to be a community of people who *"walk the way of Christ, live the life of Christ, and tell the truth of Christ"*.

This week we held our Year 9 Journey "Base Camp" at Whenua Iti Outdoors. For our year 9 new entrant students this was an exciting and challenging outdoors experience. Raft building, kayaking, high ropes, and trapeze. It was blended with exploration of faith through personal and group challenges and reflections. Following this successful camp our students are well prepared for the year ahead having developed and built new friendships and relationships as a year level. Thank you to our staff who travelled to camp and walked alongside and supported our students throughout their journey.



Students are encouraged to arrive at school by 8.30am each morning, and be ready to move to whānau class or assemblies on the bell at 8.35am. Once students have arrived on site at school in the mornings, they are required to remain on site. Thank you to our parents and whānau, for your ongoing support and encouragement of your children. Our timely and accurate recording of students' attendance is essential.

- If your student is going to be absent, parents/caregivers are required to contact the school office and leave a detailed message by phone or email, please include the student's name, whānau class and reason for absence.
- Signing out during the school day - eg dental, medical appointments, family event, driving lessons: For approval to allow your student to sign out, the school office must receive verification of your approval along with the reason for the student's need to sign out, eg parent/caregiver to provide signed note, phone or email the school office directly the day before, or early that morning is best. Verification is required to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students. A text message from a parent or caregiver on a student phone will require further verification by office staff before approval is given for the student to sign out.
- Parents wishing to take students out of school for non school events e.g. holiday must communicate their intentions by email to the Principal. Such approved absence may be deemed explained, however unjustified.

We look forward to celebrating our start of year Mass next Friday 26 February at 11.40am in the Garin College Gym. This will be a wonderful celebration for students, staff, parents and community. Parents and whānau are invited to join our celebration and enjoy a light morning tea with our staff following the mass.

Wednesday this week marked the beginning of our Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday Liturgy. We pray that the deeper meaning of this Lenten season will also resonate within our community through Easter.

God bless, Ngā mihi manaakitanga
John Maguire, Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Mon 22nd Feb - Whānau Photos

Fri 26th February - Opening College Mass

Mon 1st March - Academic Colours

Wed 3rd March - Meet the Teacher, Year 9 Learners

Mon 8th - 12th March - Year 11 Journey Camps

Wed 17th March - House Games Day

Mon 22nd - 26th March - Year 10 Journey Camps

Take a Moment:

"Please", "thank you", and "sorry" are "words that open up the road to a good family life."

Pope Francis



Special Character Term 1, Week 3



Ash Wednesday signals the beginning of Lent 2021

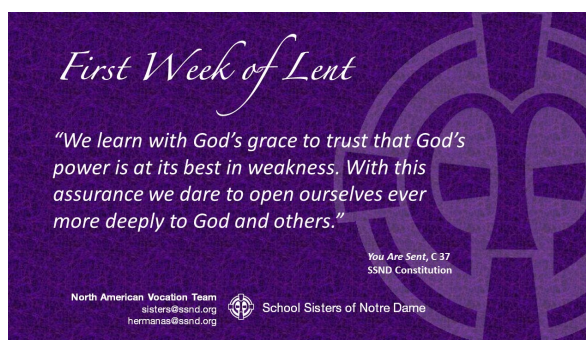
1st Sunday of Lent - 'Turn back to God' Genesis 9:8-15 Psalm 25 Mark 1:12-15

Have you ever thought about doing something that you know is not right? We call this 'temptation.' Even Jesus was tested by temptations. This week's gospel recalls how Jesus went into the desert to pray for forty days. We too begin our forty day period of prayer called Lent. It is a bit like going into the desert with Jesus.

Our universe, and more especially, our world has death, resurrection and renewal as its very core.

Continuous change is a part of its nature. Lent is a celebration of change, of turning back, of renewing and reviewing, of turning over a new leaf. We can turn away from our idols, our preoccupations, our crutches, anything that we are accustomed to using as props and supports. If it is a major distraction, then maybe it needs to go.

Practice acts of charity on yourself this Lent. Reign in the excesses you allow yourself. We can do some spiritual housekeeping by reflecting on the good things we have, praying for our loved ones, and seeking God's grace in all we do.



Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Link to the Ash Wednesday Liturgy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zj3hzGuK_vl&feature=youtu.be



On Ash Wednesday we celebrate the first day of the season of Lent. We know that Lent is a special time to prepare ourselves for Easter. By thinking about our lives and making changes with God's help, we can become better people.

On this day Christians receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads. God's people have used this powerful sign for hundreds of years. The cross of ashes tells friends and neighbours that we know we are not perfect.

Due to the Level 2 Covid - 19 restrictions we were not able to hold a full school Liturgy. Instead Garin Learners recorded an Ash Wednesday Liturgy that was filmed. This Liturgy was then watched by the College in their Period 6 classes.



Meet the Teacher Year 9 Learners 3rd March

Garin College welcomes all Whānau of Year 9 learners to meet their Year 9 teachers on Wednesday 3rd March (5:30 - 7pm)

This is an opportunity for Whānau to meet the teachers of their children early in the school year in a more informal setting than traditional parent/teacher interviews. Transition from one school to another is a big deal for many Garin learners and Whānau, and this is another way we can support this transition.

The idea is a mini "day in the life of" - so Whānau can see different parts of the school and be familiar with some of the spaces their students may talk about.

They are intended as brief meetings where parents come in and spend a short time with each Year 9 class teacher outlining:

- General introductions
 - Introduction to Learning Topic
- We look forward to seeing you there!

Special Character Term 1, Week 3 Cont...

Year 9 Journey 2021:

Well done to all the Year 9 students, Garin staff and Whenua Iiti Outdoor instructors who combined to undertake their Year 9 Journey camp this week. We look forward to the stories and photos on your return.



Whānau Photos

Whānau Photos for our College are taking place on Monday 22nd February. All Garin College Learners are required to be in formal College Uniform for this day. The photographer is Pacific Portraits and photos will be accessed via an electronic ordering system.

Opening College Mass 2021

Garin College warmly invites all Parish and Garin College Whānau to our liturgical celebration

Opening College Mass - Friday 26th February 11:40 - 12:50pm
in the College Gym with Father Seph & Father Joy.



Te Aho Reports Years 9 - 13 Learners

Garin College Staff Complete Te Aho Reports in Term 1 for:

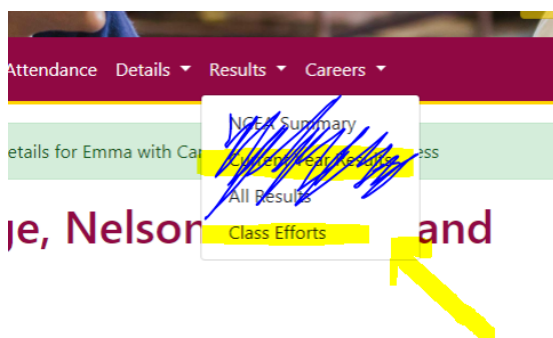
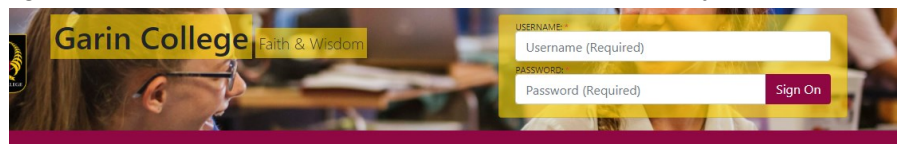
- 25th February
- 11th March
- 25th March
- 8th April

Te Aho Reports focus on:

Personal Excellence: When a Garin Learner has developed the Christian values and capabilities to enable them to lead a fulfilling, successful and healthy life by making a positive contribution to their local community.

Academic Excellence: When a Garin Learner has developed learning skills and specific knowledge, skills and understanding that enable them to flourish in their chosen pathways.

