



Kia ora koutou

I finished the last year's December Newsletter with the statement

"We wish you and your family peace and joy over this Christmas and we look forward to what 2020 brings. I have no doubt it will bring a lot to be thankful for."

An interesting comment in hindsight! There is a lot to be thankful for and I reflected on that as our school year ended. I am sure many of us have watched with horror the situation many countries are experiencing overseas and therefore I am thankful that as a close school community we lost no one to this disease.

We did lose some 'Iconic events' such as Relay for life and O'Shea Shield. We lost some major sports fixtures such as the Francis Douglas exchange as well as Rugby, Football and the National Softball tournaments. We lost overseas trips. We had initiatives we were going to implement that we put on hold because as this year panned out, it was not the year to create instability. I am proud that while we did postpone many of our school events we were able to complete them. I have to also say that through most of this year it felt as if we were 'sprinting' because we were never sure what might happen to us next week.

I thanked the boys at the junior prize-giving for how they responded to the rules and regulations we put in place to keep us all safe. They were accepting, positive and good-humored as is the nature of our boys. I thanked the families and whanau who were so supportive as we tried to adapt to the new normal of 2020. If I did have to go through a pandemic in my lifetime I couldn't have wished for a better community to go through it with than the Bernard's Bubble of 2020.

We wish you and your family peace and joy over this Christmas and we look forward to what 2021 brings. I have no doubt it will bring a lot to be thankful for!

Simon Stack, Principal



End of Year Liturgy

Thank you for attending our junior prize-giving liturgy on the last day of school. All junior students wrote Advent reflections and a selection of those were chosen that best reflected their thoughts, prayers and hopes about Advent and Christmas in creative and joyful ways. Our prayers were about hope and joy, but also included those families who have lost dear relatives, especially grandparents overseas, to Covid-19. We are very sorry for your loss and you are in our prayers. Our liturgy was enhanced with this lovely image of the Holy Family pictured inside our manger, an etching by Year 10 student, George Renjith, who also built the electronics behind it with the guidance of Mr Sefton.



George Renjith

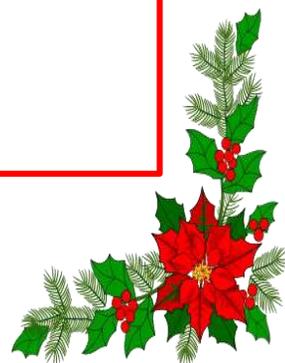
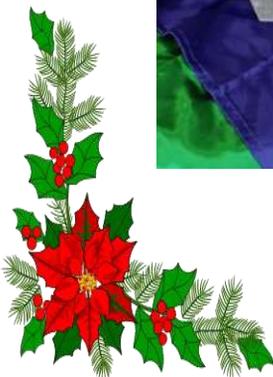
Mitchell Hedley 7GR shared this

Jesus, this Christmas I pray for:

peace,
happiness,
joy,
freedom,
fair rights,
war to end,
homeless people to have homes,
justice,
a cure for Covid,
all the ill to get well,
end racism,
good times,
Christmas BBQ,

AMEN

MERRY CHRISTMAS



A Personal Reflection

HOPE at ST BERNARD'S COLLEGE: A personal reflection by the Deputy Director of Religious Studies.

When St Bernard's College began the year focusing on hope, no-one could have imagined how much we were going to need that hope. A mysterious virus was just blooming out of Wuhan when the academic year began. I had chosen hope as our theme to follow on from our year of love in 2019. I had this feeling that the idea of faith was under threat – as teachers we are not able to convince students so easily about mysterious aspects of our faith that require 'faith' to believe them - young people so readily turn to Google to try to find their answers. So I chose hope. I figured I could focus on faith in 2021.

Our new Diocesan youth worker, John Richards, began work right away in my classroom, painting huge letters (HOPE) to go on the gym wall for our first celebration of the Eucharist. Hope was entwined in our prayers and readings and Fr Patrick reflected on hope at that opening Mass. We were hoping for a good year.

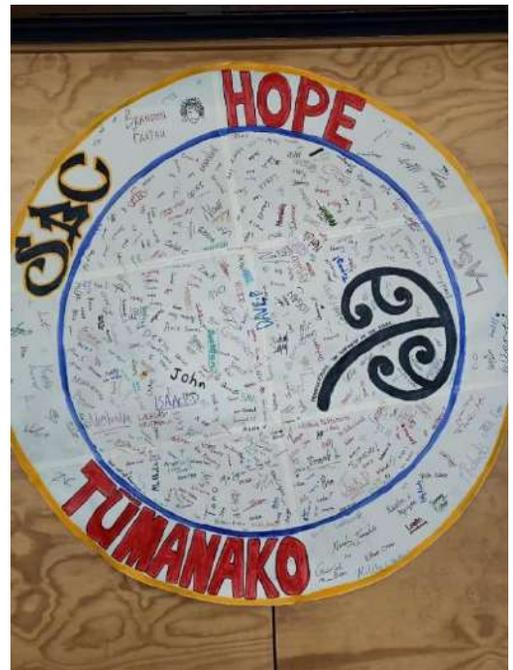
Covid-19 changed that. An international pandemic overshadowed this year with a gloomy and confusing fog that has wound its tendrils around our boys. Lockdown meant we had to rethink how we were going to teach and the boys had to adjust to new ways of learning. The boys missed the company of their friends. They missed sport terribly. They were stuck in their homes. Many boys were fairly reluctant to engage in online learning. Technology was a struggle for many of our families. And as a community, we couldn't support one another the way we usually did.

