

Tēnā koutou katoa ngā whānau,

The past two weeks have been busy and productive for our students. Alongside their timetabled classroom learning, our learners have had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including the Outdoor Education Trips, Biology Trips, Reading Challenge, Geek Week, Character Dress-up Day, Garin Cultural Festival Celebration, and Garin representative teams at Summer Sport Tournament Week, Maadi Cup Rowing Regatta on Lake Karapiro, Volleyball NZ Secondary School Champs in Palmerston North and Volleyball NZ South Island Satellite Tournament in Christchurch. The favourable summer weather has allowed us to proceed with all planned events as scheduled. It is exciting to be providing a balanced and engaging learning environment for all students.

Garin College's **Cultural Celebration Day** was a vibrant tapestry of colour and unity, a day where the spirit of inclusivity blossomed under a radiant sun. Te Wharemaru, along with the surrounding trees were draped in flags from each nation fluttered in the gentle breeze. Cultural dress, dance, song, and performance painted a rich picture of diverse heritages, fostering an atmosphere of peaceful celebration. The shared kai at lunchtime and the contributions of parents, whānau, and external guests enriched the day with authentic cultural perspectives. The event, culminating in a spectacular afternoon of cultural performances in the College Gym, showcased and celebrated the remarkable diversity in culture present in our college. The leadership of our teachers, staff and the enthusiastic engagement of students, made the day a truly unforgettable celebration of culture.



Garin College Board and the selection of two new Parent representatives.

The Garin College Board is responsible for the governance of the college.

The Garin College Board is thrilled to announce the successful selection of two outstanding parent representatives! We warmly congratulate **Sieni Seloti-Ese** and **Sara-Jane Weir**, who have officially joined our team. We are incredibly excited to welcome them formally at our May meeting and look forward to the wonderful contributions they will bring to the Garin College Board.

We are grateful for the support, governance, and strategic leadership provided by our Garin College Board. As you know, every three years, state and state-integrated school communities like ours have the important opportunity to elect parent and staff representatives, who play a vital role in shaping the direction of our schools. This year, the Garin Board Triennial Election will take place in September, offering you a chance to actively participate in our school's governance.

Furthermore, this year is also crucial as the Garin College Board will be consulting with you and our wider community to develop our 3-year strategic plan for 2026-2028. This plan will outline how the board will effectively meet its primary objectives, as outlined in the Education and Training Act 2020. We encourage everyone to stay tuned for updates and consider how you can contribute to the continued success of Garin College.

Garin College Board 2025

Garin College Proprietor - Paul Martin SM - Archbishop of Wellington

The Garin Board meets on Tuesdays at 5.30pm in the College Library

Meeting dates 2025 - 20 May, 24 June, 29 July, 9 September, 28 October, 11 December

Board Secretary - Katrina Rowley

Ros Allen-Hall – Proprietor Representative - Appointed - Presiding Member

Matt McTague – Proprietor Representative - Appointed - Deputy Presiding Member

Nich Campbell – Proprietor Representative - Appointed

Vacancy – Proprietor Representative - Appointed Position

Nadia Hay – Parent Representative - Elected

Craig Maxwell – Parent Representative - Elected

Natalie Ogden-Bell – Parent Representative - Elected

Sieni Seloti-Ese - Parent Representative - Board Selected

Sara-Jane Weir - Parent Representative - Board Selected

Ben Gray – Student Representative - Student Elected, 2024/2025

Sarah Rankin – Staff Representative - Staff Elected

John Maquire – Principal

Student Attendance - **JUST GO!**

I wish to congratulate Students, Parents and Whānau for your commitment to attendance at school. We see significant improvement in school attendance to date throughout Term 1 (please see the attendance graph below).

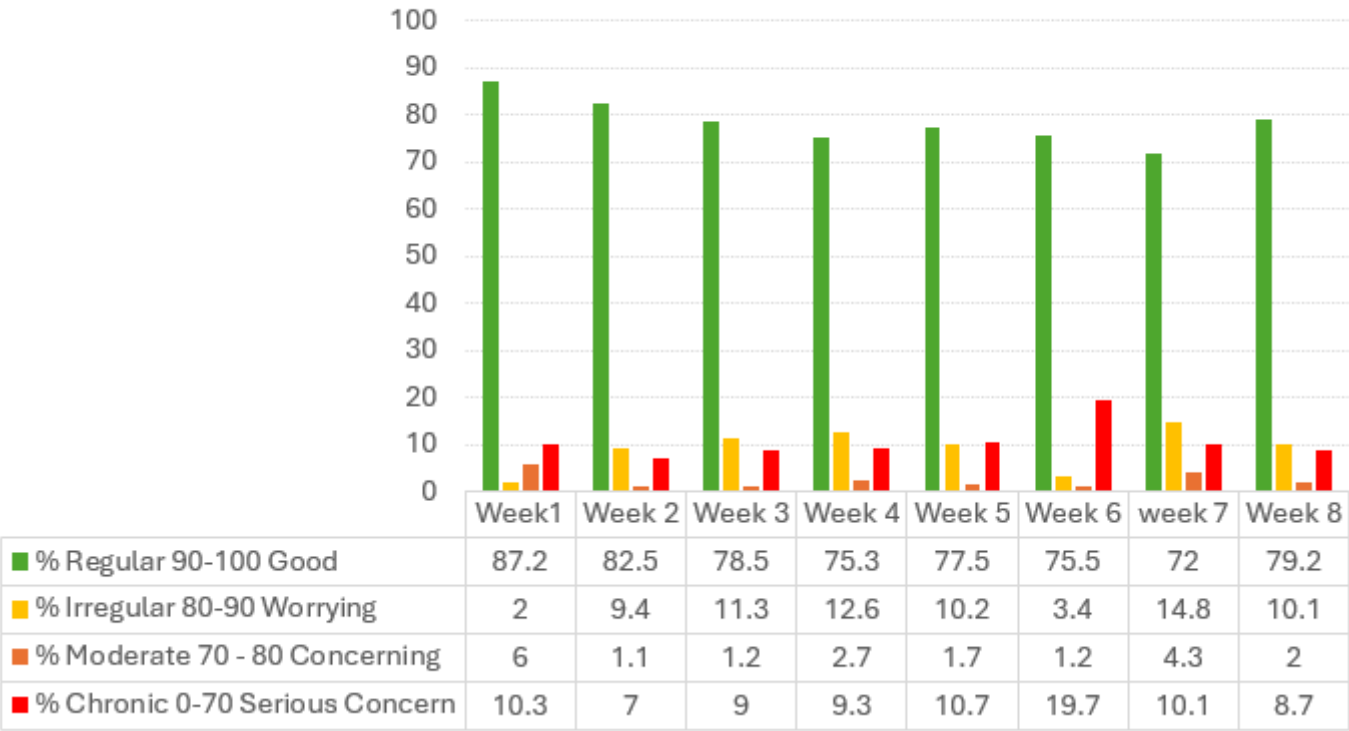
Our records show that across weeks 1 - 8, **78.56%** of students are attending school **Regularly** (That is, 78.56% of students are attending 90 - 100% of the time). With this result we are tracking closely to the 2030 Government Target of 80% of students attending school Regularly.

