



Ipsa Duce

Term 2 2022

Message From The Principal

Tēnā koutou katoa

We are coming up to Open Day and enrolment time. In Dunedin, where families are spoilt for choice regarding secondary schooling, Principals and Boards feel the pressure at this time of year to show off their schools in the best light, spend great amounts of money on advertising, and hold impressive Open Days and Nights where much is staged to compete for a limited pool of new enrolments. Conversations also happen on sports sidelines and in supermarket queues and at hairdressing salons, with opinions on school quality being shared that are often second and third hand. So, I thought I might take the opportunity here to unashamedly share what I see as the strengths of learning – academically and socially – at Kavanagh College. After working in several schools and having now been here for just over two years, I feel that my ‘first hand information’ and opinion may be valuable.

- We are faith-based. Many integrated schools in New Zealand are connected to a church or religion. Catholic schools are authentically faith-based. Our values are gospel values and are the foundation of who we are and what we do. Religious Education is taught through to UE level and our students leave with a world view, able to think and respond critically about faith-based and ethical issues.
- We are co-educational, which is rare in the integrated and in the Catholic secondary sector nationally. Here I am speaking as a parent, a former single-sex student and an educator. Our Kavanagh children grow up in their most formative years in a real-world environment. Yes, they sometimes think that the opposite sex can be annoying at different stages, but it is all real. Our leavers have wonderful friendships with both boys and girls that continue well beyond school. These friendships are less common in a single-sex environment. In a time when the ‘Me Too’ movement and the issue of consent is so widely spoken about, why would we not give our children the tools to learn the right way to interact within a richly co-ed environment?
- We perform very, very well academically. Consistently achieving above the national data for decile 8-10 schools, we are proud of all that our students achieve, and what they go on to achieve in further study. Every year we celebrate many students who achieve the Centurion Award, gained by those who achieve 100 plus excellence credits in the year – not an easy task! Three-way communication (student, teacher, home) is key to school success, and we appreciate our supportive parents and whānau. This year, I enjoyed the opportunity to be present with one of our students at the Premier Scholarship Award Ceremony at Parliament, as he was presented with one of these twelve national awards.
- We are not defined by one dimension. So often comments are made about a school being a good rugby school, for example. That’s wonderful for the 1st XV and the 23 boys who gain kudos on a Saturday, but I always wonder about the rest! Kavanagh provides a very holistic education. Yes, we have won national sporting titles in the last few years, we won the Junior Catholic Quad tournament this term, and we won the Dunedin Co-Ed Tournament again this year, but we also produce a high-quality musical every year and provide numerous performing arts opportunities, as well as participate in chess tournaments, debating competitions, social justice and leadership courses, coding and gaming clubs ... every child can find their niche at Kavanagh College.

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In May, Tobias Devereux (Kavanagh College's 2021 Deputy Head Boy and Dux) attended the NZ Scholarship Top Scholar Awards at Parliament, together with his parents and Mrs Nicholson. Tobias was presented with a Top Subject Award in Physics and a Premier Scholarship Award (one of only 12 students throughout the country).

Message From The Principal (cont.)

- We actively care for all. Some students need different support to others. Some learners may have their own learning programmes, some may be part of booster groups, some may take part in a Year 12 history course as a Year 9, some students are doing Stage One and Stage Two university maths papers while at school, while others may need two years to consolidate learning to gain a strong Level Two certificate.
- We are innovative. Our new Te Tīmatanga programme for Years 7-9 has been a lot of work for our committed staff, but it is a joy to behold. We have engaged learners who are progressing well and learning capabilities instead of just knowledge, and we are fielding interest from other schools who want to know more about what we are doing. We are looking carefully at what we do and why we do it throughout the college. Coming in from the outside, I found that Dunedin is traditionally quite conservative in its teaching programmes and structures. We want to know if it is still the right thing to follow a way of learning that was put in place over a century ago – life has changed since then.

From this you can see that I am immensely proud of our place! I know that in sending this to our college community, I am preaching to the converted. However, it is good to be reminded of who we are and where we are going. We will keep working hard for your children, and we appreciate that you support and trust us to do this.

