



# VERDON COLLEGE

## Newsletter

20 September 2013



### Tena koutou katoa

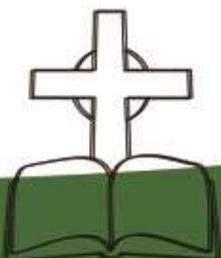
We come to the end of another term and it is hard to believe that time has passed so quickly this year. This time is the beginning of a number of transitions at the College. We begin the selection process for the leaders of the College for next year, our year 13 students have completed their applications for university and students at all levels are choosing their subject options for next year.

These transitions are both exciting and yet on occasions create nervousness about future. Our staff is always available to assist both students and parents in working through these transitions. My advice for students is that the best way to ensure successful transitions throughout their education is to continue to focus on outcomes that they can control such as continuing to focus in class and maintain a positive work ethic to ensure their success in the upcoming examinations. We have had a very positive year in terms of academic focus and students have developed a very pleasing base to their learning. It is now a matter for students to push themselves to their full potential and achieve to the highest level that they are capable of while striving for merit and excellence.

We have a number of special events in this last week; the Blues Assembly and our Interhouse Kapa Haka competition. I am looking forward to celebrating the success of our students at these two events. I would like to thank all those parents and coaches that have contributed to our students success in our sports and cultural opportunities over this last term. We are so appreciative of your assistance in delivering so many opportunities for our students.

God Bless

Jarlath Kelly



### Inter-house Drama

The Inter-house Drama Competition was held at school this evening. Congratulations to Dominic who took out the competition with a fantastic rendition of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail". Thanks also to Father Hamesh for adjudicating this event. ( All the photos from this evening are on Verdon's facebook page)



Ph: 03 216 9039

Fax: 03 216 9015

[www.verdoncollege.school.nz](http://www.verdoncollege.school.nz)



### From Father Martin

The week of 8-14 September was 'Social Justice Week' in our Church. The theme for this year was 'Walk Alongside—meaningful work for the young worker' The Booklet put out by Caritas stressed the importance of the dignity that work offers. Obviously finding employment is the first and often hardest step in this quest for dignity. It is easy to give up hope when no-one wants to employ us..... Our Bishops have written this paragraph in their letter to encourage young people:

To young people experiencing difficulties in finding permanent, secure work, we say: do not give up hope. Do not define yourself solely by your success in seeking employment—keep up your studies, keep in touch with your families and community through activities in your parish, marae or neighbourhood. Outside your job-seeking activities, study and casual work, this may also be a time to engage in some voluntary work. As well as keeping up a good work record and opening the door to unforeseen possibilities, in doing something for others we can find new purpose and energy in our own lines. Each of you is a precious and valued member of our society. We are not giving up on you—please don't give up on yourself.

### Mufti Day

Thank you to all the families of Verdon College who recently supported our mufti day for Caritas. We raised over \$530 for Syrian refugees.

### South Island Secondary School's Netball Tournament

In the beginning week of September, 10 of us girls from the Senior A netball team were fortunate enough to head up to Christchurch for the South Island Secondary School's netball tournament. This was an awesome experience for the younger players, and once again exciting but challenging for the seniors. We played well enough which kept us up in the A grade of the tournament. Having a very youthful team brought both positives and negatives as we can see the talent that we have coming up, but also lack of experience made it hard on the younger ones, however they pushed on. A big thanks goes to our Coach Mrs Robyn Broughton for her exceptional time and commitment put in to us girls to get us to our best, and also our Manager Chris Ridden for her time put into us girls also. A big thank you also goes to parents and Mr Kelly for supporting us the whole time. Christchurch 2013 was a tournament that we all enjoyed and will never forget!

Kelsi Ridden

### Board of Trustees Student Representative

Congratulations to Jack King who has been elected the new student representative on the Board of Trustees for the rest of 2013 and until September 2014.



### Thanks

The Thurlow family would like to thank everybody for their prayers and support at this difficult time of Brian's illness. He is home now recovering hoping to get back to full fitness. Again Many thanks.

### Career News

**Change is constant**  
We all change and so does the world around us—including the working world. Be open to change so you can make the most of new opportunities.

**Focus on the journey**  
Knowing what you want gives you a destination—but what happens on the way is important too. Take time to enjoy and learn from your experiences as you go.

**Learning is ongoing**  
Finishing school, a course or qualification doesn't mean your learning is over. Look around you for opportunities to develop and grow.

**Access your allies**  
You don't have to do it all yourself. Talk with friends, family, whānau and teachers about your dreams and plans, and their experiences.