Our focus remains on lifting student attendance as high as possible as we know from Education Review Office research that there is a direct correlation between attendance and academic performance.

- Students who attend school regularly achieve higher results and gain more NCEA credits.
- Regular attendance fosters a sense of belonging and positive social interactions.
- Consistent attendance equips students with essential skills and knowledge that contribute to their future success.

Regular school attendance is vital for your child's success. If your student is unable to attend school, please notify our attendance office directly by phone or email. It's important that we receive this information from you rather than through older siblings. This ensures we can properly account for each student's attendance and well-being.

Garin College Attendance Term 1 2025



SGCNZ Victoria University Regional Shakespeare Festival 2025



Garin College students put forward three very committed teams to the Nelson/Tasman Regional SGCNZ Victoria University Shakespeare Festival. They rehearsed over many lunchtimes and Sundays for the past six weeks, choosing a scene from Shakespeare, with the task of bringing the Elizabethan text to life. An excited team of Year 9 and 10's performed a murder in true slapstick style in Macbeth; Addison Burke, Jade Preece, Molly Connor, Isobel Haywood and Greg Webb. A very energetic Midsummer Night's Dream scene in the style of teen relationship woes was performed by; Lily Kempthorne, Devan Gavin, Holly Cameron and Eloise Hall, Nisa Lapanun and Theo Berriman. They won awards for "Best Student Directed 15 Minute Scene" and "Runner Up Best 15 Minute Scene." King Lear was performed as a Kardashians style inheritance drama, with this group winning "Best Overall 5 Minute Scene" and "Best Choreography" awards, and will be off to represent Garin (and the Nelson/ Tasman Region) in the National Festival in Wellington on King's Birthday Weekend. The winning King Lear entry was performed by; Emma Haywood, Theo Berriman, Katarina Salcin-Watts, Nisa Lapanun, Devan Gavin, Ciara Davis, Isobel Hawood, Dunya Navaratna and Eriko Mashida-Shih. Congratulations to all the dedicated students!



Maadi Cup success

Eleven students represented Garin College in seven events at the South Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships held at Lake Rautaniwha last month. For most of our rowers this was their first South Island Secondary Schools regatta and they all performed admirably. Year 12 student Meko Hardinge, who has previously competed at South Islands, qualified for the New Zealand Secondary Schools Rowing Championships held at Lake Karapiro last week. Not since 2011 has Garin been represented at the Maadi Cup. We congratulate Meko on qualifying for Maadi, where he represented Garin in both the U17 and U18 boys categories, and encourage our other rowers to keep up the hard work and hope that they reach this pinnacle event next year.

Volleyball Tournament success



The **Senior A Girls Volleyball team** competed at the VNZ South Island Satellite tournament last week. They won all 4 pool games, dropping only one set. The semifinal against a tall St Margarets team was outstanding coming away with a 3 nil win. The final against a very strong Columba College team was incredibly close but sadly we lost 3-1. A silver medal in division two is a great achievement. All bar two of the team will return next year.

Our **Senior Boys volleyball team** competed at the VNZ Secondary schools Volleyball Nationals in Palmerston North last week. This is the largest indoor sporting event on the secondary schools calendar. They boys competed well all week finishing 5th in Division 5. The competition is incredibly tight as outlined by our boys beating the team that came third in division just the week before in the Tasman Championships.

Most of the boys will return for the next two years so this is very promising. A huge thanks must go to Grant Maxwell the coach and Nikki Campion the manager, for the huge amount of time they have devoted over the last two years.

Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

As you will be aware there have been cases of Whooping Cough in the community. Please watch for symptoms of whooping cough, even if you are fully immunised, as you may still develop whooping cough and pass it on to others. It spreads very easily by coughing or sneezing and can cause serious harm to some members of our whānau and communities. A week or two back we emailed all students and whānau with information relating to Whooping Cough, you may access this information and if necessary contact our school office for further information.



Father in Heaven, we thank You for the gift of Jesus Your Son and we thank You for the unity that we share. Make us one with You so that You also are our Father. Father in Heaven, Jesus the Son, we trust in You.

Ngā manaakitanga

John Maguire

Principal