Ngā manaakitanga
Mrs Kate Nicholson
Principal

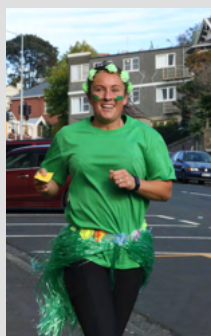
Relay For Life

Towards the end of Term 1, Kavanagh College participated in Relay Your Way to raise money for the Cancer Society since the local Relay For Life event was cancelled due to COVID restrictions – and we earned house points along the way as well. The students (and some staff) were dedicated and united as we lapped the school, and it was great to see everybody join in and have a good time while supporting such an important cause. We sported our various house colours, creating a rainbow as we circled around the school. Some walked in groups of friends, while other devoted individuals ran the whole way.

At lunch time, we laid candles in front of St Joseph's Cathedral with messages to loved ones lost to cancer as a special way to commemorate those who have passed on. A huge thank you goes out to everyone in the wider Kavanagh College community who donated money by sponsoring a student or staff member. The day was certainly one to remember and definitely demonstrated the proud spirit of the Kavanagh College community.

The school raised over \$10,000 for the Cancer Foundation through this event with Sophie Hannagan in Year 7 achieving over \$1,000 of sponsorship.

Madi Buckley



Ngā Manu Kōrero

Mānawatia a Matariki

On 16-17 June, the Ōtākou/Murihiku Ngā Manu Kōrero speech competition was held in Invercargill. Ngā Manu Kōrero is regarded as a significant event on the Māori education calendar for nurturing the oratory skills of Māori students. This year we had two speakers from Kavanagh College in the competition – Patrick Cotter (Te Atiawa) in the Korimako/Senior English section and Manaia Barns (Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau) in the Pei Te Hurinui Jones/Senior Māori section. We also had a brilliant group of students along to tautoko.

This event gives rangatahi an important platform to express their views. Manaia's topic was: "Me raka te katau, me raka te mauī i tēnei ao hou!" (Be adept in the right and left in this new world.) Manaia spoke about how rangatahi need to be adept in te ao Māori and in te ao Pākehā. Patrick's topic was "Show me where to look, don't tell me what to see" and he addressed how Māori mistrust towards the government is the result of the past blunders of colonisation.

Manaia placed 3rd in the prepared speech and 3rd overall in the Pei Te Hurinui Jones/Senior Māori section. Patrick placed 2nd in the prepared speech and 3rd overall in the Korimako/Senior English section.

We all had a great trip to Waihōpai. He mihi ki a Whaea Bresanello i tō kaitaraiwa o te waka, he mihi hoki ki ngā whānau i tautoko ai i tēnei kaupapa.

Maya Tate-Manning



Book Week

Our first ever school-wide Book Week in May was a great success. We kicked the week off with two library competitions – Guess the Book and Design a Bookmark – which both garnered a lot of interest. We had so many entries for our Guess the Book that the entry box was bulging. The bookmark competition also proved popular and the amazing designs made the judge's job very hard!

Our junior classes had a great time attempting to "Free the Teacher". This Escape Room-esque activity involved five teams per class with each team having questions to solve and codes to crack in order to uncover the scrambled word that would unlock the padlock and release their teacher. We were impressed with the level of problem solving that the teams displayed, but most importantly all the teachers were freed and everyone had a lot of fun.

As part of Book Week, our junior classes also participated in a variety of classroom activities. Students took part in reading challenges, quizzes, and a book cover chalk art challenge. Using chalk, students were asked to redesign a book cover. They had to consider the dominant image, colour, and font. This was a highlight and showcased our students' creativity.

Book Week culminated in our Dress as a Book Character Day. We were amazed by everyone's imaginative book character choices and the library was a hive of



excitement as everyone guessed each other's outfits. One student from each year level was chosen as the best dressed.

Celebrating our love of reading and literacy was a lot of fun and we are already looking forward to a bigger and better Book Week in 2023.

