

Newsletter



7 February 2019

Greetings

Kia Ora

Talofa Lava

Faka'alofo lahi atu

Kia Orana

Taloha ni

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Kia ora kaoutou—greetings everyone.

Welcome to the school year for 2019 at Bishop Viard College. Those of us new to the College were certainly welcomed in style with the powhiri on Tuesday 29 January.

I have been appointed until the end of the second term as Acting Principal, while the Board of Trustees go through the process of making a permanent appointment to the role of Principal. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first three weeks in the school and been impressed with the positivity and friendliness of staff and students.

I have had many one-on-one conversations with staff members, who have told me how much they enjoy working with the students, and how they love the sense of family and community. Senior Student Leaders have also expressed their pride in Bishop Viard College with comments such as “We are a small school with a big heart; You don’t get lost here-you’re able to ask for help - it’s easier to grow; Everyone is accepting of one another for who they are; It’s inviting, approachable-like family; Our school is really supportive; The bond with teachers is pretty cool-we’re all close; We are there for each other; We are a family and everyone gets along; we never give up; There’s no place I’d rather be”. So many positives!

I have asked all students to focus on two personal attributes:

To **Be Very Caring**; and to

Be Very Committed.

This will help our school community and learning get off to a great start for 2019.

I look forward to getting to know as many parents and family members as possible. Please come up and introduce yourself to me, as the better we all know each other, the better the home-school relationship will be.

Te Marama o te Whakapono—Truth is Light.

Gerard Tully

ACTING PRINCIPAL

DATES TO REMEMBER

13-15 February

Year 9 STARS Camp

22 February:

Athletics Day

26 February:

BOT meeting

4 March:

Teacher-only Day

6 March:

Ash Wednesday

15 March:

Viard Shield Athletics (*date to be confirmed*)

27 March:

Year 11 Retreat

School News—New staff members



From left to right in the photo:

Christine Phillippo—Science and Biology;

Melissa Stewart—Masters Student, Mathematics;

Gerard Tully—Acting Principal;

Rosie Williams—Masters Student, English;

Karishma Chetty—Science, Chemistry and Physics.

We hope all these staff members find their time at Bishop Viard College enjoyable and rewarding.

EMAIL CONTACT WITH BISHOP VIARD COLLEGE

Email is a great way to keep in touch with teachers and staff members of the College. Each staff member has an email address as follows:

Surname first initial@viard.school.nz

e.g. tullyg@viard.school.nz

Your daughter's/son's Whanau Teacher is usually the best contact person in the school.

If you have changed your email address, or have a new one, please call the office (Phone 237 5248) to advise your new details. Thanks.

Dignity

Faith

Fortitude

Service

Board of Trustees News

Tēnā koutou katoa, Talofa lava, Mālō e lelei, Fakafeiloaki -

Warm greetings from your Board of Trustees.

We hope that the festive break and New Year brings a feeling of refreshment and hope to all. As Bishop Charles recently wrote:

This Christmas, whatever your faith, let's be stirred into action by hope and goodness. That's what truly warms our human hearts. Pope Francis has called for a revolution of tenderness and service. You might want to put it in a different way. Whatever your response, the true Christmas spirit is about how you care, who you include; not about what you buy. Jesus came for everyone that we might be one. That's already a gift of hope for each of us.

We encourage school staff, students and families to feel inspired by the message of hope and unity that celebrating the birth of Christ brings us. We warmly welcome new students and staff and especially Principal Gerard Tully as he takes up the appointment of Acting Principal.

Over the next few weeks, trustees will be working on our Strategic Plan for 2019 – 2021, which is enhanced by input from a wide group of school stakeholders that we heard from last year. We look forward to student trustee elections (Friday, 8 March 2019) and will be working toward trustee elections in the middle of next year (Friday, 7 June 2019).

The beginning of the year is an important time for parents and caregivers to prayerfully consider how they can best support their child's education through involvement in the school, whether as a board member, support the sporting, cultural or music programmes, or volunteering with literary or numeracy initiatives. Your participation enriches the experience of students and creates lasting bonds with staff and the wider community. It brings hope and unity! Please reach out to a staff member or senior management team member to step-up.

Blessings to you all,

Siobhan Dilly (B.O.T. Chair),

Janet McLean (Deputy Chair)

Dignity

Faith

Fortitude

Service