

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Kia ora te whanau/Malo e lelei/Talofa lava/Bula Vinaka/Konnichi wa/Kia orana/Namaste/Welkom/Ni hao,

This week has been a good week – perhaps tinged with a little sadness as we farewelled our year 11-13s as they headed away on examination leave on Tuesday afternoon. Many of our year 13s have been with us here at Cornerstone for up to 13 years and there were a few tears shed as students started to close this chapter of their lives. Let us remember to lift our senior students in prayer as they prepare for examinations and for some consider life options beyond Cornerstone.

### Strategic planning

In July of 2020, the school Board of Trustees (who are a fantastic bunch of parents by the way) began a process of developing a new Cornerstone Christian School Strategic Plan that will guide the focus and direction of our School over the next three years (2021 to 2023). A large number of parents, teachers, students and special focus groups have been consulted and their viewpoints and ideas considered. The board has now approved the plan described in the graphic below.

I love what the board of trustees has put together and the possibilities and focus that it provides to our school over the next few years.

In the latter part of this term, the school leadership will begin to put together an annual plan for 2021 that starts to put 'legs' on the broad goals described in this strategic document.



### Senior Food Technology

On Monday night this week I had the blessing of attending the student dinner at our Food Technology provider, Whole Grain organics. Our secondary food techies designed, planned and prepared a fantastic 3 course meal for teachers and parents. I have to say it was pretty awesome and definitely yummy. Wholegrain Organics allows our Cornerstone students to have a professional level of food technology instruction and application that we just could never match in a school setting. A big thank you to teachers Naomi Hall and Gosia Wiatr (*picture is year 10 student and waiter, Oliver Southall*).



### Parent Meeting last week

Last Thursday night we held a parent meeting so that parents could air their concerns around our enrolment scheme; having our maximum roll increase application declined by the Ministry; the enrolment ballot process and subsequent waiting list. We are currently compiling the PowerPoint that was presented at this meeting into a Word document which will be posted on the school website ([www.cornerstone.ac.nz](http://www.cornerstone.ac.nz)), so that parents who were unable to attend can read this information and understand the Ministry of Education's decision making process.

### Introducing...

We are pleased to announce the appointment of our new executive Officer, Mrs Vicki Scoggins. Vicki and her husband have recently returned to the Manawatu from Rotorua. Vicki is also a past school parent and her children attended Cornerstone Christian School back in its earlier days. Great to have you on board Vicki!



### Meeting re internet safety

Our School IT manager, Mr Paul Jorgensen and School Parent, Mr Josh Couperus, will be holding a parent meeting on Thursday 26th November 2020 around the topic of internet safety. We are increasingly seeing the internet and Social Media as a very tricky minefield for our students to navigate and we want parents to be informed as to how they can best support their children at home in this area. Please come prepared with questions. School parent Josh Couperus is a qualified Educational Psychologist who is passionate around assisting Christian families in this area.

### Uniform

As parents know, the school runs a uniform shop out of the School Administration Office where our Cornerstone school uniform may be purchased (and second-hand items exchanged). We have noticed that there are a small number of students wearing school uniform that is similar to, but not quite the same as our Cornerstone School uniform e.g. Cornerstone logo missing from shirt or blouse. While we cannot stop parents from purchasing a similar school uniform elsewhere, we would prefer that the school uniform being worn is the correct item. It may be slightly cheaper to purchase a similar item from another outlet, however can I take a moment to explain how our uniform shop works: the majority of our uniform items are locally manufactured by Moana Clothing in Wellington City. We purchase these items from Moana and put a small operating margin on top of the item. All profit from the sale of these uniform items then goes directly to help pay the salary of our school administration staff. If parents choose to shop elsewhere, it becomes increasingly hard for us to staff our office correctly. Can I respectfully ask that parents consider this before choosing to purchase elsewhere?

Chris Mitchell  
Principal  
Email: [principal@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:principal@cornerstone.ac.nz)

## School Notices

### Not Returning to CCS in 2021?

If your child **will not** be returning to Cornerstone in Term 1 2021, please let the office know as soon as you can. Thank you.