The rubric for Te Aho reports can be found on this link [click here](#)



To access Te Aho Reports please follow these steps:

1. Log into KAMAR Parent Portal
2. Click the "Results" tab
3. This will open up the Te Aho Report Data - From here you can look at individual subjects or Te Aho across all subjects

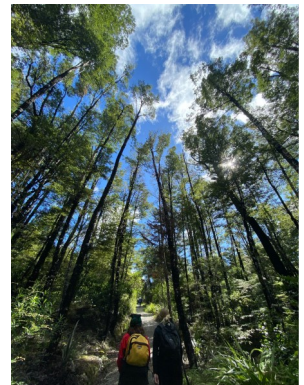
Year 13 Journey camp at Lake Rotoiti



YEAR 13 JOURNEY CAMP

Highlights from our students:

- Zara singing on the bus
- Building a raft was a good team binder activity, as we had to come up with one design for the raft
- Scratches from the bush - not cool. Tyrolean rope activity would've been cooler if *knew what I was doing*
- Tom and Sam's 5/5 bush hut was stolen
- Playing card games
- For dinner on the first night we had burgers with tomato and cucumbers and the bread rolls were really good
- Indoor cricket
- Woke up really early because of the torrential rain early as in the morning and having to close the windows because it got really cold
- Zip lining - Jed smashed into rock
- Different raft designs, the a-frame design worked and the straight line of tubes sunk
- Lots of eels around the wharf
- Learned about First aid skills through a plane crash scenario. Group 5 "forgot" about Kiera with a broken leg
- Kayaking was mean, our kayak was full of water and heavy as
- Played Ivan in chess and lost
- Mrs Ward getting dunked
- Jumping off the jetty
- Kayaking
- Joey can't read a map - walked like 6km
- Cutting onions and dancing in kitchen with Ms Wright and Matua
- Played Spotlight and tripped on a tent
- Eating 69% of Caroline's soy mix
- Bridget went for a run
- Flag raising
- Went swimming
- Luca blatantly ignoring Jed's ideas which were far superior
- Vacuuming and cleaning rooms
- Vibes on the bus
- Really enjoyed being around everyone
- Having actual accommodation was nice



WELLBEING CORNER

Kia ora e te whānau

Over the next couple of weeks our team will be introducing themselves.



Most of you already know me. However, for those that don't here goes!

I am an ex Garin student myself, I started as a foundation student - a Year 9 in 2002 the first year Garin opened. I came back here again in 2015 to do my counselling placement, and I started here 3 years later in 2018 as a part time School Guidance Counsellor. I am now here fulltime, and am also whānau teacher to K2.

I absolutely love working at Garin, and I have a real passion for counselling, working in education, and working with youth. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to walk alongside you during your time at Garin, so thank you, for allowing, and trusting me to do so.

I have a three (almost four) year old called Bodhi, who keeps me really busy, and over the break we got a golden Labrador called Baxter. I am really into music and playing my guitar! I enjoy getting outdoors, in particular I love being on or near the water.

You will see here a couple of photos of me and Bodhi, one is from last weekend, when we were fishing in Motueka, the other is us with ice cream after a trip to the beach :)

Please sing out if you need anything!

Ngā mihi, Kate the Counsellor.



Property Survey Parent and Caregiver Consultation

The Garin College Property Committee is currently developing the schools property plan.

The next step in the Committee's process is to develop a 'gaps, needs and wishes analysis' that will help inform ongoing planning.

It is now time to gather feedback from parents and caregivers of Garin College. Parents and caregivers will be emailed a survey link to complete.

We ask all those who would like to participate to please fill in the survey before the 1st of March. Please don't hesitate to email Roman Birch: romanbirch@cloud.garincollege.ac.nz if you have any questions.

Thank you, your voice is welcomed and valued.

From the Sports Desk:

Congratulations to:

Year 11 student **Harry Pugh**, who recently came 2nd in U14 singles, 2nd in U14 mixed doubles and 1st in U16 mixed doubles at tennis nationals. Good work Harry, keep it up!

Year 13 student **Abbey Smale**, who recently came 1st in the NZ National 10km and 5km open water age grade swim championships in Taupo. Abbey leads the NZ ocean swim series with two wins from two starts in a 7 series competition. Abbey will represent Garin College at the South Island Secondary School Open Water 5km Swim Championships this weekend at Akaroa. Good luck Abbey!