

Term 1 Week 2 Newsletter 2025



Tēnā koutou katoa ngā whānau,

This week I have visited every classroom and many classes; I have enjoyed all interactions with teachers and students. While each class is unique, there certainly is a common theme of manaakitanga evident in all classes. Positive, caring and happy relationships are building between students and between teachers and students. It is a joy to recognise the focus and energy our students have on re-establishing friendships and making new friendships after the long summer break. Our opening Powhiri and Liturgy were the highlight of our start of year celebrations as we welcomed our new learners and staff along with all returning students to the college. Thank you to all parents, caregivers, whānau for your support, preparation and encouragement of our learners as they begin their 2025 school year.

We are pleased to share with you the following '**Open Letter to our School Communities**'. This letter informs you about the launch of a shared attendance campaign between our colleges in Richmond and Nelson - Garin College, Nayland College, Nelson College, Nelson College for Girls and Waimea College. We are united with our local councils and the Ministry of Education in launching our 2025 regional campaign to lift attendance and engagement.

Throughout this campaign, we at Garin will be communicating regularly with students, teachers, staff, and parents to share, explore, and embed actions that support our learners in maintaining their personal record of regular attendance (90% and above) and to motivate learners in raising their attendance to be regular attenders. We recognise that our students and their peers have a significant influence on each other in so many ways; with this in mind the Campaign theme "Just Go" was chosen by students as their message to each other. We encourage the use of the theme in a positive way to promote inclusion and encouragement - *e.g Student - Student "Just Go" - I miss you | "Just Go" - we can do this | "Just Go" - its ok | "Just Go" - your teacher cares | "Just Go" - lets hang out | "Just Go" - lets sort it out, etc.*

Thank you for your support and encouragement of your child in attendance. We look forward to working with you to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Māte Atua koe e tiaki

John Maguire
Principal
Garin College