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February 2024

Tena koutou katoa, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Kia orana, Ni sa bula, Marhaba, Namaste, Mabuhay.

What a fantastic start McAuley High School has had this year. Thank you students, parents and whanau - attendance is around 95% each day, only a handful of girls are late, classes are settled and students are focused. It feels great!

Thank you for supporting our change to beginning the day with period 1 and learning time. The huge majority of students are at school on time and ready to learn. When a student is late it affects her, it disrupts her classmates and disrupts her teachers. When we really value the gift of learning, we ensure we are on time every day.

We welcome seven new teachers this year. In the English Department is Mr Albert Fihaki, who has come from Wesley College, and Ms Nicole Naucabalavu, who is beginning her teaching career. Our new Drama teacher is Ms Seluvaia 'Iloahefaiva who comes to us from Rosehill College. Mr Cory Melville is on his OE from England and is in the Physical Education Department for this year. The Mathematics Department has welcomed three fantastic new staff, Ms Myra Faamausili, who is a past Head Girl of McAuley, Mr Seonho Hwangbo from Otahuhu College, and Ms Shereen Arsecularatne, who is well known to students as one of our relievers for a number of years. Mrs Cara Maria joins the Health and Guidance Department part time as a Counsellor. Finally, Mrs Ashika Rashid is our new Laboratory Technician and joins the team in the Science Department.

Our Academic results are similar to 2023. Level 1 pass rate was 92%, Level 2 was 89%, Level 3 75% and UE 46%. Last year 58% of our Year 12 students gained an endorsement at Level 1 and 46% of our Year 13 students gained an endorsement at Level 2. Congratulations to all our students who have worked hard and gained the rewards.

The start of the school year is always a busy time for us. We began in mid-January with our Prefect camp, where 22 amazing students developed their leadership skills and bonded together to form a strong team. They are well planned and organised already! Our Teacher-only-day was spent at St Vinnies Centre in Onehunga helping pack food parcels and prepare food as we gave life to our school value of the year - Aroha. Year 9 orientation was held over three days as we welcomed 168 students from 32 schools.

Mass at the Cathedral opened the year and it was lovely to have the whole school make the effort to be here on the first day. We have dedicated our Prefects in a beautiful ceremony with their parents. Year level Talanoa for parents are being advertised and Meet-the-teacher is scheduled for Wednesday 28 February. This is a fantastic informal way to meet the teachers entrusted with your daughter's care and education this year, and we look forward to seeing you.

This year the sole focus for staff professional development is literacy and numeracy. Staff are upskilling in being able to meet and accelerate the needs of our students. I thank staff for their weekly commitment to this important aspect of education.

Enrolments for 2025 are open, and for non-preference students (students with no link to the Catholic church), enrolments close at the end of Term 1. Enrolment for all other students closes at the end of Term 3, or when we are full. Once we are full then we have to close the roll. This year we have turned away at least 50 families who were too late with their completed enrolment documents. Please don't let this be your family, pick up an enrolment pack now, get your preference form signed by a priest and get it back in quickly.

Finally, Easter is early this year so we are already in Lent.

The theme for 2024 is *The Time is Now! Ko Tēnei tonu te Wā!*

The obvious question that follows this call for action is *Time for what?* And so over the six weeks of Lent parishes and prayer groups and families at home will focus on

- Time for Preparation Te Wā mō te Takatū
- Time for Encounter Te Wā mō te Tūtaki
- Time for Justice Te Wā mō te Tika
- Time for Love Te Wā mō te Tūtaki
- Time for Sacrifice Te Wā mō te Whakahere
- Time for Hope Te Wā mō te Tūmanako

If you would like to follow these six weeks of Lenten reflections, you can download resources in English, Samoan or Te reo at <https://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources>.

E te Ariki, Lord Jesus, as we start our Lenten journey this year, help us to open our hearts and minds to hear Your voice in new ways. Water the seeds of faith to prepare us to help bring Your kingdom here on Earth. Even in challenging times, help us to proclaim the Good News and stand as Your witness at all times and in all things, and in all places. Āmene.

Domine in te speravi

Jan Waelen
Principal



Prefect Camp



Cathedral Dedication Mass



2024 Prefects and Portfolios

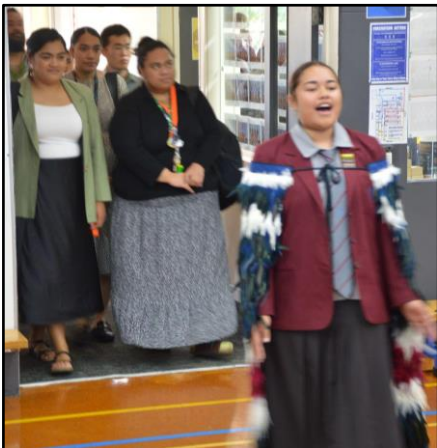
Head Prefects	Rayana Agalava, Leony Macdonald
Deputy Head Prefects	Charlotte Fuimaono, Tapuaki Haunga
Carlow House	Helen Halatanu
Coolock House	Sara Sii
Stormanstown House	Lovely Vehikite
Tullamore House	Verozzi Vaaiva
Academic	Tiana Pahulu, Mya Tony
Arts & Culture	Siofolau Pouanga, Ungatea Tuita
Hauora	Daesha Schuster, Tracey-Lee Tangi
Media & Communications	Tiare Ineleo, Kiarah Torillo
Social Justice	Rita Timoti-Hohaia, Madison Ulberg
Special Character	Marie Grace Rusia, Angel Tonga'uiha
Sports	Riley Fruean-Otineru, 'Ahoafa Tu'umoto'oa