Hope became very, very important to St Bernard's College. It was present in our prayers. It provided us with a vehicle to look ahead. After lockdown, we were able to come back together and prepare for our RCIA Mass with Cardinal John. By then, we had lost the E from our HOPE banner in the gym. HOP wasn't going to inspire anyone. I made a huge, round banner celebrating Hope, Tūmanako, and we asked everyone at school to sign it. The Māori hammerhead pattern signified the strength of our tribe as a community.

The students on the liturgy committee have awareness of mental health. At the Year 12 retreat last week, another event that had been postponed due to Covid, we held a late night Mass in the dark. Fr Patrick asked the boys to share spontaneous prayers of intercession. After a few moments of silence, the boys began to pray, one one their best to promote our theme. And I feel that they are making a difference. One of our seniors, Dallas, organised a youth march for after the other. They asked God to help them have empathy for the homeless; for help with those affected by the virus; they prayed for boys who are struggling at this time with mental illness; they prayed for boys who are feeling lonely or alone; they prayed for boys who are finding family life a challenge. It was a beautiful Mass and those prayers, full of hope, filled the hearts of those adults present. Hope is alive and well at St Bernard's College.

For our theme next year, I think faith will evolve naturally. It is already present. I'm going to take inspiration from Pope Francis. Our theme for 2021 will be *Christus Vivit*. Christ is alive.

Jenny O'Brien. In charge of liturgies and Masses at St Bernard's College.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all families who contributed to our Vinnies (St Vincent de Paul) Christmas Giving programme this year for Year 7-10 students. Each tutor group was gifted a flexi tub (each one sponsored by teachers and support staff), and a list of practical items, toys and treats to donate to those in need. We filled more than 17 tubs to overflowing, and are so grateful for your donations. This will help many families to have a better Christmas, thanks to the generosity of you and your sons. I also thank the tutor teachers who supported this with enthusiasm and kindness. One family who donated many items responded to our thanks with this, *"Thank you so much for providing the opportunity for Cooper to look beyond himself and think about others and what their needs might be this Christmas. It was a great activity for Cooper over the weekend and he really enjoyed choosing and contributing to the items for the appeal."*

It was amazing to see the tubs filling up during Advent. Vinnies have now collected the tubs to distribute to people in our community. Remind your sons that they can join Vinnies at school where there are regular meetings. We wish you a very blessed Christmas in the wake of this generosity.

Jenny O'Brien and Adam Cooper (teacher in charge of Vinnies)



Junior Academic Awards

Year 7

Sebastian Alzona – Academic Excellence
Daniel Hayes – Academic Excellence
Josef Lummis – Academic Excellence
Daniel O’Sullivan - Academic Excellence
Kody Stevens - Academic Excellence
Miguel Avelino – Industry and Achievement
Matiu Badcock – Industry and Achievement, The SBC Old Boy’s Jubilee Trophy for Commitment to Study
Finlay Bosworth - Industry and Achievement
Richard Ferguson - Industry and Achievement, The Dicken Family Cup for Overall Contribution & Academic Improvement
Jamie Flynn - Industry and Achievement
George Fraser - Industry and Achievement
Thomas Grealley - Industry and Achievement, Bernard’s Heart Award
Brendan Keogh - Industry and Achievement
Aston Noble - Industry and Achievement
John O’Grady - Industry and Achievement
Jacob Burton – the Moohan Cup for First in Speech
Aidan Pahi - Bernard’s Heart Award
Oscar Lee – SBC Old Boy’s Jubilee Trophy for Generosity & Service, Bernard’s Heart Award
Logan Brown – Bernard’s Heart Award
Rico Lomano – Bernard’s Heart Award
Mason Wilby – Bernard’s Heart Award
Korbin Gresham – Bernard’s Heart Award
Cooper Philpott – Generosity & Service to the College