Colette Mahoney

Celebrating Diversity



Throughout the year there are a number of events which encourage us to think about and celebrate diversity in our community. Pentecost, Pink Shirt Day, and National Schools' Pride Week are three such occasions that have been celebrated at Kavanagh during Term 2. Through these special activities, we're reminded that we are all unique and different and that as a school community and a faith community we need to be inclusive of difference and support one another, as well as celebrate the enriched experience of being part of a diverse community.

Pentecost

Pope Francis has talked about the importance of "acknowledging our diversity as a gift of the Holy Spirit" and this was definitely the message of Kavanagh's Pentecost celebration where we recognised and honoured the cultural diversity within our school. Students were encouraged to come dressed in a way that expressed their ethnic origins or in red as a symbol of Pentecost.

Pentecost is also called the birthday of the Church and it commemorates when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples about 2000 years ago and gave them the courage to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to the whole world. The cultural diversity of our school is witness to this. This special day in the church's calendar was marked by liturgies for the senior school and a Mass for the juniors led by Fr Hook.



Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day is now celebrated around the world, but it started in Canada in 2007 when two students stood up to homophobic bullying after a classmate was harassed for wearing a pink shirt. In Aotearoa, Pink Shirt Day aims to reduce bullying and to create schools, workplaces, and communities where everyone feels safe, welcome, included, supported, and respected by celebrating diversity in all its forms. While anyone can be the target of bullying, some groups or individuals experience more bullying than others.

Kavanagh encouraged all students and staff to participate in Pink Shirt Day to raise awareness about bullying and to celebrate diversity. There was a range of activities and information provided throughout the day – everyone was encouraged to wear pink, students were invited to tie pieces of pink ribbon and pink balloons on the fence alongside the senior common room, and in the library students were allowed to write anonymous messages for the Box of Good Words that reflected on the idea of spreading kindness. Overall, the day went exceptionally well and the contribution from both staff and students was fantastic. And, the pink looked great on everyone! Pink Shirt Day also serves as a reminder to keep up the positivity and, as always, to remember that the little things do count.

Caoimhe Dowd (Pastoral Prefect) and Ruby La Hood (Wellbeing Prefect)



National Schools' Pride Week

Kavanagh celebrated the diverse identities within our school during the National Schools' Pride Week in June with a variety of activities in the Library – jewellery making, crafts, colouring in, and a wonderful display of books, as well as a Heartstopper Quiz which took place one lunchtime. Two students compiled 20 questions for our Heartstopper fans to answer and were amazing quiz masters on the day. There was a great turn out for the quiz and it was a lot of fun with the winning team managing to get a terrific 20/20 - which earned each of them a canteen voucher.



Academic Blues Awards

The Academic Blues Awards evening is usually held early in Term 1. This year, however, the event was postponed until Term 2 because we started the year in the Red traffic light setting which meant that students, staff, and whānau could not gather together.

Congratulations to the following students who received an academic blue by achieving an Excellence endorsement in NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3 in 2021 (50+ excellence credits).

<p style="text-align: center;">Level 1</p> <p>Ravija Alahakoon Chloe Farr April Gamao Maia Halls Ava Holland Samuel Kelly * Orla Kelly Ted Kerr-Bell Timothy Lapham Shreenidhi Mahamuni Ellie McKenzie Isobel McKewen Jemma Mortimer * Matthew Mosley-O'Leary Lou Noquilla Olivia Oram Cole Phillips * Olivia Pullar * Ella Reilly Isabella Stewart Peter Wilson</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Level 2</p> <p>Maliza Alahakoon Sarah Al-Balushi * Lachlan Allibone Manaia Barns Alexander Bello Hannah Botting Madison Buckley Molly Colbert Caoimhe Dowd Hayley Golden Luca Holloway * Mariya Jose Alison Latawan Paris Laws Madelyn McLay Olive Scurr * Pari Teli Gabriel Vink Guinevere Wilson Jack Wilson</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Level 3</p> <p>Jessica Abernethy Hayley Anderson Jago Armstrong Dominic Barlow Jakira Brophy Archie Campbell Stella Caulton Jennifer Cherkun Meg Christophers Tobias Devereux Erika Fairweather James Gallagher Enrique Garcia Adi Garnett Liam Gould Charlotte Hayde</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Level 3 (cont.)</p> <p>Mickle Jose Kate Kelly Emily Kelsall Oliver King Riley Mortimer Sami Perkins Anna Peyroux Emily Shea Mitchell Stewart Maria Stoff Lucas Storm Lexie Tomlinson Charli White Quinn Wilson Katelynn Wink</p>

