



## Principal's Update 16 September 2022

Kia Ora everyone

Our school continues to be a hive of activity and Term 3 is rapidly closing out, yet we have so much to do.

For Y11-13 these are real **mission critical days** as the external exam season will very soon be here. My advice to students and to parents is to know exactly where you sit in terms preparation, credits gained, gaps in understanding and knowledge to be filled, teachers to meet with, further tutoring required, timetable sorted -no surprises.

I'm excited to hear that **Y10 at GCMY and Y5/6 at GCJY are holding end of year camps**.....what a brilliant way to complete the year! Whilst the cost of these experiences are not easy for some and we understand this, the gains for students spiritually, socially and for character development are phenomenal.

Thanks to an **extraordinary family donation at BC** – staff have been able to make serious strides in re-developing the library – a facility that has urgently needed this. This is a strategic development, and we are immensely grateful.

**Over forty trees were planted** recently by parents and staff at our Golflands Campus. This is so good, and we trust and pray with good watering - they will all grow rapidly and well. These trees came from the significant fundraising team of Laura Vosloo and Sharlene Sampson ...these ladies have been incredible. They are on the lookout for other parents who will form **a reconstituted 'Friends of the School' group**. Funds raised will also help with new playground game markings, seating etc.... thank you parents you are truly amazing.

### At MAC:

- Fundraising plans are underway for their own van!!
- Rahiri House continues its renovation. We are using the ground floor and work on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors is progressing.
- With the increase in roll for 2023 we will be using all the rooms in Rahiri House

Selections at BC and MAC for **senior student leadership positions (Y12/13)** are well underway and announcements will be coming soon. Staff and students contribute to this, there are interviews and speeches .... it's a demanding but inspirational process and every year we are thankful for the quality of students stepping up for such positions.

The ever demanding and humbling process of **enrolments for 2023** is in its final stages. Again, we are overwhelmed with interest from families. Even though both BC and MAC have been granted maximum roll increases by the MOE for which we are forever grateful, we still need

to be able to enroll in the right year levels to have class and senior option sizes to afford the staff. We need wise judgment and careful financial planning to manage the increases.

Thanks everyone for your participation in the 'Little Lives Big Leaders' book fundraiser – now in its final weeks. Author Mike de Vetter has penned with such truth!

Our Proprietors have notified us regarding **small increases for both Attendance Dues and Special Character Donation** commencing from the start of 2023. With the increased costs in all areas of the economy, this was not unexpected, and necessary to continue their provision and development of facilities and a strong special character – (our distinctive). The details are as follows:

- Attendance dues will lift to \$2880 which on a weekly basis is an increase from \$68 to \$72 per week (over the 40-week school term).
- The special character donation will lift from \$360 to \$400.

This year has continued to be a demanding one for us as the school financially. However, I salute our staff for digging deep, working with less and yet still giving it their all to deliver quality learning programmes. We have been so buoyed by our parent community in all you have said and done. It hasn't been easy for you at home and 2023 for us will still be a challenge – but God has declared HIS faithfulness again and again. Our international student numbers are slowly increasing for 2023 as the borders are now fully open and this will help us as we help them and enjoy the richness of the interaction.

Please pray for us as we make staffing appointments for 2023. It is one of the most important Things we do, so we seek God's guidance and discernment as we apply our professional skills to this process.

*"All my life you have been faithful and all my life you have been so, so good - with every breath that I am able – I will sing of the goodness of God"*

Nga mihi nui



**Murray Burton MNZM  
PRINCIPAL**