Year 8

Jayden Calder – Academic Excellence
Riel Curato – Academic Excellence
Erik Falmann – Academic Excellence, Form 1 & 2 Music Cup for Yr 7 & 8 Music, Bernard’s Heart Award
Luca Mitchell – Academic Excellence
Connor O’Leary – Academic Excellence
Vishal Patel – Academic Excellence, the SBC Old Boy’s Trophy for Commitment to Study, Bernard’s Heart Award
Juan Santhosh – Academic Excellence
Cael Anciano - Industry and Achievement
Silas Ferrer - Industry and Achievement
Liam Holifield - Industry and Achievement
Brady Hudson - Industry and Achievement
Kakina Ikiua – Industry and Achievement, the David Peters Memorial Cup for First in Speech
Vansh Kumar - Industry and Achievement, the Dicken Family Cup for Overall Contribution & Academic Improvement, Bernard’s Heart Award
Ashtun Lake - Industry and Achievement
Tyler Shaw - Industry and Achievement
Caleb Walkinshaw - Industry and Achievement
Sam Whiley - Industry and Achievement
Cael Hikuroa – SBC Old Boy’s Jubilee Trophy for Generosity & Service
Liam Hawtin-Fisher – Generosity & Service to the College
Xavier Blythen - Generosity & Service to the College
Aaron Conway – Bernard’s Heart Award
Liam Taylor - Bernard’s Heart Award
Angus Little - Bernard’s Heart Award

Year 9

Thomas Doyle – Academic Excellence, the Anthony Heffernan Memorial Cup for Commitment to Study, Form 3 Oratory Cup for First in Speech
Joseph Fairfield - Academic Excellence
Benjamin Housden - Academic Excellence
Michael Lopez - Academic Excellence
Euan Monteclaro - Academic Excellence, Bernard’s Heart Award
Matthew Smart - Academic Excellence, Junior Art Cup for Junior Art, Bernard’s Heart Award
Caleb Thompson - Academic Excellence
Thomas van der Gulik - Academic Excellence

Junior Academic Awards

Year 9 con't

Floyd Vennell - Academic Excellence, Year 9 Trophy for Overall Contribution & Academic Improvement
Mason Wheeler - Academic Excellence
Finn Gentry – Industry and Achievement
Adam Hewitt - Industry and Achievement
Sean Hilliard - Industry and Achievement
Trace Iti - Industry and Achievement
Jamie MacLean - Industry and Achievement
Jackson Ross - Industry and Achievement
Angelo Santillan - Industry and Achievement
John Sio - Industry and Achievement, Bernard's Heart Award
Tarkon Yu-Hoi - Industry and Achievement
Pale Leiataua – Samoan Language National Speech Competition First place Year 9 Regionals & Nationals
Tevita Alatini – the George Flett Memorial Cup for Generosity & Service, the Siutu Trophy for Diligence in Year 9 Samoan, Bernard's Heart Award
Dave Pio - the Siutu Trophy for Diligence in Year 9 Samoan
Xavier Ngaro, SBC College Music Trophy for Year 9 Music, Junior Music Cup for Year 10 Music
Iosua Mose Tuiloma – Bernard's Heart Award

Year 10

Duncan Ah Young – Academic Excellence, Bernard's Heart Award
Justin Cajilog - Academic Excellence, Junior Japanese Cup for Junior Japanese, Bernard's Heart Award
Nathaniel Graham - Academic Excellence, Bernard's Heart Award
Daniel Porter-Samuels - Academic Excellence, Fourth Form Oratory Cup for First in Speech
Adam Theelen - Academic Excellence
Jackson Tikimoe - Academic Excellence, Year 10 Trophy for Overall Contribution & Academic Improvement, Ko te "E tipu, e rea" Junior Maori
David Anand - Industry and Achievement
Oliver Austin - Industry and Achievement
Patrick Byrne - Industry and Achievement
William Gentry - Industry and Achievement
Cameron Hall - Industry and Achievement
Anshuman Kapoor - Industry and Achievement
Billy Lamont - Industry and Achievement, the McGuinness Family Cup for Commitment to Study
Daniel McNatty - Industry and Achievement
Dhruv Naik - Industry and Achievement
Arie Smith - Industry and Achievement, Bernard's Heart Award
Elvis Zhang - Industry and Achievement
Samuel Magill-Notton – the Michael Sherry Memorial Trophy for Generosity & Service
Miracle Faatau – Junior Samoan Trophy for Junior Samoan
Benjamin Maluschng – the Nicholas Watkins Trophy for Perseverance in Science, SBC Performing Arts Cup for Services to Sound & Lighting, Generosity & Service to the College
Faamanatu Leiataua – the Nicholas Watkins Trophy for Perseverance in Science
Hunter Sowerby – Bernard's Heart Award



Congratulations to all award winners

Languages

Japanese Field Trip

On the 18th November, the Year 9, 10 classes & some Year 11 students went on an EOTC field trip to the Japan Information and Cultural Centre.