Special congratulations to the two students who were successful in last year's Scholarship exams:

- Riley Mortimer (Scholarship in History)
- Tobias Devereux (Scholarship in Technology, Outstanding Scholarship in Physics, Outstanding Scholarship in Statistics, Outstanding Scholarship in Calculus, Top Subject Scholar in Physics, and Premier Scholarship Award)

* - These students additionally achieved a Centurion Badge by achieving 100+ excellence credits.



Mike Barns, the guest speaker at the awards evening, talked about the important role that each individual will play in the future of our country as New Zealand will need people to fill positions in all sorts of areas. He emphasised that everyone has a significant contribution to make and should create their own place in the world based on their individual interests and skills.



The 2021 Top Scholars were also announced at the Academic Blues Awards evening:

- Year 11 - Olivia Pullar
- Year 12 - Olive Scurr
- Year 13 - Tobias Devereux



Sports Update

Sports Exchange With St Kevin's



At the end of Term 1, about 70 Kavanagh College students travelled to Oamaru for a sports exchange with St Kevin's College.

The sports included in the exchange were netball, football, basketball, and hockey. The day was stunning weather-wise and there was great competition and school pride on display, but the students all played with great sportsmanship and fairness. Well done to the boys and girls football teams who were unbeaten.



School Cross Country

On Friday 6 May, the school held its annual cross country at Jubilee Park. There were house points available for all those who participated and completed the course – and additional points for those who achieved a place.

The course at Jubilee Park is very picturesque as it goes through the bush, but it also includes some difficult uphill sections. The sun shone all day which was a real bonus, the Year 13 PE students did an



awesome job as marshalls around the course, and the students rose wonderfully to the challenge of the event. Well done to all those who gave the cross country a go and a special congratulations to all the place getters.

Gabriel ended the day with the most house points.

Junior Catholic Schools Sports Tournament

On 9 June, Kavanagh hosted the Junior Catholic Schools Sports Tournament in Dunedin.

Students from St Kevin's, Verdon, St Peter's, and St Mary's Mosgiel competed in four sports - rugby, futsal, netball, and basketball.

Kavanagh College ended the day coming out on top overall winning the basketball and the futsal, placing second in the netball, and third in the rugby. The games were all played with great spirit and the competition was intense.



Cross Country Series

Kavanagh has seen success in the Otago Secondary Schools Cross Country Series raced in Dunedin and Milton over the past couple of months.

In the Logan Park Road Race in May, Brooke Cathro achieved 3rd in the junior girls race while Tomas La Hood placed 5th in the junior boys and Oliver Lodge 4th in the senior boys.

In both the Caversham Harriers Relay and the Milton Relay the Kavanagh senior boys team of Oliver Lodge, Jeremy Meikle, Joseph Brennan, and Ara Jolly came 3rd with Oliver Lodge achieving the 2nd fastest lap of the day in the Milton Relay.

And, finally, Oliver Lodge placed 4th in the boys U16 section of the Otago Cross Country Champs.



Performing Arts

Shakespeare Festival

In April, four groups of students from Kavanagh presented scenes at the Otago section of the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival and came away with a number of awards:

Winner – 5-minute Scene: *Macbeth* (Ted Kerr-Bell, Troy Kubala, Isaac Tili, and Sam Kelekolio)

Runner-Up – 5-minute Scene: *Hamlet* (Michael Louw-Young, Meila McCartney, Phoebe Harris, and Jemma Mortimer)

Runner-Up – Best Stage Presence: Ethan O'Brien as Pyramus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Overall Design: *Macbeth*

Best Stage Fight: *Macbeth*

Best Use of Sound: *Macbeth*

Best Comedy: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Best Use of Chorus: *Hamlet*



All the students who took part put in a lot of time and effort to learn lines, gain an understanding of their character, and work out how to best portray the emotions and relationships they wanted to convey to the audience.