**Follow your heart**  
Imagining your future helps you understand what you really want in life. It's important to be happy with what you do—never be afraid to dream.

**THE HIGHS PRINCIPLES**

For more information regarding this please feel free to contact Mrs More—Careers Advisor. [bmore@verdoncollege.school.nz](mailto:bmore@verdoncollege.school.nz)

### Rotary Youth Merit Awards

Congratulations to Shannon Brooking who received this special Rotary Award on Thursday 12 September. This award is given to a year 8 student from each school who is always striving to achieve and can display qualities such as honesty, trustworthiness, resilience and involvement.



## Rugby

Congratulations to the following students who have made representative rugby for this year (L to R):

Fabian Scott-Russell—U48 Southland Team



Xavier Wright & Sam Hogan (absent) - Southland U14 Development Squad, Southland U13 Barbarian Team

Sam Perriam—U38 Southland Metro Team

## Southland Water-Polo

Congratulations to Jacob Wylie who is off to Auckland in the holidays representing Southland in the U12 National Water-Polo Team.



## Table Tennis

Congratulations to Jean-Martin Fabre and Shelley Mitchell who were selected to play in the Southland vs Otago table tennis competition held on the 8th September in Invercargill.



## Speech

Congratulations to Henry More who recently passed his Grade 8 Trinity Speech and Drama examination.



## Volleyball

Congratulations to Tomas Adams and Henry More who have both been selected for the U16 Southland Volleyball Team.



## Year 7 & 8 Speech Competition

Congratulations to Henry McIntyre & Emily Place who were the winners of the Year 7/8 speech competition and went onto recently represented Verdon at the Venture Southland Speech Competition.



## CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 3 and TERM 4

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 19/20 Sept  | Year 12 Retreat                                |
| 25 Sept     | Blues Assembly                                 |
| 25 Sept     | SMAC Maths                                     |
| 26 Sept     | Interhouse Kapahaka Competition                |
| 27 Sept     | Term 3 Ends                                    |
|             | End of Year Reports Posted for Senior students |
| 14 October  | Start of Term 4                                |
| 28 October  | Labour Day                                     |
| 6 November  | Senior Prizegiving and Mass at 7pm in the Hall |
| 8— 24 Nov   | Year 8 Camps                                   |
| 28 November | Leavers Mass                                   |

## Sing Out Choir

On Thursday 19 September our Sing Out Choir performed at the Civic Theatre.

Each and every one of the Choir was superb. Ryan Isaac's drumming was a hit with the crowd and he introduced Verdon's songs beautifully. Ryan was given the honour of presenting Sarah Rae with her flowers at the end of the night. Georgea Newell sang her solo in the song "Imagine" perfectly and Verdon College is extremely proud of her efforts. Thank you also to Emily Milne and Molly-Rose Donnelly who danced with great energy and pizzazz. Well done girls. A special thank you to Sammy Seau for playing the piano and for his guidance with the choir and to Mrs Kristine Simpson for all her time and efforts she has put into conducting the choir.

Well done to you all.



Sing Out Choir

# “Verdon College the right choice”

## Football

The Verdon College 1st 11 Football Team recently attended the Linwood Cup Tournament held in Invercargill. There was a good turn out with an excellent



level of ability with teams coming from as far away as Wellington to attend. Against bigger and more physical teams, Verdon fought hard in every game and were rewarded for their efforts with a 3-1 win against Hornby High School from Christchurch. In this game Michael Preddy had a man of the match performance, scoring all 3 goals to secure the win, with young Patrick Turnhout providing the assists. Another player who received many plaudits for his performance in goal was Tim O'Neill, who received two man of the match awards for his bravery and athleticism in goal. The boys were widely praised in the tournament for their never say die attitude which was largely inspired by captain Stephen O'Brien. The boys have learnt plenty from this tournament and hope to be involved in a similar scenario in the future.

### Checklist

- Catholic education
- High expectations
- Gifted & talented
- Smaller classes
- Family feel

## Rugby

A combined Under 14 and Under 15 rugby team headed away to Christchurch for the Rural Livestock Junior Rugby Tournament. After a long trip up on the Sunday, the boys took some time to wake up. They lost to Darfield in the first game 24-5. The boys hit the field running on Monday scoring six tries to beat Papanui 38-17. Tuesday was another day in the sun with two good wins against Golden Bay 34-15 and a big score against Mt Hutt 64-0. Wednesday saw a change in the weather with heavy rain and wind. We had a grudge match against Roncalli which we managed to win in the last minute 21-15. All the boys played well with captain Daniel Hogan getting MVP for the tournament.



“Superior  
educational  
outcomes”