We were given an educational presentation including a quiz, games as well as a few short videos on current cultural aspects. The students and parent helpers all got involved with the activities and everyone had a great time.



After the visit we went to Fujiyama Teppanyaki where we had a mouth-watering teppanyaki meal. I was impressed that all the students tried the different foods and played games like catching fried egg and fried rice in bowls.



Many thanks to the parents who accompanied us - without parent support we could not take these types of trips out.

Sport

College Sport Wellington - Junior Softball Regional Tournament

St Bernard's competed in the College Sport Wellington softball tournament held at Fraser Park on 20 November. It was important we had a junior team involved in this tournament with softball becoming a dominant sport over the past 2 years. While some boys were unavailable, a very competitive team was fielded.

Our boys competed well throughout the day making it through to the final against St Pats Silverstream. In the final, while holding our own in the early stages, St Pats Stream proved too strong winning 13-4.

Well done to all involved and the way they represented St Bernard's College.



NISS Junior Volleyball Championships

St Bernard's College attended the North Island Secondary School Volleyball Championships held in Tauranga 23-26 November. Being the only Wellington boys team to attend this event, the boys were determined to do well.

After a tough first day, losing all three games, the team played in Division 2 of the Championships. It looked like it was going to be a very long week after another loss in the first game on day 2. A huge change in attitude turned the team around, going through the remainder of the tournament unbeaten.

In the final of Division 2, St Bernard's beat Whakatane High School who had beaten St Bernard's earlier in pool play.

A huge thank you to Tessa Siolo-Thompson (Coach) for all the time and effort put into coaching the boys and St Bernard's boys for starting to realise their potential and the way they conducted themselves while away.



Term Dates

TERM DATES 2021

Term 1	2 February – 16 April
Term 2	3 May – 9 July
Term 3	26 July – 1 October
Term 4	18 October – 14 December



OfficeMax MySchool

Got five minutes?

Your child's back to school class list is ready to shop now at [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) or call us Mon to Fri, 8.30am – 5pm.

[myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) 0800 724 440

Get school ready faster

Back to school stationery – order now!

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make getting school ready faster! Your child's class list is available now on the OfficeMax MySchool website – <https://www.myschool.co.nz/sbc>

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go for the start of Term 1. Don't wait until mid-January when the 'team of 5 million' get home from holiday - order now and avoid the back to school rush.

This year OfficeMax have introduced Laybuy*, so you can pay in 6 weekly, interest-free instalments - and still get your order right away. Or you can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card.

When you shop on [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) you'll receive free delivery on orders over \$46*. You will also help our school earn school rewards* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school.

* Terms & Conditions apply, see [myschool.co.nz](https://www.myschool.co.nz) for details

Calendar Alerts

Jan	
25	Wellington Anniversary
27/28	Year 12 & 13 Course confirmation
Feb	
2	Year 7, 8 & 9 Start
3	All Year Levels attend , Powhiri 9.45am
4	Student ID photos
8	Waitangi Day
10	Y 7-9 Parent Evening 7pm
11/12	Year 13 Retreat

Full school calendar is available at www.sbc.school.nz

Uniform Shop

Thursday 1.15pm – 5.15pm (Term Time Only)

Check out our online ordering www.sbc.school.nz

2nd hand uniform is now sold at the college Uniform Shop during opening hours

2021 Special Opening Hours

Tues 26 January	10am – 2pm
Weds 27 January	10am – 2pm
Thurs 28 January	10am – 2pm and 4pm – 7pm
Fri 29 January	2pm – 6pm
Feb 2 nd – Feb 5 th	1.15pm – 2pm (lunchtime)

Normal hours will resume Thursday 11th February

Nurse Consultation

FREE

Nurse's consultation at St Bernard's College, see the office to make an appointment with a nurse from VIBE at school.

Free appointments with a doctor are available at the VIBE Clinic. They can be made through the nurse, or directly with VIBE:

Vibe:566-0525

Reminders

Leaving School During School Hours

If your son needs to leave school during the day please follow these steps.

- Send him with a note explaining why he is leaving
- He needs to get that signed by his dean
- Bring the note to the office when he is leaving.
- Sign out.

Payment Of School Charges

The school prefers all school charges to be paid directly to our bank account: ASB Queensgate 12-3142-0164653-00.

Please include your son's first name and surname, in the reference fields. Receipts available if required.

If you are facing financial difficulties please contact The Business Manager.

Contact Details

It is very important that we are able to contact you, especially in case of an emergency. **Please make sure we have your current contact information.**

E-mail

As most of our information is now sent by email.

Please check your settings to make sure we are a trusted sender.

Contact Us

Physical/Postal Address

183 Waterloo Road
Lower Hutt 5010
New Zealand

P:04 560 9250

F:04 560 9251

E:office@sbc.school.nz

W:www.sbc.school.nz