As a result of winning the 5 minute scene in Dunedin, the *Macbeth* group then had the opportunity to travel to Wellington at Queen's Birthday weekend to take part in the national competition.

The days in Wellington involved workshops as well as presenting their scene. This was an amazing learning experience for all the students and the boys put on another fantastic performance at the Michael Fowler Centre returning home with the Best Combat Award.



NZ Music Month

To celebrate NZ Music Month, Toitū Otago Settlers Museum invited local high school students to perform in the museum foyer on a couple of Saturdays in May.

A number of Kavanagh musicians took advantage of this wonderful opportunity to play in public. This was one of the few times in recent years that the students have been able to perform music live for an audience (because of the pandemic and associated restrictions) and they relished the chance to do so.

Well done to Tyelah Campbell, Sam Kelly, Jamie Hall, Oscar Robertson, Isobel McKewen, Jack Pearson-Howell, and Meila McCartney who were so willing to share their musical talents with the community.



Chamber Music Competition

Kavanagh had four students involved in the Chamber Music Competition this year. The group "Small Wee Lodge" – made up of Sean Small (violin), Aaron Wee (violin), and Oliver Lodge (piano) – performed "Three Duets for Two Violins and Piano, Opus 97d" by Dmitri Shostakovich and "Ricordi" by Oliver Lodge.



Another Kavanagh student, Serenity Hook (on trumpet), also took part in the competition as part of the group "Just Cheese", along with a student from Bayfield (on trombone) and a student from King's (on piano). They performed "Irishes Trio" by Jon Koetsier.

"Small Wee Lodge" was awarded the Best Performance of an Original Work, while "Just Cheese" received a Highly Commended Award and the KBB Award (for groups comprising Brass, Woodwind, Percussion).

Tor Devereux

Enviroschools Hui



On 25 May, three members of the Kavanagh College Senior Enviro Council set out on a boat with students from other schools across Otago to travel to Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua for an enviroschools hui.

Over the course of the day we did a variety of different activities such as waste audits, planting native plants, exploring the island, and finding out about its history. We also learned about the creative strategies undertaken by those who live on Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua and how they use their resources in a sustainable way.

As part of the hui, we were given a chance to discuss any projects or ideas we had with other schools. One concept that we all decided on was a Market Day in the Octagon. This will involve making or collecting sustainable products/clothing which we will then sell and donate the money to a charity.

At the end of the day, we all took away the message that it's important to take care of our environment, to protect it from further harm, and that we should be adapting to more sustainable lifestyles. This was a very productive hui as we learned a lot about how to be more sustainable with limited resources (as they have to be on the island) and also how we can live more sustainably on the mainland. This was also an awesome experience as we were able to get to know students

from other schools and make new friends which has created a greater partnership amongst the local schools that are part of the enviroschools network.

Anya Parnell, Alison Latawan and Lucilyn Ongcoy

Duke Of Edinburgh

Kavanagh College offers students in Year 11 the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award programme. There are three levels – bronze, silver, and gold – and each of these involves four different sections: voluntary service, skills, physical recreation, and adventurous journey.

Towards the end of Term 1, the Kavanagh Duke of Edinburgh class had their first practice journey in the Silver Peaks. Prior to the trip the students worked in groups at school to plan their own adventurous journey from Woodhaugh Gardens to Whare Flat/Waiora Scout Camp and back. There was some variation in the routes with some groups trekking to the top of Swampy Summit whilst others explored the Pineapple and Spur Tracks. Each group made it safely there and back with many students stepping up as leaders along the way.

The next step for the class is a longer three day and two night adventurous journey in Aoraki Mount Cook which



will be completed later in the year. Each day will include seven hours of purposeful activity such as exploring the Hooker Valley Track, some of the Mueller Hut/Sealy Tarns route, and some of the Alps 2 Ocean Trail.

There will be a final tramp at the end of the year. The students have researched various options for this and recently presented four possible routes: Rakiura Track (Stewart Island), Hollyford (Fiordland), Te Ara Pātaka (Christchurch), and Paparoa Track (West Coast).

Naomi Tupai

**Excellence in teaching
and learning in a
climate of faith and
pastoral care.**



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