Ash Wednesday



Welcome Powhiri for Year 9 and new staff



Diocese Teachers Mass



CONGRATULATIONS

Toloa Scholarships

Toloa Scholarships aim to inspire and support Pacific students in their engagement with STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths). It is widely believed the future is in STEAM-focused areas and we also know the flow-on effect of our Pacific young people succeeding in STEAM areas will be substantial. Toloa's vision is to make a transformational impact in the communities we live in. Congratulations and best wishes to the 18 McAuley students who have been given this wonderful opportunity: Ediline Ainea, Malama Amani, Narijanten Amovaa Segi, Faapaiaautimuia Faasisila, Riley Fruean-Otineru, Lolina Fufuimaave, Charlotte Fuimaono, Fetalai Isara, Angelina Mulipola, Elisiva Lolohea, Jarcarrah Masani, Sepuita Mohetau, Onosa'i Muliaga, Tiana Pahulu, Karissa Sakalia, Rosemary Siliga, Mele'ofa Taliauli and Mya Tony.

NCEA

Huge congratulations to the three students awarded NCEA Scholarships in the 2023 exams. We know that their families will be extremely proud, as we are, of their achievement. Congratulations and thank you must also go to their teachers, Mr Tapu and Ms Brett.

Serafina Sila - Outstanding Scholarship in Samoan and also the top New Zealand scholar in Samoan
Elena Alao - Scholarship in Samoan
Esmae Salesa - Scholarship in Media Studies

In the 2023 exams 12 students gained an Excellence endorsement at Level 1 with 60 gaining a Merit endorsement. At Level 2, 15 gained an Excellence endorsement with 43 gaining a Merit endorsement. These students received their badges at the Academic Assembly.



Talanoa Evenings

The Deans from each year level have been holding talanoa evenings with parents to discuss things such as expectations for the year, NCEA, key events and more. This is an opportunity for parents to ask questions also. They have been very well attended and worthwhile. The final evening will be for Year 11 on Wednesday 28th February and parents are reminded to RSVP to Ms Tonga.

2024 Deans

Year 9 - Mrs Charlie, Year 10 - Ms Poolman, Year 11 - Ms Tonga, Year 12 - Mrs Falesiu, Year 13 - Mrs Finau.

Dates to Note

28th February	Meet the Teacher Afternoon Year 11 Talanoa Evening
1st March	Athletics Day
4th to 8th March	Hauora Week
28th March	Holy Thursday
29th March	Good Friday
1st - 2nd April	Easter - NO SCHOOL
12th April	End of Term 1

Year 9 Wayfinding

All Year 9 students had the experience of learning about Maori and Pacific navigation. The Maritime Museum in partnership with Te Toki Voyaging Trust, teaches students about Tohu, our ancestors that used to travel across the Pacific Ocean. They met Hinemoana, a waka hourua, and learnt how to put up her sails. They also learnt how to lash and learnt the history of traditional navigation, as well as the Tohu the captain used to navigate the Pacific Ocean. Lots of laughter, singing and fun were had.



Careers Corner

This term the Careers Advisor will meet with each Year 13 student eligible to apply for university scholarships, and with Year 12 students for the First Foundation Scholarship. Students will not be able to make bookings for the Careers office during this time. Mrs Fiaola will still be available during break times for any student to visit the Careers Room for questions regarding school subjects, future study and/or work.

We have several providers coming to talk about the courses and programmes offered for future study. Students will be advised of the dates. All year levels are able to attend these visits. It is good to think ahead and be proactive in planning.

Driver license training and testing are not currently offered in school but we hope to be able to do so and will advise students if we do. In the meantime, please visit www.drive.govt.nz, read through the Road Code and carry out the practice tests online to prepare.

STAFF NEWS



We are happy to welcome baby Levi, the newest addition to the McAuley whanau who arrived in January.

Congratulations to happy parents, Jacob and Sarah Smith.

Student Absences

Please use one of the following ways to notify the school when your daughter is away:

- Phone the office - 09-2768715 to leave a message on the absentee answerphone or speak to office staff.
- Send an email to office@mcauleyhigh.school.nz

Links for the school Facebook page and Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/mcauleyhighofficial/>
<https://www.facebook.com/mcauleyhighofficial>