## Trinity Piano Examination Success

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Cornerstone Christian School students who achieved success in recent Trinity piano exams: Tristan Taylor Grade 1 Distinction, Nerine Ferreira Grade 2 Distinction (top= for Grade 2 in Palmerston North this year. She will receive a special award at the IRMT Annual Prize-winners Trinity College ceremony on Saturday 22 November), Matthew Meyer Grade 3 Merit (top mark for Grade 3 piano in this Palmy session), Oliver Southall Grade 5 Merit, Sophie Pritchard Grade 5 Merit (top mark for Grade 5 piano in this session). Tristan, Nerine, Matthew and Sophie have been invited to play at the IRMT Trinity Exam Achiever's concert on 22 November. Well done to all of you and a big thank you also to our itinerant music teacher, Mrs Robyn Good.

## School Notices Cont'd

### School Blazers – Year 11-13's

Blazers mark the transition from Middle School (Year 7-10) to Senior School (Year 11-13). Students are classed as senior students when they enter Year 11. Rather than waiting until Year 13 to purchase school blazers, we suggest that parents purchase these for use in Years 11-13. By purchasing a blazer in Year 11, students get three years' wear out of it, before it is on-sold at the end of Year 13. Order forms will be available at the Student Administration Office desk and fittings will start in Week 4, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November afterschool in the Student Administration Office.

**A non-refundable deposit of \$120 must be made with each blazer order. Please include the deposit with the order form. The balance of \$110 will go on your student's school account and must be paid at the time the blazer is collected in Term 1, 2021.**

Some assistance funding is available for families in need. If you wish to apply for this funding, please email the Deputy Principal [james@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:james@cornerstone.ac.nz). **All orders need to be made by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November (Week 6).**

### Library Books

If you have any school library books at home, please can you return these to the library ASAP please. Thank you.

### Internet Safety Parent Information Evening

You are all warmly invited to an Internet Safety Parent Information Evening on Thursday 26 November, in the school Gymnasium. It is really important that a representative from your family, comes along to this evening. You will learn about some of the risks and dangers that our young people face on the internet. Practical strategies will be demonstrated, to assist you as you support your child/ren, to use their devices, safely. The evening will be hosted by Paul Jorgensen (IT Lead

Teacher) and Josh Couperus (School Parent). Please email [paul@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:paul@cornerstone.ac.nz) if you have any queries. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Last Day of School – Early Finish

School finishes at the earlier time of 12pm on the last day of school (Term 4) Friday 11 December. Please note that the Ashhurst and Feilding buses will leave school at the earlier time of 12.15pm. If you aren't able to pick up your child/ren at this early finishing time, please email Mrs Jean Wilkins in the school office at [office@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:office@cornerstone.ac.nz). A list will be created and these students will be cared for at school until 3pm.

## Sports Notices – Year 0-6 Athletics

### Please Return Team Sports Uniforms

Please return all sports uniforms to the Gym Office (**not the School Office**) in a bag with your child's name on it ASAP. Thank you.

## Community Notices

### Teachers Only Day Special

Friday 27 November

\$8 entry regardless of age.

**Just for Cornerstone students.**

Bring your own grip socks

No requirement to book online.



### Scholastic Book Club Orders

The last Scholastic Book Club brochure for the year (#8) is available now. Orders can be placed online only. Orders for free delivery to school close at the end of week 7. View the brochure on the Scholastic website or a paper copy can be collected from the student side of the school office shortly.

Any questions? See Mrs Sutherland in D3 or email

[janes@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:janes@cornerstone.ac.nz) Thank you!

### Saturday Music – Open Day

Saturday Music is music education for children 4-13 years old. They are having an Open Day on Saturday 14 November 9.00am-11.30am at Palmerston North Intermediate School. We teach cello, choir, clarinet, drums, flute, French horn, guitar, ukulele, junior flute (fife), keyboard, music basics, orchestra, recorder, saxophone, trombone, trumpet and violin.

For more information go to: [www.saturdaymusic.org.nz](http://www.saturdaymusic.org.nz) or email [contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz](mailto:contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz)

### Key Dates:

**Monday 16 November**

*NCEA Exams begin*

**Mon 16 Nov-Wed 18 Nov**

*Year 11-13 Summer School*

**Wed 18 Nov-Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Nov**

*Year 8 Mi-Camp*

**Thursday 19 November 2.15pm**

*Kingdom Kid Awards Assembly*

### Term Dates for 2020/2021

*Term 4: 12 October-11 December  
(School finishes at 12pm on 11<sup>th</sup> Dec)*

*Term 1 2021: 1 February- 16 April*